



*Community of Christ Lutheran Church
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 27, 2023*

9:00 a.m.

Pastor Lee Ann Pomrenke



THE GATHERING

Welcome

SAM Jeannine Grimm

Musical Prelude

“Prelude in E Minor” by F. Chopin

Eric Dickey

WE REMEMBER OUR BAPTISM

“Confession and Forgiveness”

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors. Merciful God, **we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

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. **Amen.**

Hymn

“O Savior, Precious Savior”

ELW 820

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.**



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus




Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -



lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Prayer of the Day

P O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE READINGS

The First Reading: Isaiah 51: 1-6

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

¹Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,
my salvation has gone out
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

P Here ends the Reading C Thanks be to God!

The Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

P Here ends the Reading **C** **Thanks be to God!**



The Holy Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

R The Holy Gospel according....**C** **Glory to you, O Lord!**

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some

say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.”¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

P The Gospel of the Lord! **C Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

“Rock, Paper, Scissors”

SAM Jeannine Grimm

Hymn

“The Church’s one Foundation”
VS 3 Low Voices VS 4 High Voices

ELW 654

The Apostles’ Creed

C 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.

WE DEDICATE OUR HEARTS IN PRAYER

P Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

AM God of Sarah and Abraham, inspire your church to pursue righteousness in its ministry. Equip us to share your compassion that unites us as one family of faith. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

AM Remind us that from the beginning of creation, you knit together a world meant for harmony. Protect and restore the wasted places to joy and gladness. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

AM Stir the leaders of nations and towns, militaries and courts, to respond to your teachings. Let your call for justice reach all people and bring deliverance where there is oppression. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

AM Show your steadfast love and faithfulness to those in despair. Increase their strength, care for all who feel low, keep safe any in the midst of trouble, and protect vulnerable people from harm; **Tom Jennings, Phyllis Sturgeon, Sue & Jim Enk, Christal & Chad Pritchard, Dave & Nancy Myerholtz, Brianna Chavez, Sue Brown, Leah Herner-Patnode, Charlie Gorniak, Carl & Judy Mock, Susan Meyer, Deann Schiavone, Carl Gottwald, Bonnie Williams, Heidi Lohrmann, Mike Carroll, Bill Patnode, Val Brown, Kamden, Angie Blackburn, Robin McSurley.....** and all others whom we remember in silence. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

AM Encourage those who offer their gifts and talents in service to your church. Energize this congregation's rostered and lay leaders, musicians, teachers, greeters, and administrators so they may be transformed in sharing your grace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

AM God of all the saints, death is overcome in Christ's resurrection. We rejoice with the faithful departed. Sustain us in hope until we come at last to our heavenly home. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

P Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

THE MEAL

All Christians are welcome to commune at our Altar. You do not have to be a member of this congregation to receive Communion. Grape juice is available in the inner ring of glasses for those desiring it.

Sharing of the Peace

P The Peace of the Lord be with you all! **C And also with you!**
Share an expression of peace with your neighbor, please.

Our Tithes and Offering *Bring your gifts to the Altar or you may offer gifts in the tray located at the rear of the sanctuary. Thank you.*

Offering Prayer

AM God of field and forest, sea, and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

