

**Time After Pentecost
June 11, 2023**

**Christ Lutheran Church
Cottonwood, Minnesota**



Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. We are grateful to God you are here.
We pray that you will feel the Spirit and welcome of this faith community,
and we look forward to seeing you again!

Though Jesus was a devout Jew who practiced his faith, he was criticized for eating with tax collectors and sinners—the religiously nonobservant. Jesus criticizes the self-righteous and reminds us that mercy is to be at the heart of our religious practices. God continues to be made known in those on the margins of society, like Matthew the tax collector and the hemorrhaging woman. As we gather each Lord's day we receive the healing that makes us well and sends us forth to be signs of God's mercy for the world.

(Sundays and Seasons, Augsburg Fortress, 2022)

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,

All: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

GATHERING HYMN *“Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling”* ELW# 608

Please rise in body or spirit.

OPENING WORDS OF FAITH

based on Psalm 50

P: “Hear, O my people, and I will speak, O Israel, I will testify against you. I am God, your God.

All: Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before me.

P: For every wild animal of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.

All: I know all the birds of the air, and all that moves in the field is mine.

P: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High.

All: Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.”

WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

All: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

P: Merciful God,

All: we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered our blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

(Silence for a time of self-reflection)

P: Righteous God,

All: we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

(Silence for a time of self-reflection)

P: Receive the Good News: God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

All: Amen. Thanks be to God.

OPENING HYMN

“Gather Us In”

ELW# 532

GREETING

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

All: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Lord God,

All: you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Hosea 5:15-6:6

¹⁵I will return again to my place until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face. In their distress they will beg my favor:

¹“Come, let us return to the Lord; for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck down, and he will bind us up. ²After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. ³Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth.”

⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early.

⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have killed them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. ⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

L: Word of God, word of life.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 4:13, 18-25

¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith.

¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb.

²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.

²²Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.”

²³Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone,

²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

L: Word of God, word of life.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise in body or spirit.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “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

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GOSPEL READING

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the ninth chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁹As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

¹⁰And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. ¹¹When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

¹²But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

¹⁸While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." ¹⁹And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples.

²⁰Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, ²¹for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well."

²²Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. ²³When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion,

²⁴he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. ²⁵But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. ²⁶And the report of this spread throughout that district.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.*Please be seated.***MESSAGE**

Pastor Janel Kuester

HYMN OF THE DAY "O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come" ELW# 610*Please rise in body or spirit.*

THE PROFESSION OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES’ CREED

All: 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.

SHARING OF GOD’S PEACE

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

All: And also with you.

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

Please be seated.

THANKSGIVING

We respond in gratitude for God’s never-failing love and mercy.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

BLESSING OF THANKSGIVING FOR CEMETERY PINE TREES

Based on Psalm 104

Congregational Response is: Praise the Lord, my soul.

PRAYER

GATHERING OF OFFERING

You can give electronically by either visiting www.christcottonwood.org and setting up a one time or recurring gift or by snapping on the QR Code on page 9.

Thank you for your generosity.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray. O Lord, be known to us, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world.

All: Amen.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

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

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

Please be seated.

SENDING

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

SENDING BLESSING

P: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed, †
bless, keep and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

All: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me"

ELW# 860

SENDING WORDS

L: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

All: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

— **Thank You For Serving This Sunday, June 11, 2023** —

Ushers: Mike Lee, Parry Bossuyt, Chuck Broberg, Josh Brusven, Josh Fragodt, Tom Hinz, Jeff Varpness, Lisa Varpness

Musician: Amy Jo Remmele

Acolyte: Tovah Marczak

Assisting Minister: Stephanie Lundberg

PA: Brian Velde and Larry Isaackson

Video Camera: Sidnee Olson and Greg Isaackson

Altar Care: Pat Hinz and Carolyn Olson

Counters: Deb Louwagie and Tracy Sterner

This Week's Calendar

Today, Sunday, June 11: Time After Pentecost

Fellowship Time before and after Worship

9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion

10:30 am Council Meeting (lower level)

6:00 pm Christian Education Meeting (Lakeside Room)

Wednesday, June 13:

5:30 pm Cottonwood Area Community Foundation Board Meeting
Lakeside Room

Next Sunday, June 18: Time After Pentecost

Fellowship Time before and after Worship

9:30 am Worship—Pastor Charles Jackson from World Mission
Prayer League

Cemetery Trees



Thank you: Thank you to everyone who contributed to the purchasing of the replacement trees at the cemetery. They have all been paid for. So much gratitude for your help to beautify the final resting place of many saints.

If you are interested in helping to water the new trees please contact Marv Kremin at 507.828.6788.

Thank you, thank you, thank you, for all the ways you share yourself, your time, your skills and your financial support in the ministry we share at Christ Lutheran Church. It is only through you – the dedicated, faithful, generous people of God – that we have and continue to be able to carry out the mission Jesus Christ has entrusted to us. Since we believe in full transparency, we want to let you know we do have a few maintenance issues to fix in the coming months and summer is usually a lighter time of giving.

As of the end of May 2023:

Giving	Expenses	Over/Short
\$73,590.72	\$80,213.79	(\$6,623.07)

Once

again,

THANK YOU for all the ways you already share in your giving to this place, our church. We certainly could not do the ministry and mission pieces that we do without you!

Don't forget you can sign up for consistent summer online giving at www.christcottonwood.org. You can set up a one time or recurring gift by snapping on the QR Code on the right.



World Mission Prayer League

On **Sunday, June 18**, Charles and Anita Jackson, missionaries from World Mission Prayer League, will be in worship with us. Anita is a daughter of the congregation. They write, “We want to thank you for your generous support over the years. We have appreciated Christ Lutheran’s support in prayer, encouragement, and financial gifts. You have walked with us for the years when we were your global workers (missionaries) in Africa amongst the Samburu. You followed us to work in Mongolia. And over the past four years you have been supporting us as we provide leadership, support, and resources for those on the field and as we train a new generation of global workers to go to work in the harvest.” Currently, Charles and Anita are based in Canada.

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.

Seminarian: Katherine (Kit) Mackenzie

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

Grant Johnson, Teri Kemmer, Joyce Kroger, Brad Marks,
Kathy Martin, Linda Olson, Sam Smith

All those dealing with illness, addictions, depression, cancer, hunger, homelessness, unemployment, and any challenges in their lives. Ukrainian refugees.

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

Darleen Cole, Irene Evers, Betty Lovsness, Jody Mohr, Donna Neuharth,
Bobby Olson, Sonny and Ione Olson, Laurie Pickthorn, Steve Pederson,
Margaret Rewerts, Jim Runholt, June Schwartz

Families of our Congregation:

Jonah Dovre
Neil and Sandy Dovre
Allie Enga

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

*Robin’s Nest Children’s Home, Jamaica, Kikatiti Secondary School, Tanzania,
and World Mission Prayer League (WMPL)*

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www.christcottonwood.org

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