

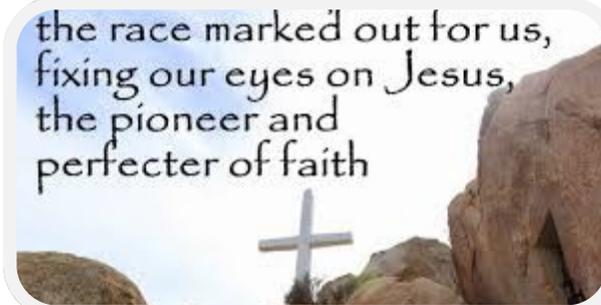
Welcome!

**Holy Communion
Time after Pentecost**

August 18, 2019

9:30 am

**Christ Lutheran
Community of Faith
Cottonwood, Minnesota**



The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today, in the assembly, we are surrounded by “so great a cloud of witnesses,” in the word and in the holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, “the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.”

(Sundays and Seasons, Augsburg Fortress, 2018)

GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.
Wherever you are on your journey of faith, you are welcome here.*

Prelude

Call to Worship

Words of Welcome

P: This is the day that the Lord has made,
C: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Community Announcements and Opportunities to Offer Ourselves

Please stand as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God of mercy,

C: we confess that we have sinned against you, against one another, and against the earth entrusted to our care. We are worried and distracted by many things, and we fail to love you above all else. We store up treasures for ourselves and turn away from our neighbors in need. Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: When we were laid low by sin and guilt, God made us alive together with Christ, forgiving us + all our sins by taking them to the cross. For freedom Christ has set us free: Rejoice in this good news!

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn – “O God of Every Nation” - - - - - [713]

Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. O God, judge eternal,

C: you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

Blessing of the Backpacks and Briefcases

WORD

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

First Reading – Jeremiah 23:23-29

²³Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? ²⁴Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. ²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, “I have dreamed, I have dreamed!” ²⁶How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. ²⁹Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading – Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2

²⁹By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. ³²And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— ³³who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— ³⁸of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. ³⁹Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰since God

had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. ^{12:1}Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation – “Halle, halle, hallelujah” - - - - - [172]

Gospel Reading

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twelfth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁴⁹“I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵²From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain’; and so it happens. ⁵⁵And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat’; and it happens.

⁵⁶You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

Pastor Janel Kuester

Hymn of the Day – “When Pain of the World Surrounds Us” - - - - - [704]

Please stand as you are able.

Profession of Faith (*The Apostles’ Creed is found inside the back cover of the hymnal.*)

Prayers of God's People

The congregation will respond to the prayer petitions with, "hear our prayer."

Sharing of God's Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share a sign of God's peace with your neighbors.

Please be seated.

MEAL

<p><i>God feeds us with the presence of Christ.</i></p>

Offering

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Holy Communion

P: God invites you to this table of bounty. Come, the banquet is ready.

Please be seated.

*Anyone who has communed elsewhere is welcome to commune here.
Those who do not yet commune are invited to come forward for a blessing.
Grape juice and gluten free bread are available upon request.*

Please come forward at the invitation of the ushers to receive communion in a continuous manner, and then return to your seats via the side aisles.

If you prefer to have communion brought to you at your seat, please let the ushers know.

Communion Distribution

<i>“Eat This Bread”</i>	[472]
<i>“All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly”</i>	[461]
<i>“My Faith Looks Up to Thee</i>	[759]
<i>“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”</i>	[815]

Please stand as you are able.

Blessing after Communion

P: Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

Prayer after Communion

A: Let us pray.

O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

Sending Hymn – “Rise Up, O Saints of God!” ----- [669]

A: Go in peace. Christ is sending you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Blessing for the Journey

*Live your lives in Christ,
rooted and built up in him,
and abound in thanksgiving;
and the blessing of the holy Trinity, + one God,
be upon you and remain with you forever. Amen.*

* * * * *

Thank You For Serving This Sunday, August 18, 2019 —
Myers and Fischer Luther Leaguers: serving refreshments after Worship today
Ushers: Scott Boehne, Greg Golberg, Conner Moseng, Corey Moseng,
Michelle Moseng, Jonathan Olson, Cal Teske, Linda VanUden
Musician: Gwen Arneson **Lector and Assisting Minister:** Susanne Lee
PA: Craig Aamodt, Tracy Sterner **Video Camera:** Ryan Fromm, Pat Hinz
Altar Care: Marge Reishus, Tracy Sterner **Counters:** Wade Breyfogle, Dave Neuman
Communion Servers and Assistants: Breckin Marczak, Kiegan Marczak, Kris Holm,
Corey Moseng, Christine Wiatrowski
Acolyte: Tyden Marczak



An invitation from Pastor Janel (PJ):
If you are **interested in church membership** or know someone interested, please call PJ at the church office 507 423 5100 or her cell phone 651 726 4003. Email is: pstrjanel@gmail.com

See Insert for
Servant and Date

A graphic with the word "NEWS" in large, bold, white letters. Each letter is contained within a colorful speech bubble: 'N' is pink, 'E' is teal, 'W' is tan, and 'S' is orange. The speech bubbles have a slight shadow and a tail pointing downwards.

