

Stewardship 2026 Join the Journey

*"Trust in God from the bottom of your heart;
don't try to figure out everything on your own.
Listen for God's voice in everything you do,
everywhere you go." Proverbs 3:4-6*



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

8:00 a.m. Traditional Service

19th Sunday after Pentecost

October 19, 2025

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman

Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz

Lector: Cindy Flory

Acolytes: Lainey and Eve Conant

Ushers: Jeffrey Morgan, Jerry Graffin, Jerry Buskager and Mark Holzhuter

Technical Support: Thomas Lehr, Roger Slack

Pray always. Do not lose heart. This is Christ's encouragement in the gospel today. 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.

CALL TO WORSHIP: "Day by Day" Ahnfelt/Porter

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C: Amen

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful and loving God,

C: we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have

mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

P: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of † Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

C: Amen.

Stand

HYMN: “Day by Day” ELW #790

**Vs. 1: Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me,
bringing comfort to my anxious soul.
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me
draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,
brings to naught the burdens of my quest;
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,
where at last I'll find eternal rest.**

**Vs. 2: Day by day, I know you will provide me
strength to serve and wisdom to obey;
I will seek your loving will to guide me
o'er the paths I struggle day by day.
I will fear no evil of the morrow,
I will trust in your enduring grace.
Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow
till in glory I behold your face.**

**Vs. 3: Oh, what joy to know that you are near me
when my burdens grow too great to bear;
oh, what joy to know that you will hear me
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.
Day by day, no matter what betide me,
you will hold me ever in your hand.
Savior, with your presence here to guide me,
I will reach at last the promised land.**

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.

LITANY

P: You are the treasured people of the Lord.

C: a people holy to the Lord our God.

P: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

C: Talk about them when you are home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

P: One does not live by bread alone,

C: but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE: “O, Sing to the Lord” ELW #822 Vss. 1,2,4 & 5

Vs. 1: Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.

Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.

Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.

Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

Vs. 2: For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.

For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.

For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.

Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

Vs. 4: Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit.

Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit.

Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit.

Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

Vs. 5: For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!

For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!

For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!

Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: O Lord God, 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.

Sit

FIRST READING: Genesis 32:22-31

²²⁻²³But during the night he got up and took his two wives, his two maidservants, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He got them safely across the brook along with all his possessions. ²⁴⁻²⁵But Jacob stayed behind by himself, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he couldn't get the best of Jacob as they wrestled, he deliberately threw Jacob's hip out of joint. ²⁶The man said, "Let me go; it's daybreak." Jacob said, "I'm not letting you go 'til you bless me." ²⁷The man said, "What's your name?" He answered, "Jacob." ²⁸The man said, "But no longer. Your name is no longer Jacob. From now on it's Israel (God-Wrestler); you've wrestled with God and you've come through." ²⁹Jacob asked, "And what's your name?" The man said, "Why do you want to know my name?" And then, right then and there, he blessed him. ³⁰Jacob named the place Peniel (God's Face) because, he said, "I saw God face-to-face and lived to tell the story!" ³¹⁻³²The sun came up as he left Peniel, limping because of his hip. (This is why Israelites to this day don't eat the hip muscle; because Jacob's hip was thrown out of joint.)

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL CANTICLE: "I Love to Tell the Story" ELW #661

Vs. 1: I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

Refrain: I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

The Gospel is announced...

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 18th Chapter.

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

GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8

¹⁻³ Jesus told them a story showing that it was necessary for them to pray consistently and never quit. He said, “There was once a judge in some city who never gave God a thought and cared nothing for people. A widow in that city kept after him: ‘My rights are being violated. Protect me!’”⁴⁻⁵ “He never gave her the time of day. But after this went on and on he said to himself, ‘I care nothing what God thinks, even less what people think. But because this widow won’t quit badgering me, I’d better do something and see that she gets justice—otherwise I’m going to end up beaten black-and-blue by her pounding.’”⁶⁻⁸ Then the Master said, “Do you hear what that judge, corrupt as he is, is saying? So what makes you think God won’t step in and work justice for his chosen people, who continue to cry out for help? Won’t he stick up for them? I assure you, he will. He will not drag his feet. But how much of that kind of persistent faith will the Son of Man find on the earth when he returns?”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

SERMON

Stand

HYMN: “Give Me Jesus” ELW #770 Vss. 1,2,3 & 5

**Vs.1: In the morning when I rise, In the morning when I rise,
in the morning when I rise, give me Jesus.**

**Refrain: Give me Jesus, give me Jesus.
You may have all the rest, give me Jesus.**

**Vs. 2: Dark midnight was my cry, dark midnight was my cry,
dark midnight was my cry, give me Jesus. Refrain...**

**Vs. 3: Just about the break of day, just about the break of day,
just about the break of day, give me Jesus. Refrain...**

**Vs. 5: And when I want to sing, and when I want to sing,
and when I want to sing, give me Jesus. Refrain...**

APOSTLE'S CREED

**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 INTERCESSION

P: Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world,
and all creation.

