

October 18, 2026

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost



Christ's Lutheran Church

700 East Pennsylvania Avenue
Oreland, Pennsylvania

Regular Worship Schedule 10:30 am

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

Welcome to Worship at Christ's Lutheran Church!

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

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,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others. Turn our hearts back to you.**

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

Today's Music: *Of the more than 6,000 hymns that were written by Charles Wesley, "Ye Servants of God" is among his finest, written in 1744. He is considered to be the greatest hymn writer of all time. The stirring words are said to reveal his strong character and zealous spirit. The text "is a hymn of thankful praise to Christ for his victorious reign and for providing salvation for his people." It calls for believers "to boldly proclaim the gospel and recognize the universal lordship of Christ." The hymn tune is attributed to Joseph Haydn.*

Gathering Song

ELW # 825 | You Servants of God



1 You ser-vants of God, your Mas-ter pro-claim, and pub-lish a -
2 As-cend-ed on high, al-might-y to save, yet still he is
3 Sal-va-tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
4 Then let us a-dore and give him his right, all glo-ry and



broad his won-der-ful name; the name, all-vic-to-rious, of
nigh, his pres-ence we have. The great con-gre-ga-tion his
loud and hon-or the Son. The prais-es of Je-sus the
pow'r and wis-dom and might, all hon-or and bless-ing, with



Je-sus ex-tol; his king-dom is glo-rious and rules o-ver all!
tri-umph shall sing, as-crib-ing sal-va-tion to Je-sus, our king!
an-gels pro-claim, fall down on their fac-es, and wor-ship the Lamb.
an-gels a-bove, and thanks nev-er ceas-ing, and in-fin-ite love!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

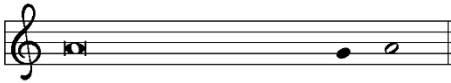
Music: LYONS, attr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737–1806

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.**

Kyrie

ELW Setting Four



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



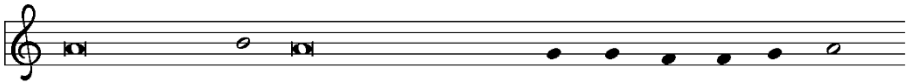
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.

A - men.

This is the Feast

ELW Setting Four

Refrain

Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.

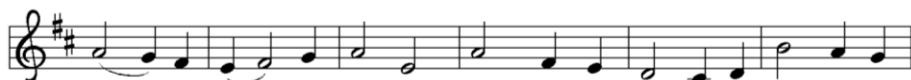
Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, 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 45:1-7

A reading from Isaiah, chapter 45.

¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:

² I will go before you
and level the mountains;
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;
³ I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name;
I give you a title, though you do not know me.

⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.

I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;

I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷ I form light and create darkness,
 I make weal and create woe;
 I the LORD do all these things.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 96:1-13

Lord God, You Love Us

The congregation will sing the following response:

Lord God, you love__ us, source of com - pas - sion.
 Toi, tu nous ai - mes, sour - ce de vie._____

Text: Taizé Community
 Music: Jacques Berthier

Text and music © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

- ¹ Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- ² Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.
- ³ Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.
- ⁴ For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods.

Response

- ⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
- ⁶ Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.
- ⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- ⁸ Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.

Response

⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

¹⁰Tell it out among the nations: “The LORD is king!

The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will
judge the peoples with equity.”

¹¹Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;

let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all
that is therein.

¹²Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming,
O LORD, for you come to judge the earth.

¹³You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth.

Response

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

A reading from First Thessalonians, chapter 1.

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in
our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your
work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord
Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that
he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you
not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full
conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be
among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the
Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the
Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in
Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth
from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your
faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak
about it. ⁹For they report about us what kind of welcome we had
among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and
true God ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from
the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

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.

Music: Caribbean traditional

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said.

¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" ²¹ They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Children's Message

Becca Shelor

A Moment of Prayer

Holy, Holy, Holy
ELW # 473



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra.
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.



Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de-cir: San - to e-res Se - ñor.
My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

Text: Argentine traditional

Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional

The Message

Pastor Axel Kaegler

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was
in the beginning, is now and every shall be.

Amen.

Please stand in body or spirit.



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
 Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

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 be seated.

Sara Melton

Power Interfaith

Prayers of Intercession

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel. Give your spirit of love to seminarians and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry, especially Ken and Rich. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for the majesty of our oceans. Protect the abundant life within them and sustain all those who work to preserve them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We seek your wisdom in all things. Direct all who hold positions of authority around the world, that they act with compassion, seeking the good of all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all people who work in dangerous or degrading environments. Grant them safety and courage, and heal all those who are injured, sick, or suffering. We pray especially for Pat, Patty, Michael, the Bach family, the Curtis and Davenport families, the Duncan family and the Geist family. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We ask your blessing on those who do the quiet, unseen work of the church. Encourage them in their work of faith and labor of love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We thank you for our ancestors who have been called home to you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through 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

"The Gospel Light"

McDonald

"Send the light, the blessed gospel light;
let it shine from shore to shore!

There are souls to rescue, there are souls to save;
send the light! Send the light!

Please stand.

Offertory Hymn (sing twice)

Jesus, Lamb of God
W & P # 76



Text: Dennis Jernigan, refrain of "You are my all in all"
Music: ALL IN ALL., Dennis Jernigan

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.