— This Week: August 18, 2019 —

Today, Sunday, August 18

9:00 am Fellowship/Refreshments; continues after Worship

9:30 Worship with Holy Communion and Blessing of the Backpack and Briefcase



10:30 Fellowship/Refreshments served by Myers and Fischer Luther Leaguers

10:45 Training for Communion Serving

10:45 (approx.) Worship on Cable 180

Monday, August 19

4:30 pm Worship on Cable 180

Tuesday, August 20

9 am Quilting

Saturday, August 24

Offsite Wedding: Alm/Daniels

Next Sunday, August 25

9:00 am Fellowship/Refreshments; continues after Worship

9:30 Worship

10:30 Fellowship/Refreshments served by Tucker/Jones Luther Leaguers

10:45 Teacher Orientation

10:45 (approx.) Worship on Cable 180

Prayer Requests

The Apostle Paul reminds us in Philippians 4:6-7 to, “*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*” Your prayers are a gift to those requesting them, and encouragement for one another as we experience challenges, sorrows, or thanksgivings of any kind.

Health Concerns, as well as Others In Our Hearts and On Our Minds:

Craig Ahmann	Elaine Elston	Adela Espinoza	Norm Evers
Gordy Geistfeld	Gail Gregoire	Sue Gropel	
Leo Haack (son of Tessa Idso Haack)		Bruce Hoffman	Lisa Jones
Bob Kaeter	Cole Louwagie	Pr. Curt Miller	Jori Ella Morrison
Gretchen Noon	Jake Rodriguez (Rose Wisdorf’s great-nephew)		
Dave Schwarz (major stroke; ICU in Fargo)	Harvey Suer		Gary Timmerman
Isla (Allie Enga’s great niece)			

All those dealing with illness, addictions, depression, unemployment, under-employment, and any challenges in their lives.

Independent Living/Assisted Living/Care Center Residents/Homebound:

Shi Aamodt, Arvilla Berg, Janyce Bouza, Darleen Cole, Michele Engholm, Irene Evers, Lavonne Fischer, Marge Gigstad, Janet Gniffke, Virginia Isaackson, Julie Jaeger, Marietta Jarcho, Betty Lovsness, Lila Mauland (moved to Minneota Manor), Laurie Pickthorn, Donna Neuharth, Bobby Olson, Alnora Pederson, Margaret Rewerts, Louis Wood

Families of our Congregation.

David Roe Mary Roe Jim and Nancy Runholt

Students and Staff as they begin another school year.

Upcoming Marriage August 24: Tanner Alm and Haleigh Daniels

Workers in Other Countries, Missionaries, and Local Congregation Missions.

World Mission Prayer League (WMPL)
Cottonwood Food Pantry (located in south end of Senior Citizens Bldg.)



Christ Lutheran Church Location: 126 Front Street (corner of Front and North First on the lake)

mailing address: P.O. Box 166, Cottonwood, Minnesota 56229

Office Phone and Voice Mail: 507-423-5100

www.christcottonwood.org

Find us on Facebook: Christ Lutheran Church Cottonwood MN

Pastor Janel Kuester—507 423 5100; cell 651 726 4003; pstrjanel@gmail.com

Pastoral Asst. Gwen Arneson—507 423 5100; cell 612 280 5987; gwenarneson@yahoo.com

Organist Gwen Arneson—See Pastoral Assistant above

Administrative Asst. Rhoda Schmidt—507 423 5100; cell 507 829 1426;

christlutheran@christcotton.com

Accounting Asst. Melanie Olsen—cell 507 530 2064; melanie.olsen@usbank.com

Custodians Jon & Jeannette Myrvik—cell 507 828 2401; 828 2407;

jeannette.myrvik@schwans.com

jjmyrvik@charter.net

A CONGREGATION'S GARDEN

This is a story about Lutheran Church of Hope in Anchorage, Alaska.

That congregation had been trying to determine what to do with the extra land behind their church. The Holy Spirit spoke to Don, a member of the congregation, and he knew he would plant what became the Hope Memorial Garden.



With money from the church council the land was cleared. The spruce wood harvested went to members for firewood. Don turned the birch into bowls to be sold to support the garden. Along with money from the birch bowls and support from the congregation, Hope Memorial Garden received a Domestic Hunger Grant from ELCA World Hunger.

In one year the garden yielded about 2,700 pounds of food including potatoes, peppers, and broccoli. The produce was donated to social service organizations and soup kitchens.

In one year ELCA World Hunger Domestic Hunger Grants allocated nearly \$700,000 to support 347 projects and programs in the United States. A project like this one in Anchorage is an approach to breaking the cycle of poverty and hunger.

Do you want to help with projects like this?

Use the envelope included in the bulletin today to make a monetary gift to ELCA World Hunger. Remember the hungry and know that you can help them.

Could you help with the following for Mission Possible...

