

## **Welcome!**

**Time after Pentecost**

**October 20, 2019**  
**9:30 am**

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

**LUKE 18:1**

*Pray always. Do not lose heart.*

*This is the encouragement of the Christ of the gospel today. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed. Wrestle with the word. Remember your baptism again and again. Come regularly to Christ's table. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed.*

*(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: We worship as we live each day, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: 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.

**C: Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Gracious God,

**C: 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: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn – “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” ----- [632]**

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 Lord God,

**C: tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## WORD

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

### First Reading – Genesis 32:22-31

<sup>22</sup>The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup>He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. <sup>24</sup>Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. <sup>25</sup>When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup>Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." <sup>27</sup>So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." <sup>28</sup>Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." <sup>29</sup>Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup>So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." <sup>31</sup>The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Second Reading – 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

<sup>3:14</sup>But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, <sup>15</sup>and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup>All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. <sup>4:1</sup>In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: <sup>2</sup>proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. <sup>3</sup>For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, <sup>4</sup>and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. <sup>5</sup>As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

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 eighteenth chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. <sup>2</sup>He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. <sup>3</sup>In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’ <sup>4</sup>For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, <sup>5</sup>yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’” <sup>6</sup>And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup>And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

Sermon

Pastor Janel Kuester

**Hymn of the Day – “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” - - - - - [752]  
(Sung three times)**

*Please stand as you are able.*

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

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.*

**THANKSGIVING**

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

Offering

*Please stand as you are able.*

Offertory Prayer

A: Let us pray.

God our provider, we bring nothing into this world and we can take nothing out of it. Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your \ altar, and with them the offering of our lives.

**C: Amen.**

Prayers of God's People

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

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.**

**SENDING**

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

Blessing

**Sending Hymn – "Now Thank We All Our God" ----- [840]**

A: Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Blessing for the Journey*

*Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. Almighty God + bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever.*

*Amen.*

Flowers in our Sanctuary: We thank the Wood Family for sharing the bouquets of flowers from Louis's funeral service held at Christ Lutheran on October 15.

Louis's Family gratefully acknowledges and gives thanks for all acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy.

**Worship Assistants, Thank You For Serving This Sunday, October 20, 2019 —**

**Ushers:** Captain—Mike Lee; Parry Bossuyt, Chuck Broberg, Trinity Broberg, Josh Fragodt, Tom Hinz, Jeff Varpness  
**Acolyte:** Cienna

**Pianist:** Brenda Olson  
**Lector and Assisting Minister:** Char Bode

**PA:** Larry Isaackson, Corey Moseng  
**Video Camera:** Bev Isaackson, Sid Olson

**Altar Care:** Kaitlin Fischer, Wendy Fischer, Linda Magnuson, Whitney St. Aubin

**Counters:** Michelle Moseng, Jonathan Olson

**\$8.8 BILLION**

On a recent television news report it was stated that in the United States a total of \$8.8 BILLION, yes, BILLION with a *B*, will be spent this year for Halloween costumes, decorations, candy, and cards. That is an average spending per person of \$86.

Imagine what that amount of money could do to help the hungry and food insecure in the United States and around the world. Or half that amount or a quarter of that amount!

Our church body, the ELCA is just ending a campaign called “Always Being Made New.” Over a five year period \$250 million was given. From that amount \$116.5 MILLION, that is MILLION with an *M*, was gifted for the ELCA World Hunger Program.

Compare the amounts for Halloween spending for one year and ELCA World Hunger gifts for five years.

*Where are our priorities?*

There is an envelope included today for your gift to ELCA World Hunger. Remember the hungry!

*Thank you.*



— This Week: October 20, 2019 —

**Today, Sunday, October 20**  
**9:00 Fellowship/Refreshments; & after Worship**  
**9:30 Worship**  
**10:30 Confirmation Mentor Training (option 2)**  
**10:45 (approx.) Worship on Cable 180**

**Monday, October 21**  
**4:30 pm Worship on Cable 180**

**Tuesday, October 22**  
**1:30 pm Communion @ West Prairie**  
**2:30 Communion @ Fieldcrest**  
**7:15 Faithful Innovation Guiding Team**

**Wednesday, October 23**  
**6:00 pm Mission Possible**  
**6:30 Choir**  
**7:15 Mentor Night Confirmation**  
**7:15 Trustees**  
**7:15 Deacons**  
**7:45 Council**

**Next Sunday, October 27**  
**9:00 am Sunday School for PreK Students (9:00—9:25)**  
**9:00 Fellowship/Refreshments; continues after Worship**  
**9:30 Reformation Day Worship with Holy Communion and Affirmation of Baptism; Milestone Ministry: 2nd Graders receive Luther's Small Catechism**  
**10:45 (approx.) Worship on Cable 180**

Because of your generosity in sharing of time and resources, we have been able to reach out with God's never-failing love in countless ways, both inside and beyond our congregation.

We are grateful for your financial gifts which allow us to continue the many ministries that we hold in common inside of God's mission for us here in this faith community.

**Financial Snapshot**

Giving Year To Date (Jan-Sept): \$ 126,280.84  
Expenses Year To Date (Jan-Sept): \$ 139,678.67  
Shortfall Year to Date: -\$ 13,397.83  
Needed Weekly To Make Budget \$ 3,726  
**Last Week's Giving October 13: \$ 2,800**

## 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	Bob Bode	Rodney Carlson	Elaine Elston
Norm Evers	Gordy Geistfeld	Adrian Golberg	Gail Gregoire
Sue Gropel	Leo Haack	Bruce Hoffman	Lisa Jones
Bob Kaeter	Cole Louwagie	Pr. Curt Miller	Jori Ella Morrison
Gretchen Noon	Jake Rodriguez	Amy St. Pierre	Dave Schwarz
Harvey Suer	Gary Timmerman		

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, Laurie Pickthorn, Donna Neuharth, Bobby Olson, Alnora Pederson, Margaret Rewerts

**Affirming Baptismal Faith:** Colby and Kiegan Marczak, who will make public profession of their faith on October 27 during Worship.

### **Families of our Congregation.**

Diane Wagner Family  
Damian Wallin Family  
Darrien Wallin

**Deaths:** *Let us hold these families in our prayers as they grieve, mourn, remember and give thanks to God for the promises we know in Christ Jesus:*

**Marvin Christenson, Louis Dean Wood**

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

Cottonwood Food Pantry (located in south end of Senior Citizens Bldg., open 2nd & 4th Thursdays from 5 pm to 7 pm)

Charles and Anita Jackson/World Mission Prayer League (WMPL)