Great Thanksgiving

ELW Setting Four

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Detailed description: The image shows a musical score for a four-part vocal setting. It consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#), indicating the key of D major or E minor. The melody is simple and homophonic, using eighth and quarter notes with slurs. The lyrics are written below each staff, aligned with the notes. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

Preface

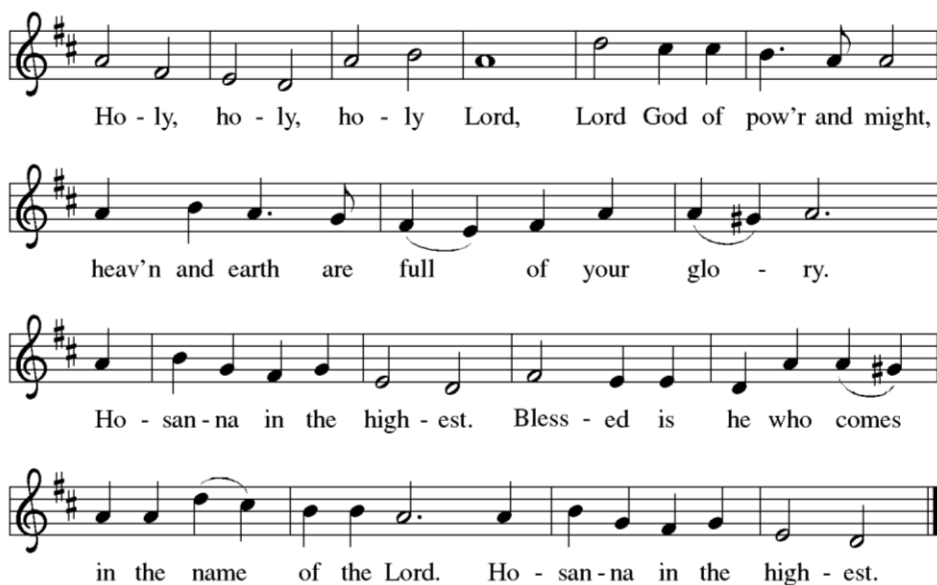
ELW Setting Four

It is indeed right, our du - ty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
al - mighty and merciful God, through our Sav - ior Je - sus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resur - rec - tion
opened to us the way of ev - er - last - ing life.
And so, with all the choirs of an - gels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heav - en,
we praise your name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

From *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #_____.

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW Setting Four



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new testament in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.**

Invitation to Communion

Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

Please be seated.

Welcome to Holy Communion!

We confess in the real presence of Jesus Christ in the holy meal. If you need Jesus - we won't keep you from Him. You are invited to share in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus through the sacraments.

Following the usher's instructions, you're welcome to come down the center aisle. You'll be offered a small cup. Empty ones will be filled with wine, pre-filled ones contain juice. After getting a cup, please step forward to receive the bread. Gluten-free bread is available beside the cups. Once you have received the bread, step toward the wine chalice on the same side as your pew to receive wine in your empty cup or a blessing on your pre-filled juice cup. Used cups should be deposited in the basket. Please return to your pew by the side aisle.

Anyone who doesn't wish to receive communion, but does wish to be included is welcome to receive a blessing instead. Please indicate this by crossing your arms over your shoulders. If you're coming up with children, please tell the pastor whether they will commune, or receive a blessing. If mobility requires communion to be brought to you, please wave to an usher so we can bring you communion.

ELW Setting Four

Communion Hymn

Take My Life, That I May Be
ELW # 685

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793-1870

Please stand.

Post Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Post Communion Song

Cares Chorus

I cast all my cares up-on you; I lay all of my
bur - dens down at your feet. And an - y - time that I don't know
what to do, I will cast all my cares up-on you.

Prayer after Communion

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

Blessing

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.



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



WORDS and MUSIC: Amen, PD

Prepared by www.DigitalSongsAndHymns.com

The Sending Song

God of Grace and God of Glory ELW # 705



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

Dismissal

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
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.

Bach Family
Patty Dijenno
Michael Glatfelter (UniLu)
Pat Hallman

We remember in prayer the family and friends of Deacon Ethel Geist who died on October 7. May her loved ones be comforted by the promise and hope of the resurrection.

The flowers on the altar today have been sponsored by
Mike and Betty Messer
in celebration of Elizabeth's wedding!

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.



Portions of the Liturgy are copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #14002-LIT. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. One License #A70825. Cares Chorus. Text and Music © Capitol CMG Publishing. 101 Winners Circle, Brentwood, TN 37027. All rights reserved. Used by permission, One License #A70825. CCLI License #1589973

Christ's Lutheran Church
700 East Pennsylvania Avenue + Oreland, PA 19075
215-886-4612 + www.christs-oreland.org
clcsecretary@christs-oreland.org

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	John Frantz
Communion Assistant(s)	Sue Frantz, John Frantz
Soundboard	Diane Polis, Jon Rasmussen, John Frantz
Livestream	Rick Daniels, John Melnick, Paul Zieger
Counter(s)	Lori Stevens
Altar Guild	Sue Frantz, Carol Christensen
Closer	George Vermeire
Assisting Minister next Sunday	Paul Zieger

Upcoming Altar Guild: October 25 (Reformation)	Linda Daniels
--	---------------

This Week at CLC!

Sunday	9:00 am	Family Tables (chapel)
	9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:30 am	Worship at CLC and online
	11:45 am	Worship Servant Training (sanctuary)
Monday	9:30 am	Monday Morning Men
	10:00 am – 6:00 pm	PBJ Collection (chapel)
	7:30 pm	Boy Scout Troop 1 (PH)
Tuesday	9:00 am – 10:45 am	PBJ Collection (chapel)
	6:00 pm	Webelos I (200)
	7:00 pm	Bear Cubs (203)
Wednesday	10:00 am	Bible Study (200)
	6:00 pm	Webelos II (200)
	7:00 pm	AA (PH)
Thursday	7:00 pm	Book Group (200)
Friday	8:00 pm	AA (200)