

***“God’s Work, Our Hands Sunday”  
Time After Pentecost***

**September 12, 2021**

**9:30 a.m. Worship**

**Christ Lutheran Church - Cottonwood, Minnesota**



*Three weeks ago we heard Peter’s confession of faith as told in John’s gospel. This week we hear Mark’s version, when Peter says, “You are the Messiah.” In John, the stumbling block is Jesus’ invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus’ words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus’ words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of messiah) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.*

(from Sundays and Seasons, Augsburg Fortress, 2020)

**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.**

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

Opening Words of Faith

based on Psalm 116

P: I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

**All: He inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

P: Then I called on the name of the Lord: "O LORD, I pray, save my life!"

**All: Gracious is the Lord who protects me when I am brought low.**

P: Return, O my soul, to your rest,

**All: for the Lord has dealt bountifully with me.**

P: For you have delivered my soul, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

**All: I walk before the Lord in the land of the living. Praise the Lord!**

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: We gather in the name of the Father, ☩ of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

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

*(Silence for a time of self-reflection)*

P: Gracious God,

**All: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: Hear the Good News: God who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ ☩, your sins are forgiven. May the almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**All: Amen. Thanks be to God.**

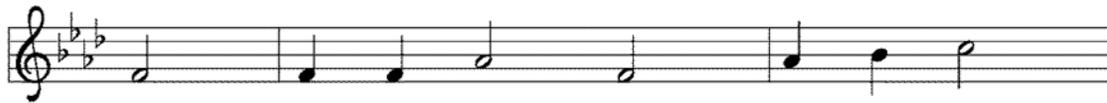
Gathering Hymn

“Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said”

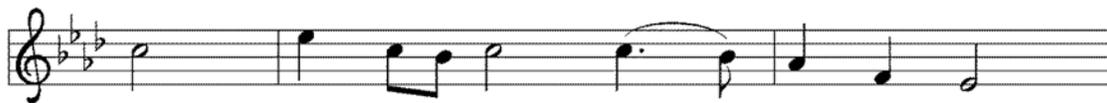
ELW# 667



1 “Take up your cross,” the Sav - ior said,  
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight  
 3 Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,  
 4 Take up your cross and fol - low Christ,



“if you would my dis - ci - ple be;  
 per - vade your soul with vain a - larm;  
 nor let your fool - ish heart re - bel;  
 nor think till death to lay it down;



for - sake the past, and come this day,  
 his strength shall bear your spir - it up,  
 for you the Lord en - dured the cross  
 for those who hum - bly bear the cross



and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.”  
 sus - tain your heart, and nerve your arm.  
 to save your soul from death and hell.  
 one day will wear the glo - rious crown.

Text: Charles W. Everest, 1814–1877, alt.  
 Music: BOURBON, W. Hauser, *Hesperian Harp*, 1848

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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.



**Gospel Acclamation****“Celtic Alleluia”****ELW# 174**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.*

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Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker  
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**Gospel Reading****Mark 8:27-38**

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the eighth chapter.

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” <sup>29</sup>He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup>For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup>Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup>Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

**P:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

Hymn of the Day

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

ELW# 733



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in  
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Refrain*



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

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Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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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.**

Prayers of God's People

*The congregation will respond 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.**

Sharing of God's Peace

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

**C: And also with you.**

*Please share a verbal peace with one another.*

*Please be seated.*

**SENDING**

*God sends us in mission to the world*

*Your offering can be received this day at the door in the offering plate,  
through the mail, or dropped off at the church office.*

*You can also do a one-time or recurring gift via the website.*

*Thank you for your generosity.*

Community Announcements

Offertory Prayer

L: Let us pray: Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

Affirmation of Christian Vocation

P: Siblings in Christ, both our work and our rest are in God. Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others, at morning and evening, at work and at play, all the days of your life?

**All: I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Sending Blessing

P: Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit you have knit us your servants into the one body of your Son, Jesus Christ. Look with favor upon us in our commitment to serve in Christ's name. Give us courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, † one God, bless you now and forever.

Sending Hymn

*"We Are All One in Mission"*

ELW# 576



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,  
2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit-ness in God's name.  
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.  
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:  
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove  
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,  
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.  
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.  
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

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Sending Words

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Today, the God's Work. Our Hands. projects begin after Worship. We will not regather after projects as we have historically done.

**Great News:** There will be activities for the littles whether that is care in the nursery or projects provided by the Christian Education Committee. This frees up parents to participate in other projects listed below.

⇒ **Some projects you can be prepared to help with are as follows:**

***Meal Making*** for those in times of need. Bring an apron if you wish, but willing hands to cook is all that is needed. Join Wendy Fischer who will be leading this crew in the church kitchen.

