

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
23rd Sunday after Pentecost
November 16, 2025
8:00 AM Traditional Worship

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman
Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz
Lector: Bob Kluge
Acolytes: Olivia Hays & Autumn Wendorf
Ushers: Jeffrey Morgan, Jerry Graffin, Jerry Buskager & Mark Holzuter
Technical Support: Thomas Lehr, Roger Slack

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

CALL TO WORSHIP: "Give Thanks" First Class Ringers by Smith

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen

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

P: Faithful God,

C: you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.

P: Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, ✠ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

C: Amen.

Stand

HYMN: "How Firm a Foundation" ELW #796

**Vs. 1: How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**

**Vs. 2: "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."**

**Vs. 3: "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume and your gold to refine."**

**Vs. 4: "Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove
my sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn,
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."**

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: “Blessed Assurance” ELW #638 Vss. 1 & 3

Vs. 1: Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!

Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!

Heir of salvation, purchase of God,

born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain: This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior, all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

**Vs. 3: Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain...***

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without

**losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

Sit

ANTHEM: “Soli Deo Gloria” Chancel Choir by Haugen/Bankson

FIRST READING: Malachi 4:1-2a

¹⁻² “Count on it: The day is coming, raging like a forest fire. All the arrogant people who do evil things will be burned up like stove wood, burned to a crisp, nothing left but scorched earth and ash—a black day. But for you, sunrise! The sun of righteousness will dawn on those who honor my name, healing radiating from its wings. You will be bursting with energy, like colts frisky and frolicking.

P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL CANTICLE: “O God, Our Hope in Ages Past” ELW #632 vs. 1

**Vs. 1: O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home.**

The Gospel is announced...

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 21st Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19

⁵⁻⁶ One day people were standing around talking about the Temple, remarking how beautiful it was, the splendor of its stonework and memorial gifts. Jesus said, “All this you’re admiring so much—the time is coming when every stone in that building will end up in a heap of rubble.” ⁷ They asked him, “Teacher, when is this going to happen? What clue will we get that it’s about to take place?” ⁸⁻⁹ He said, “Watch out for the doomsday deceivers. Many leaders are going to show up with forged identities claiming, ‘I’m the One,’ or, ‘The end is near.’ Don’t fall for any of that. When you hear of wars and uprisings, keep your head and don’t panic. This is routine history and no sign of the end.”

¹⁰⁻¹¹ He went on, “Nation will fight nation and ruler fight ruler, over and over. Huge earthquakes will occur in various places. There will be famines. You’ll

think at times that the very sky is falling. ¹²⁻¹⁵ “But before any of this happens, they’ll arrest you, hunt you down, and drag you to court and jail. It will go from bad to worse, dog-eat-dog, everyone at your throat because you carry my name. You’ll end up on the witness stand, called to testify. Make up your mind right now not to worry about it. I’ll give you the words and wisdom that will reduce all your accusers to stammers and stutters. ¹⁶⁻¹⁹ “You’ll even be turned in by parents, brothers, relatives, and friends. Some of you will be killed. There’s no telling who will hate you because of me. Even so, every detail of your body and soul—even the hairs of your head!—is in my care; nothing of you will be lost. Staying with it—that’s what is required. Stay with it to the end. You won’t be sorry; you’ll be saved.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Stand

HYMN: “When Peace Like a River “ ELW #785

**Vs. 1: When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
it is well, it is well with my soul.**

**Refrain: It is well (it is well)
with my soul, (with my soul,)
it is well, it is well with my soul.**

**Vs. 2: Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
and has shed his own blood for my soul. Refrain...**

**Vs. 3: He lives--oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more.**

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Refrain...

**Vs. 4: Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
even so it is well with my soul. 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.**

Sit

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world,
and all who are in need.

A brief silence

P: God of roots and branches, defend the leaders of your church as they
proclaim the gospel using discernment, wisdom, and brave testimony.
Keep all the baptized on righteous paths in response to Christ's call. Hear
us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of roaring seas, in a world of earthquake, famine, and plague, use your
mighty power to nurture the land and all that lives upon it. Restore peoples
and places experiencing natural disasters. Strengthen organizations who

provide aid to any in crisis. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of victory, among quests for power, guide those in government, courts, law enforcement agencies, and the military. Turn them from war and violence to actions of care that build up the common good. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of healing, where injustice and exploitation result in populations that are marginalized or underserved, accompany those abandoned by friends, hurt by family, and harmed by violence or oppression. Care for all who are ill, anxious, or in pain of any kind. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of new songs, in a congregation of faithful believers, energize us for compassionate service and delight us through worship and inspired prayer. Encourage your people in building equitable community where all are valued. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: God of every generation, we remember the saints with steadfast love and faithfulness. Confident in Christ's victory over death, may we be inspired by the example of the faithful. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; 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: "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life" North/Callahan

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

C: God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal. The body of Christ given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Music is played as those who wish to come forward for communion come forward and kneel at the communion rail. Others are invited to commune in your pew.

COMMUNION BLESSING

**P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace till life everlasting.
C: Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Faithful God,

C: God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/ NEW MEMBERS

Jean Schnoor, Nikki Schnoor, Payton Kraus, Paige Swatek, Nate ,Katie,
Hans & Eliza Schlotthauer

Stand

BLESSING

P: The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you ✠ and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

C: Thanks be to God.

SENDING HYMN: "Soon and Very Soon" ELW #439

Vs. 1: Soon and very soon we are going to see the king (3x)
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the king

Vs. 2: No more cryin' there, we are going to see the king (3x)
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the king

Vs. 3: No more dyin' there, we are going to see the king (3x)
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the king

Vs. 4: Soon and very soon we are going to see the king (3x)
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're going to see the king

POSTLUDE: "Foundation" Callahan & Linneweber

Welcome to Christ Lutheran
Announcements November 16, 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.



Welcome New Members: Jean Schnoor and Nikki Schnoor, Payton Kraus, Paige Swatek, Nate, Katie, Hans & Eliza Schlotthauer.

Food and Fellowship is Wednesday Evening at 5:30 p.m. This week's menu is Lasagna (with and without Gluten), Buttered Noodles, Lettuce Salad, Garlic Bread, Rice Krispies and Ice Cream, Coffee, White or Chocolate Milk and Apple Juice.

Confirmation on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., God and Games also on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. for kids in 3rd through 6th grade. God & Games will meet in the gym.

Senior Luncheon November 18th – Paul and His Missionary Journeys, Lunch at 11:30 a.m., program starts at 12:30 p.m. – Optional Bible Study on Acts at 11:00 a.m. The Menu is a sample of Greek Cooking, Turkey and Dressing, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Green Beans and Squash, Swedish Rye, Pumpkin and a variety of Pies with Ice Cream, Coffee and Milk.

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

Coffee and Chaos -free open gym here at CLC this Thursday, 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.