

**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 17, 2023 • 10:00 AM**



Christ the King Lutheran Church
499 Plaza Drive
Vestal, NY 13850
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www.ctkvestal.org

**Hearts Loved By God
Hands To Serve All
Through Jesus Christ**



WELCOME TO CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

We welcome you to worship with us! We hope you will experience the grace and peace of God's love present with you. For more information, please contact us by email or phone, or by visiting our Facebook page, or at our website, www.ckvestal.org.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP SERVICE

ORDER OF WORSHIP

The Worship Service this morning follows the pattern of Gather-Word-Meal-Sending. It will include the distribution of communion.

OFFERINGS

You may present your offering to God for the work of God through Christ the King Lutheran Church online via our website at www.ckvestal.org and clicking on the "Give Now" button, by leaving it at the church, or by mail.

ABOUT CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

Christ the King is a Reconciling in Christ congregation. We are called by Christ to care for, love, understand, and listen to each other. All are welcome, regardless of race, age, gender and gender identities, marital status, physical and mental abilities, sexual orientations, national origin, or economic status. We celebrate together our unity as God's people, committed to being a radically loving and welcoming community of faith, centered in the Good News of Jesus Christ. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Christ the King is a place for all to discover and develop their God-given gifts and share them with the world.

If you desire Pastoral Care or have a Pastoral Emergency, please contact the Church Office at 607-729-2688 and leave a message. Your message will be automatically forwarded. Our team of caring ministers will respond to your call.

GATHERING

+ *Please stand as you are able*

Prelude

Welcome

+ Confession and Forgiveness

Leader: Blessed be God,
the one who forms us,
Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Leader: Steadfast and faithful God,

**All: you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed
by the world's violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have
for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.
For the ways we turn away
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.
Lead us back to you
and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.**

Leader: Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

All: Amen.

- 1 Dearest Jesus, at your word
we have come again to hear you;
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
and in glowing faith be near you
as the promises here given
draw us wholly up to heaven.

- 2 All our knowledge, sense, and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded
till your Spirit breaks the night,
filling us with light unclouded.
All good thoughts and all good living
come but by your gracious giving.

- 3 Radiance of God's glory bright,
Light of light from God proceeding,
Jesus, send your blessed light;
help our hearing, speaking, heeding,
that our prayers and songs may please you,
as with grateful hearts we praise you.

- 4 Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
praise to you and adoration!
Grant us what we need the most:
all your gospel's consolation
while we here on earth await you,
till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619-1684, sts. 1-3; *Gesangbuch*, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, adapt.

+ **Greeting**

Leader: 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 (in unison)**

**O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness.
Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight
in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

First Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

Reading of the Psalm (responsively)

Psalm 103:1-13

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—**

³who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;

⁴**who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

⁵who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

⁶**O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.

⁸**LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;**

⁹you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.

¹⁰**You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

¹²**As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.**

¹³As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

Second Reading

Romans 14:1-12

+ Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia. We have an advocate, Jesus Christ the righteous; your sins are forgiven on account of his name. *Alleluia.* (1 John 2:1, 12)

+ **Gospel Reading**

Matthew 18:21-35

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, chapter 18, verses 21 through 35.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading:

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pr. Tom Olson

+ **Hymn of the Day**

In All Our Grief

ELW No. 615

- 1 In all our grief and fear we turn to you.
O God, you know all that we think or do,
you know the pain we put each other through.

Refrain

Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy,
Lord, grant us peace.

- 2 Help us to put aside the angry word,
the clenching fist, the wish and will to hurt.
Teach us the way in which love best is served. *Refrain*
- 3 You did not even spare your only Son.
He lived our griefs and bore all evil done,
but through his cross, redemption has been won. *Refrain*
- 4 God, when we suffer all that we can bear,
then let us know that you in truth are near
and will not leave us lost in all our fear. *Refrain*

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

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+ The Apostles Creed (in unison)

**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 the People

During the prayers, worshippers are invited to lift up prayers for the people, places and situations for which we are thankful or are in need of prayer.

We will pray following the petition bidding style:

*Each petition concludes, "God of grace..."
to which the congregation responds, "...hear our prayer."*

+ The Peace

In an act of unity, blessing, and reconciliation, we greet one another with the Peace of Christ. (Matthew 5:23-24).

Leader: Be kind to one another, and tenderhearted forgiving one another,
as God in Christ has forgiven you. The Peace of the Risen Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

MEAL

Our Offerings are Gathered

Our worship is complete when we bring all of our resources to receive God's blessing and fulfill God's purpose. In joyous gratitude, we bring more than money; we bring ourselves, our time and our talent as an offering to God. Please take a moment to offer yourself anew to God. You are also invited to present an offering to God for the work of God's mission through Christ the King by giving online at www.ctkvestal.org and clicking the "Give Now" button, by leaving your offering at church, or by mail. For those present in the sanctuary, you may leave your offering in the offering plate as you exit the sanctuary.

Offertory

Offering Prayer (in unison)

**God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.**

**We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.**

**Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The thanksgiving continues with the proper preface... "and join their unending hymn."

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna In the highest.**

Eucharistic Prayer

Leader: ... Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

All: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

**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.
Forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Distribution of Communion

We go to the table to encounter the body and blood of the living Christ in bread and wine, through which faith is nourished and sins are forgiven. Please proceed to the altar through the center aisle where you will receive a piece of bread from a worship leader. Then proceed to one of the chalice bearers and dip your bread in the wine (silver chalice) or grape juice (glass chalice). In addition to bread, we have a gluten free option. Should you prefer gluten free, please ask when you come forward.

Communion Hymn

Here Is Bread

ELW No. 483

Refrain

In this bread there is healing,
in this cup is life forever.
In this moment, by the Spirit,
Christ is with us here.

Here is bread here is wine
Christ is with us He is with us
Break the bread drink the wine
Christ is with us here *Refrain*

Here is grace here is peace
Christ is with us He is with us
Know His grace find His peace
Feast on Jesus here *Refrain*

Here we are joined in one
Christ is with us He is with us
We'll proclaim 'til He comes
Jesus crucified *Refrain*

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Communion

+ Prayer after Communion (in unison)

Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

SENDING

+ Sending Hymn

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

ELW No. 697

Refrain

Just a closer walk with thee,
grant it, Jesus, is my plea;
daily walking close to thee,
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

- 1 I am weak but thou art strong:
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Refrain*
- 2 Through this world of toil and snares,
if I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Refrain*
- 3 When my feeble life is o'er,
time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o'er
to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. *Refrain*

Text: North American traditional

Announcements

+ Blessing

Leader: 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.

Postlude

Looking Ahead:

Saturday, September 23 Men's Group at 8:00 AM
Sunday, September 24 No service at CTK
Sunday, October 1 Worship with Communion at CTK at 10:00 AM

Christ the King Lutheran Church Staff and Leadership

Church Office Number: (607) 729-2688

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Transitional Pastor: Rev. Jeff Bohan

Church Administrator: Marsha Pulz

Sexton: Gary Robertson

Leadership Team

Co-Presidents: David Banner and Len Lindenmuth

Secretary: Rich Lindstrom

Treasurer: Tammy Gow

Kathy Leonard, John Lurenz

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