A Brief Silence

P: We pray for the church universal. O God, who unites the church across the
globe, bring unity and peace to a world divided by hatred and opposition.
Turn our hearts toward the gospel of Jesus Christ. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for creation. O God, who made heaven and earth, draw us to the
beauty of the whole creation. Turn us toward a right relationship with the
entire cosmos. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for all nations, states, cities, and towns. O God, you rule over all
the earth. Grant our elected officials humility in their decision-making for
the sake of the entire world. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. O God, who heals and strengthens, our help comes from you in times of need. Support, comfort, and heal those who suffer. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We pray for Christ Lutheran Church. O God, who guides this congregation, encourage us to share the good news of Jesus Christ. Nurture our relationships with the community, that we serve and advocate for those who come to us in need. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We offer thanksgiving for the faithful departed. O God, whose promises never end, we thank you for all the saints who have shown us the way of your Son, Jesus Christ. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

Sit

OFFERTORY “Pelas Dores Deste Mundo” Neto

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

C: Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

BLESSING

P: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

C: Thanks be to God.

SENDING HYMN: “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing” ELW #545

**Vs. 1: Lord, dismiss us with your blessing,
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.
Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us,
trav'ling through this wilderness.**

**Vs. 2: Thanks we give and adoration
for your gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of your salvation
in our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
to your truth may we be found.**

**Vs. 3: Savior, when your love shall call us
from our struggling pilgrim way,
let no fear of death appall us,
glad your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
reign with you in endless day.**

POSTLUDE “Total Praise” Smallwood/Key

**Welcome to Christ Lutheran
Announcements October 19, 2025**

Welcome to worship! May the Holy Spirit bless and nourish us as we worship together. We hope that you come again soon! If you are worshipping with us for the first time and would like more information about our congregation, please ask Pastor Paula.

We also want to welcome all who are joining us online. We hope you will join us again. If you would like to support Christ Lutheran and its ministry, please go to our website www.clcstoughton.org/giving/donate/ or use the QR code to the right.



Looking for More Cooks -Do you like to cook? Do you appreciate a Challenge. Jen and Pastor Paula are looking for about 6 people who would help us with Food and Fellowship meal prep. The plan is to divide into two groups – Jen’s Group and Paula’s Group and prep the meal every-other Wednesday.

Senior Luncheon is Tuesday, October 21 at 11:30 a.m. the cost is \$12 the program is “The Theater, the Theater”. Sam White, actor and director of the Stoughton Village Player’s, will join us and give us some insight into theater.
Menu: Boiled Red Potatoes and Red Cabbage, Rouladen (sautéed rolled beef with a pickle in the middle), Swedish Rye Bread, Apple Dumpling with Ice Cream and Coffee and Milk.

No Confirmation, God and Games or Food and Fellowship this week!

Youth Lock-In for Grades 5-8 on Friday, October 24 at 9:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m.
Bring a Friend there is **no cost** to attend.

Sunday, October 26 at 9:15 a.m. Worship Express, Adventure Bibles will be presented to the 3rd graders and their parents. During Sunday School from 10:00 a.m. to 10:40 a.m., all 3rd graders and their parents will meet with Pastor Paula to learn more about the Bibles that they received.

Affirmation of Baptism is next Sunday 10/26 at 1:00 p.m. 9th graders will need to be at the church by no later than 12:30 p.m. to get their robes and stoles on and to get their group photos taken.

New Member Orientation will be on Sunday 11/9/25 at 10:00 a.m. in the conference room.

New Member Presentation will be on Sunday 11/16/25 at both services.

Pints and Parables is the 2nd Thursday of the month , the next one is 11/11 at Viking Brew Pub at 6:30pm. We will share personal experiences or narratives.

Coffee and Chaos -free open gym here at CLC Thursday, 11/20/25 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This is open for kids from Birth through Pre-K and Nursery is available. We'll have snacks including coffee for the adults, we'll read a story, do a craft and play games in the gym.

9th Grade Confirmands make Stoles for Affirmation of Baptism. Meet in the large youth room Today at 11:00 with Pastor Paula.

Pre-K – 8th Graders will sing at the 9:15 a.m. worship express service on Sunday 10/26/25.

For Calendar updates, please see the Bulletin Board in the Narthex.

High School Youth Open Gym on the First Sunday of Every Month beginning **November 2 from 10:45 a.m. – Noon.** Invite your friends. Play some volleyball or basketball or whatever. The gym is yours and light snacks and drinks will be provided.

Support our Youth –Visit the 2025-2026 SASD Calendar www.stoughton.k12.wi.us for upcoming events like Music, Sports, Cheer, Dance and Drama to name a few.

Fall Music Appreciation – Every Monday running thru 11/10/25. It is being held at the Stoughton Opera House at 3:00 pm.

Blood Drive Tuesday, 11/18/25 at 2:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Information on the information desk in the Narthex.

The Green Pentecostal Banners were made by our quilters with funds donated by Viola Cantrell's daughters, Kathy and Marilyn, in Viola's memory. Both Kathy and Marilyn were confirmed here at Christ Lutheran Church. On 10/5/25, Kathy passed away.

Thank-you to all who helped with the Harvest Fest. It was a great success and we couldn't have done it without you. We have plenty more opportunities that require help in the near future. Please consider volunteering. We would not be able to have such wonderful events if not for our volunteers.

“Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ” Galatians 6:2