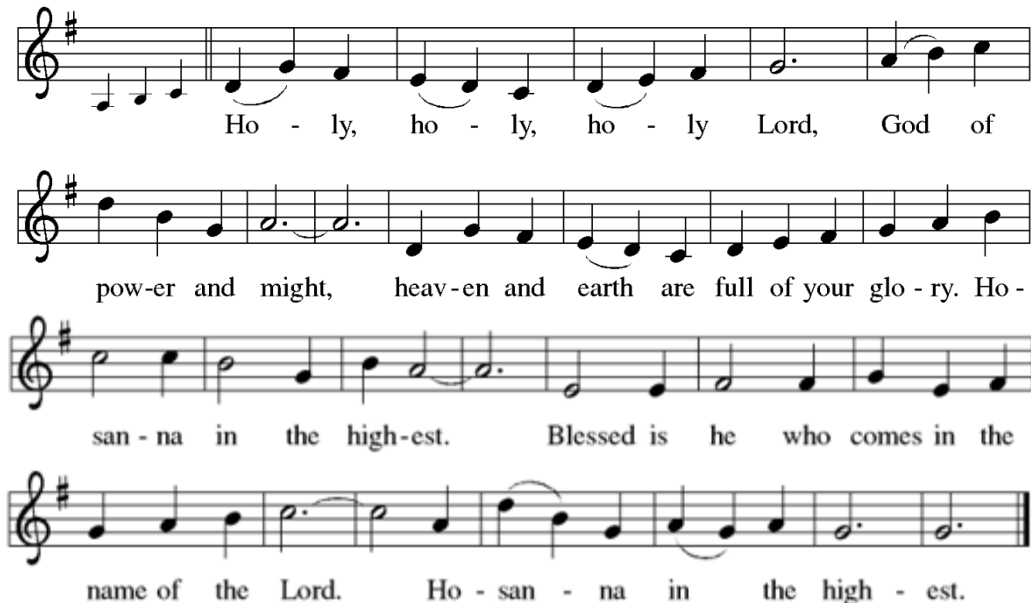
P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**Eucharistic Prayer Continues



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Jesus said, Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray... **C** **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.**

Communion Hymns

"Lamb of God"

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

"Faith of Our Fathers"
"How Great Thou Art"

ELW 812
ELW 856

Post Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

AM We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE SENDING

Milestones & Announcements:

The 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. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“We All Are One in Mission”

ELW 576

Dismissal

AM Go in peace. Share the harvest. **Thanks be to God.**

AM And next week, **C Bring a friend!**

Postlude

Making Jesus Known”

Welcome to Community of Christ! Our family welcomes you to the house of the Lord today! We ask God to bless His Holy Word and Sacrament today so that his people might receive strength for living out our days! If you are looking for a church home, we hope you will consider Community of Christ!

We WELCOME YOU to worship with us at our 9:00 a.m. worship service. Join us in person or on Facebook Live. We look forward to seeing you and as always **BRING A FRIEND!!!!**

The Tues. morning ladies Bible study will begin again on Sept. 12th @ 8:30 am. We will be studying Beth Moore's "To Live Is Christ"- the life and ministry of Paul. This is a 10-week study with video and class discussion plus some homework. You will need to purchase the study guide on your own. Please sign

up on the kiosk. All ladies of the church are welcome and bring a friend! Questions?? Call Becky King at 419-349-7319.

The Outreach Committee is reaching out to YOU! Come help us Make Jesus Known and join us at our next meeting on Tuesday, September 12th at 6:30 pm at the Swagler's residence - 10240 Reed Rd. We'll be stuffing bags to distribute at Roche de Boeuf and planning upcoming activities. No experience necessary!

Welcome and Thank you, SAM Jeannine Grimm, for presiding over our Worship Service today!

*****Please note there will not be a Bible Study after service this morning*****

Grief Resources Workshop

Please join us on September 7 at 7:00 p.m. when a representative from Hospice of Northwest Ohio will present information on the grief process. Resources for managing grief will also be presented. We ask that those in attendance also provide feedback on how our congregation can best support our members that are experiencing grief. Please look for a sign-up on the kiosk or contact Kristen Schuchmann at 419-279-7759 to RSVP or with questions.



PLEASE help us WELCOME Pastor Steve, Sarah, Mark & Anna to the Community of Christ Family!! The Mutual Ministry Team is collecting items for a WELCOME BASKET that will be presented to them after the service on Sunday, September

24th. Gifts can either be made anonymously or feel free to include a welcome card with your gift. Ideas such as local merchant gifts, restaurant gift cards, home improvement gift cards, etc. Feel free to get as "creative" as you wish to extend Pastor Steve & his family a WARM WELCOME! Please have these gifts turned in to Michelle in the office no later than Wednesday, September 20th!



