

August 23, 2026

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Christ's Lutheran Church

700 East Pennsylvania Avenue
Oreland, Pennsylvania

Summer Schedule 9:30 am

*Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church
connects individuals to God, each other, and the community.*

Welcome to Worship at Christ's Lutheran Church!

In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.
Amen.

Gathering Song

**Built on a Rock
ELW # 652**

Please see the next page for the hymn.



1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are
2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not
3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -
4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is
5 Through all the pass - ing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are



fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly
ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us
bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our
ring - ing, man - y may come to hear your Word, who here this



chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -
life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their
Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with
prom - ise is bring - ing: "I know my own, my own know me; you, not the



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.
us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.
world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. A - men."

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867–1937, adapt.
Music: KIRKEN DEN ER ET GAMMEL HUS, Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–1887
Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the
communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn of Praise Verses 1 and 4

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation ELW # 645



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Isaiah 51:1-6

A reading from Isaiah, chapter 51.

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

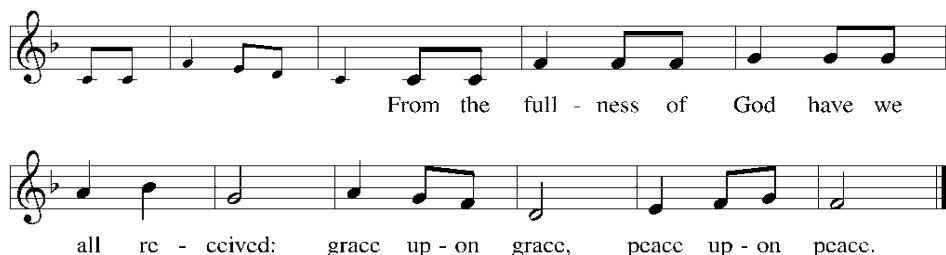
Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 138

DATH # 18 | From the Fullness of God

The congregation will sing the following response:



¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

² I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

³ When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

⁴ All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.

Response

⁵ They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶ The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your
right hand shall save me.

⁸ You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the
works of your hands.

Response

Second Reading

Romans 12:1-8

A reading from Romans, chapter 12.

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation
(sing twice)

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah
ELW # 172

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

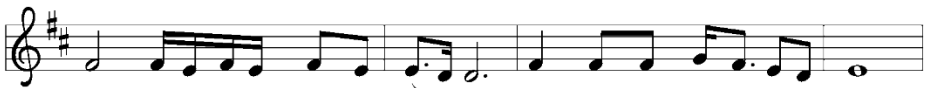
Please be seated.

The Children's Message

Pastor Axel Kaegler

A Moment of Prayer

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying
ELW # 752



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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The Message

Pastor Axel Kaegler

Please stand in body or spirit.

Hymn of the Day

A Mighty Fortress is Our God ELW # 504



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Apostles' Creed

Together let us confess our common faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Please kneel or sit as you are able for the prayers.

Prayers of Intercession

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built. Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You spoke and all creation came into being. Field and forest, wetland and wilderness - all reveal your glory. Sustain and nourish your creation. Teach us to be wise stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster. Guide the work of relief agencies and peacemaking organizations. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for all in need this day. We pray especially for Samira, Ziad, Mother Maria, the Bach family, the Piantieri family, and the Curtis and Davenport families. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Your steadfast love endures forever. We give thanks for the faithful who died in the hope of this promise. Strengthen us in faith until the day we join them at your eternal banquet. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

*You are invited to share God's peace with those around you
and to greet those who are worshipping online.*

Please be seated.

Musical Offering "Ode to Joy" Beethoven, arr. Forbes

Brass Choir

Danny Melnick, Joey Kelly, Charlie Kelly, Cooper Menard

Please stand.

Offertory Hymn

Give Thanks TFF # 292

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.
Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And
now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Last time

Text: Henry Smith

Music: GIVE THANKS, Henry Smith

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Offering Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Gracious God, you have been faithful to our ancestors, bringing us throughout time to this very day

Beyond our divisions, you remind us that we are all kindred in your eyes

We are better together.

You have given us all we need to trust in your abundance, to live generous lives, and recognize that your good work is done best in communion with you and one another

We are better together.

And so in service to our neighbor, in love for all creation, and in proclamation of your good news for all:

We are better together.

Bless these gifts we've gathered, help us to remember all you have done, give us vision for all we can do, honest commitment to the call you've placed before us, and sincere trust that we can rely on your grace and sufficiency Let us be your people, and serve the world in love as you first loved us. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins
 as we forgive those
 who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial
 and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
 and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✠ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.