6th Grade shared classroom lesson teacher – you teach with another teacher

Contact Pastor Janel or Michelle Moseng to talk more.

hopebelieve44@gmail.com 507 828 2703
pstrjanel@gmail.com 651 726 4003

Teacher and Helper Orientation:

**Next Sunday - August 25 - following Worship
Contact Michelle Moseng or Pastor Janel to RSVP of your attendance.**

**** Collecting Before September 8th—
God's Work. Our Hands. Day**

Lakeview Schools Weekend Backpack Program—See Shopping List Below

*Put under the east bank of windows
in the front entry of the church building*

AND

Birthday Bags for the Cottonwood Food Pantry—See Shopping List Below

Deliver to Gwen Arneson's office at church

Lakeview Schools Weekend Backpack Program:

Spaghetti sauce and pasta	Pancake mix and syrup
Granola bars	Cereal bars
Easy Mac	Ramen noodles, Ramen cups
Goldfish crackers (in small individual bags)	
Animal crackers (in small individual bags)	
Fruit cups	Applesauce
Mini cereal boxes	Pop Tarts
Rice cups	Spaghettios
	Instant potato cups

Birthday Bags for the Cottonwood Food Pantry:

Cake mixes	Tubs of frosting
Cupcake papers	Birthday candles
Birthday napkins and paper plates	

As you are out grocery shopping and picking up other items throughout the week, please consider purchasing some of these things listed above to help us prepare for our God's Work. Our Hands. Day projects on September 8th! Thank you for your generous donations to bless others and spread the joy of Christ Jesus!

God's Work. Our Hands. Day is coming up on September 8th!

We are beginning to assemble a list of projects and activities that people can choose to participate in on this ELCA-wide day of service. Some tasks have been part of this day in the past, and some will be new. We hope there is something that will appeal to everyone and perhaps tug at your hearts as a worthy use of your time on that Sunday morning!

- ⇒ One of the new things we will do is to assemble **Birthday Bags** for our recently-opened Cottonwood Food Pantry. We will ask our young people to decorate the bags into which the supplies for a birthday celebration will be placed. **On another page you will read of the items we wish to put in the Birthday Bags. These items may be brought to the church and will be kept in Gwen Arneson's office until September 8th.** Thank you for brightening someone's day as they celebrate their birthday in the weeks and months to come! Other food items for the Cottonwood Food Pantry are welcomed, as well, and may be gathered in the front entry of the church building.
- ⇒ As we have done for many of the past years, **prior to GWOH Day**, we will be collecting food supplies for the **Weekend Backpack Program** at Lakeview Schools. This program, in its 9th year, helps to assure that students who experience food insecurity in their homes will have enough to eat on the weekends when they are not being nourished by school breakfasts and lunches. Last year, there were about 50 students served by the program weekly. You have been so generous in the past, and we anticipate your generous hearts and donations this year, as well. What a way to bless the children among us. We will collect these food items in the **front entry of the church building under the large block of windows on the east side** so there won't be confusion with the other donation baskets in the opposite corner. **On another page you will read of the recommended items to donate.**
- ⇒ Another *NEW* component of GWOH Day will be a Conversation Group to talk about serving others from a faith perspective. If you wish to participate in GWOH but aren't able to go out and work or stand for an extended time, but rather wish to stay in the building and visit over a cup of coffee, we invite you to consider this option.

Worship Activity Bags -

Items to be on the lookout for as you are shopping!

Crayons
Pencils with erasers
"Magic Slates" (that erase when you lift up the plastic film)
Small clipboards
Paper shapes that could be traced or decorated
Pipe cleaners to twist into shapes
Blank greeting cards and envelopes for making a card for someone
Old-fashioned Clothespins to make "people" by drawing a face on the knobs
Small books about faith stories of things to look for in the sanctuary
Small books of mazes
Finger labyrinths



In addition:

Would someone be interested in tending to this important ministry each week to make sure our young worship participants have something to do and look at while in worship? Please let Gwen Arneson know!

Looking Ahead to September . . .

Wednesday, September 11 - Mission Possible starts (Orientation Night) - 6pm

Wednesday, September 11 - Confirmation Student and Parent/Guardian Meeting at 7:15 pm - Grades 7, 8, 9

Wednesday, September 11 - 7:15 pm—7th Grade Acolyte Training during Parent/Student Meeting

Wednesday, September 11 - 7:15 pm - 8th and 9th Grade Communion Assisting Training during Parent/Student Meeting

Sunday, September 15 – Sunday School for Pre-K (3-5 year olds) starts—9:00 to 9:25 am
During 9:30 Worship - Welcome to Sunday School for Three Year Olds:
Presentation of Prayer Pillows and Books

Sunday, September 15 FOLLOWING WORSHIP: Second Graders and Parent/Guardian are invited to a Bible Introduction Class

September 22 – During 9:30 Worship - Presentation of Bibles to 2 Year Olds, Second Graders, and First Year Confirmation Students

Sunday, September 29 - FOLLOWING WORSHIP: 5th and 6th Grade Acolyte Training: Students and Parent/Guardian attend