***Cottonwood Food Pantry*** is in need of some helpers to do some cleaning and organizing. Some tasks will include clearing and washing shelving, checking all dates and putting supplies back on to the shelves in date order, washing the floor, organizing surplus food boxes, cleaning the office area, and helping organize. If you have any favorite cleaning supplies bring them along and if you have some organizing techniques and tools bring your ideas. You are invited to take a short walk across the street to the pantry where LaNaye Hennen, a pantry volunteer, will be leading this group.

***Clothed With Love*** will have tables set up to sort the bags and boxes of clothes that have been lovingly donated. Join the Clothed With Love Committee to help weed and sort clothes in the Social Hall.

***Parsonage Tree Trimming*** will need all kinds of tree trimming equipment – chain saws, bucket lift, trailers, loppers and saws to help the Trustees get the trees all cleaned up. Meet at the parsonage property.

***Church Landscaping*** includes the **need for someone to bring a larger trailer and/or trucks that are empty**; need helpers to pull weeds in the rocks around the buildings, trim bushes (bring your trimmer), and join Jon Myrvik outside the church building. If time, the lake front property trees may also get a trimming.

***Dusting and Washing Inside the Church Property*** can use some helpers who be willing to help wash baseboards, wipe down basement walls, and dust the cobwebs away. Bring your favorite bucket, rags, and feather duster (extension ones are best for the sanctuary). Look for Jeannette Myrvik for some guidance on where to get started.

***Power Washing the Church Building*** will help spruce up the outside of the building. If you have any power washers and hoses, they will be gladly put to use and the Trustees will be able to direct you.

**Worship Assistants, Thank You For Serving This Sunday, September 12, 2021**

**Musician:** Michelle Wood    **Assisting Minister:** Linda VanUden-Wilson

**PA Operators:** Shawn Myers, Corey & Conner Moseng

**Video Camera Operators:** Greg Isaackson, Larry Isaackson

**Ushers:** Dean Berg (captain); Allie Enga, Claire Erickson, Kathie Erickson, Jon Myrvik, Sid Olson, Tracy Sterner, Sarah Yotter

**Altar Care:** Karen Berg, Sandy Boehne

**Count Offering:** Jason Fischer, Carolyn Olson

**Worship Options**

In person worship: Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

On Church YouTube Channel – links are posted on both the church Facebook Page and on our website.

On the Local Cable Channel 180: Sundays at 10:45 a.m. & Mondays at 4:30 p.m.

Bulletins are emailed and are posted at our website: [christcottonwood.org](http://christcottonwood.org).

**QR Code for Online Giving**



**Thank You** --The ministry to which God has called us is continuing in differing ways. We are grateful for your ongoing financial offerings that can be mailed to the church (P.O. Box 166, Cottonwood, MN 56229) or given online with the following link:

<https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/1600>

**This Week's Calendar**

**Wednesday, September 15**

6:00 pm Mission Possible

6:15 pm 4th year confirmation meeting

7:00 pm 7th, 8th, 9th grade confirmation

**Sunday, September 19**

9:00 am Preschoolers Sunday School

9:30 am Worship / 1st year confirmation  
students receive milestone ministry bibles

4 pm—7 pm Council Meeting and Retreat

**Today—Community / Church Event**

St. Mary's Annual Fall Festival and Raffle - Sunday, September 12 -  
Turkey Dinner and all the Trimmings, with Cold Stone Ice Cream,  
Drive Through/Pick Up Dinners Only - 11 am to 1 pm — \$10

**September Education and Milestone Ministry Dates**

**1st Year Confirmation Students receive Bibles next Sunday, September 19, during  
Worship**

**2nd Graders receive Milestone Ministry Spark Bibles and Catechisms during Worship,  
Sunday, September 26**

**Following Worship on Sunday, September 26, 2nd Graders and 3rd Graders meet with  
PJ for an introduction to Spark Bible**

**SAVE!**  
*the* **DATE!**

**WELCA Prairie Conference . . . Fall Gathering . . .**  
will be held Saturday, October 2, at the Ruthton  
Community Center, in Ruthton, hosted by Peace  
Lutheran.

Message by Pastor Diana Hunstad: *God's Wink*

Day begins with coffee at 8:30 and ends with  
complimentary noon lunch. Registration: \$10

“In Kind” Offering: Canned goods, paper products, or  
monetary donation for Tyler & Pipestone Food Shelf

## 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:**

Kelly Arnold	Sandra Arnold	Norm Evers	Grant Johnson
Bob Kaeter	Teri Kemmer	Bobby Olson	Pastor Janel Kuester
Ione Olson	Lloyd Powell	Savannah Rausch	

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

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

Arvilla Berg, Darleen Cole, Michele Engholm, Elaine Elston, Irene Evers, Norm Evers, Janet Gniffke, Julie Jaeger, Betty Lovsness, Lila Mauland, Laurie Pickthorn, Donna Neuharth, Bobby Olson, Alnora Pederson, Margaret Rewerts

**Families of our Congregation:** *Abby Lee*  
*Kade Lee*  
*Mike and Susanne Lee*

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

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

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