A - men, a - men, a - - men.

WOLFE and HUNTER: *Acute PD*

Prepared by: www.DigitalSongsAndThemes.com

Today's Music: *"Rock of Ages" continues to be a popular Christian hymn written by Augustus Montague Toplady in the 18th century (thus the tune name). It was reported that Toplady was inspired to write the hymn during a storm when he took refuge in a rock cleft, symbolizing divine protection. It is somewhat unique in that it uses personal pronouns like "I" and "me." It is said that the song expresses a "double cure," the idea that we can be saved from both sin and its consequences.*

The Sending Song

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me ELW # 623



- 1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778

Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872

Dismissal

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

Thanks be to God.

Your Prayers Are Invited

We hope you will add the following people to your personal prayers. Those who are listed for longer than 6 weeks can be found on the long-term prayer list through the link in the weekly e-news or the monthly Link newsletters. To add a name to the prayer list or provide an update, please contact the office.

Samira Awad (friend of Melody Maurer)

Ziad Awad (friend of Melody Maurer)

Bach Family

Mother Maria Nugent, OSB (Stephanie Staerk's aunt)

The flowers on the altar today have been shared with us from the garden of Earl & Allison Uehling!

Online Giving

To make an offering to support the work of Christ's Lutheran Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, you may use this QR code to access our site for secure online giving.



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Christ's Lutheran Church
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Ministers	The People of Christ's Lutheran Church
Senior Pastor	Reverend Axel Kaegler
Director of Spiritual Formation	Becca Shelor
Director of Music	Ken Selinger
Piano Accompaniment	Betsy Selinger
Administrative Assistant	Lorraine Pfeiffer
Preschool Director	Sally Mead
Sexton	Pete Carr

Assisting Minister	Wes Craig
Soundboard	Diane Polis, Jon Rasmussen, John Frantz
Livestream	Rick Daniels, John Melnick, Paul Zieger
Counter(s)	Sue Frantz
Closer	Sue Frantz
Assisting Minister next Sunday	Paul Zieger

Upcoming Altar Flowers: August 30	The Daniels
Upcoming Altar Guild: September 6	Marlene Foody

This Week at CLC!

Sunday	9:30 am	Worship at CLC and online
	10:30 am	Q & A with Becca (chapel)
	12:00 pm	Poppin' Playground (play yard)
Monday	9:30 am	Monday Morning Men
	10:00 am – 6:00 pm	PBJ Collection (chapel)
Tuesday	9:00 am – 10:45 am	PBJ Collection (chapel)
	7:00 pm	Pub Theology (Tannery Run)
Wednesday	10:00 am	Bible Study (200)
	5:30 pm	Middle/HS Boardgames (204)
Friday	8:00 pm	AA (200)



SUMMER

August events



23

SUN. AUG.

12 PM – 1 PM

Poppin' Playground Party (baby-K)



26

WED. AUG.

5:30 PM-7:30 PM

Middle and High School Boardgames



30

SUN. AUG.

9:30 AM

Family Choir Sings in Worship

NEW TIME!

10:30 AM – 12 PM

Lower Elementary Craft Corner (K-3rd)

12:30 PM – 2 PM

All Elementary Youth Group (K-5th)

Questions? Contact Becca at:
director-spiritualform@christs-oreland.org

Reconciling in Christ

Summer Educational Series



June
Sunday the 28th
10:30 am

LGBTQ+ History
with Kathryn Steen

July
Sunday 19th
1 pm

LGBTQ+ Representation and the Bible
with Rev. Daniel Eisenberg

August
Sunday the 23rd
10:30 am

LGBTQ+ Awkward Questions
with Becca Shelor



God's work. Our hands.



Hygiene Kit Supplies

The goal: Build 150 Hygiene Kits in collaboration with Artman/Liberty Lutheran

We will need:

- 150 toothbrushes
- 150 travel size toothpaste
- 150 washcloths
- 150 travel size shampoo
- 150 travel size scent-free lotions
- 150 finger/toe nail clippers
- 150 travel size deodorant *non-aerosol
- 150 bars of soap *in original packaging
- 150 sturdy wide tooth combs *6in teeth
- 150 gallon resealable bags
(Travel size being 3.4oz or smaller)

by Sunday September 13th. Can you help?
Please bring donations to the "GWOH" box in the Narthex

This list will be updated weekly to reflect the donations still needed.