- ❑ **LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS items needed:** 70 sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper (solid colors no graphics), School scissors blunt tip ONLY, 30 cm ruler, or ruler containing cm and inches, and Pencil sharpeners. Thank you for your generosity!
- ❑ **These items can be placed on the table in the hallway down by the library.**

*****we have plenty of pencils, pens, and crayons, please consider donating the above items only, thank you 😊**



Altar Flowers are given in honor of Jim & Cheryl Fischer's 55th Wedding Anniversary ❤️



Altar Flowers
Ministry Opportunity

DATES AVAILABLE: *December 3, 10, 17, and 31.* Please sponsor a Sunday by filling out the tag on the bulletin board in the hallway plus filling out the envelopes with your offering. Envelopes are also located on the table in the hallway 😊 Thank you!!!



DONATE BLOOD. HELP SAVE LIVES.

Blood Drive
Community of Christ Lutheran
Church

Community Center
6517 Finzel
Whitehouse, OH 43571

Friday, September 1, 2023
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code:
COMMUNITYCHRIST or call 1-800-RED CROSS.



Scan to be directed to
RedCrossBlood.org



**Give hope, get a free tee! Come give 9/1 thru 9/18 for a
NEW Red Cross shirt, while supplies last.**



Scan to schedule
an appointment

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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Families of little ones! Our Nursery is open during Worship hours. Although this is not staffed, you are welcome to be with your children while they play as you listen to the service in the room. The nursery is the first room on the left as you walk down the hall coming from the main entrance. Please know this is an option for you, as ALL children are welcome in God's house!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!
and BRING A FRIEND!!!

COMMUNITY OF CHRIST PRESENTS

BLUE JEAN *Sunday*

10 **SEP**
2023
9AM

Join us for an outdoor worship service to kick off our 50th anniversary celebrations! Enjoy a service with live music and preaching by our founding pastor, Ray Gottschling. Bring your lawn chairs! After, we invite you to stick around for an old-fashioned church potluck, games, and a school supply service project at Ilam! Please see the signup sheets in the gathering space for more information and for attendance purposes.

Suggested School Supply List for TPS Students

We will be collecting items from this list to be given to Salem Lutheran Church. They will distribute the items collected to the Toledo Public Schools in need. Thank you for your kindness!

- Regular-size book bag
- Folders
- 24 pack Crayola Crayons
- Glue
- Glue Sticks
- Pencils
- Mechanical Pencils
- Colored pencils
- Pencil sharpener
- Eraser
- Markers- colored
- Highlighter- Yellow
- Pens
- Red pens
- Dry-erase markers - black
- Pencil bag or box
- Blunt tip scissors
- Wide-ruled notebook paper
- Composition book
- Spiral notebooks
- Loose leaf notebook
- Stapler and staples
- Ruler
- 1-inch binders with inside pockets
- Subject dividers
- 3 x 5 Index cards
- Headphones or earbuds
- Clorox wet wipes
- Tissues
- Paper towels
- Quart storage bags



**Join us on Facebook Live at
9:00 a.m.**

or

in person!

Worship & Sacrament
Sunday 9 a.m.

Sunday Morning Bible Study
10:15 a.m.

AA Meeting

Wednesday's 8 p.m.

Caregivers Support Meeting

First Monday of every month
6:30 p.m.

Clean & Feed Weekend

4th Sunday of Every Month

Worship Services

Available on the net
at www.commofchrist.org



The time and talent of members in helping make worship services meaningful is highly valued. From Door Greeters to Communion Prep/Clean up and Camera Operators, all roles are vitally important.

We welcome all members in becoming worship volunteers, but we have special opportunities for more folks to serve as Door Greeters and Camera Operators. Although little to no training is needed for any of the roles, it is available. In serving as a worship volunteer, you may either sign up on your own based on your own schedule, or be assigned by worship volunteer coordinators. If you would like to become a new worship volunteer, change your worship volunteer roles, or how you are assigned, please complete the worship volunteer update survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/L7LMHD3> or found in the lobby by Sept 7th.

For more information about worship volunteering, contact Carol Wiemken or Laurie Mauro.