# The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 3, 2023

**As We Gather** - "Your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart" (Jeremiah 15:16). The prophet Jeremiah did not praise God with such words because his life was super easy. No, Jeremiah rejoiced in the Lord even as his life had plenty of problems. Why such delight in difficulty? Surrounded by evil in this world, like Jeremiah, we cling to the God who is good, learning to trust His Word as the means by which we receive His deliverance from our enemies of sin and death. The living, active, delightful voice of our Savior guarantees His ongoing presence in our life. Because of this, we rejoice! As we gather in the presence of Jesus this day, let us echo Jeremiah's anthem of praise: "Your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart!"

**Offering and Registry of Worship Cards:** Please fill out a Registry of Worship Card found in the pew racks. We ask that you print the names of every person in your family, indicating if they take communion. One side of the card is for members and the other side for guests. As the offering is collected, pass the cards to the center aisle so our ushers can gather them.

**Saturday Worship:** Offerings and Worship Cards will be received in the offering plates at the rear of the church either upon entering or when leaving. Thank you for your gift to the work of the Lord.

**About Protecting the Healthy:** To protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory diseases, individuals may choose to mask at any time. Appropriate hand washing by everyone is encouraged. People with symptoms of an infectious illness are highly encouraged to stay home. Symptoms include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Thank you for helping to keep everyone healthy as we receive God's gifts in worship.

# GENERALLY, BE MINDFUL, NOT FEARFUL.

**Prelude and Meditation:** Before worship we talk to God (see prayers on page 308 in the hymnal); during worship God talks to us; after worship we talk to one another.

#### **Prelude:**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Greeting and Sharing of Peace (stand)

#### **Confession and Absolution**



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- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **B**ut with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

# Service of the Word

#### Introit

- Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act.
- He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

- Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.





2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa-ther's Son, we pray; 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth! O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way. For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry, You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo-ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—In God the Fa-ther's glo-ry. "A-men!" our glad re-ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

- P The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

# **Old Testament Reading**

Jeremiah 15:15-21

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and take vengeance for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance take me not away; know that for your sake I bear reproach. <sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. <sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of revelers, nor did I rejoice; I sat alone, because your hand was upon me, for you had filled me with indignation. <sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will you be to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail? <sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD: "If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall be as my mouth. They shall turn to you, but you shall not turn to them. <sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, declares the LORD. <sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless."

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

**Epistle** Romans 12:9–21

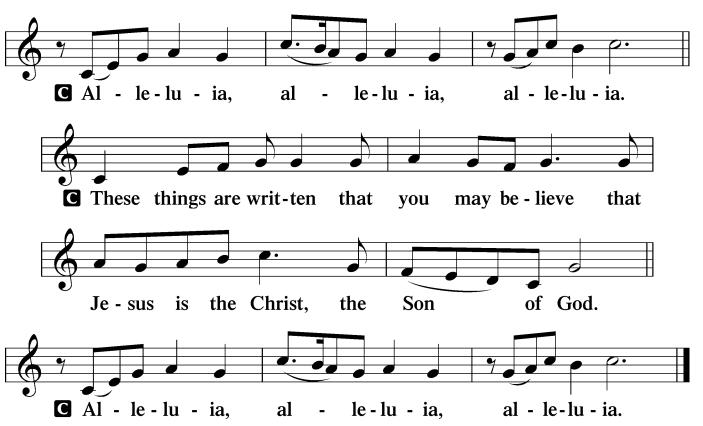
<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. <sup>10</sup>Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. <sup>17</sup>Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Stand

#### **Alleluia and Verse**



Holy Gospel Matthew 16:21–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

# **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

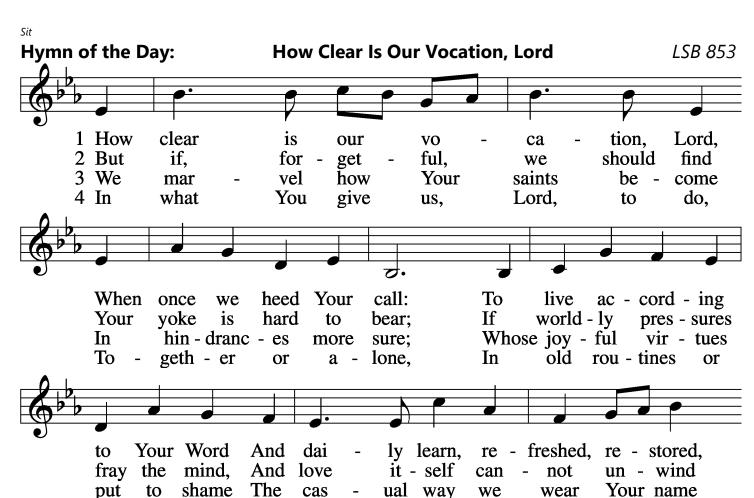
<sup>21</sup>From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

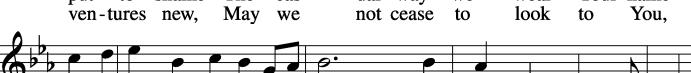
<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? <sup>27</sup>For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. <sup>28</sup>Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

#### **Nicene Creed**

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.





That You are Lord of all Its tan-gled skein of care: And by our faults ob - scure The cross You hung up - on—

And will not let us fall. Our in - ward life re - pair. Your pow'r to cleanse and cure. All You en - deav - ored done.

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**Sermon:** 

"The Way of the Cross"
Matthew 16:21-28

Stand

**Prayer of the Church** 

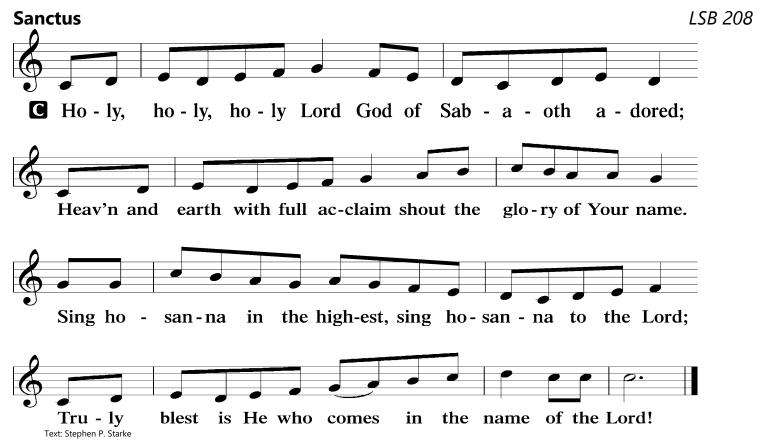
Sit

**Choir Anthem (Sunday Only):** "Seek Ye First" by Karen Lafferty/Johann Pachelbel arranged by Douglas Wagner

**Gathering of Our Tithes and Offerings (Sunday Only) Registry of Worship Cards (Sunday Only)** – Please pass your completed cards to the center aisle.

Preface LSB 208

- P The Lord be with you.
- **And also with you.**
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **©** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **G** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## **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.

#### The Words of Our Lord

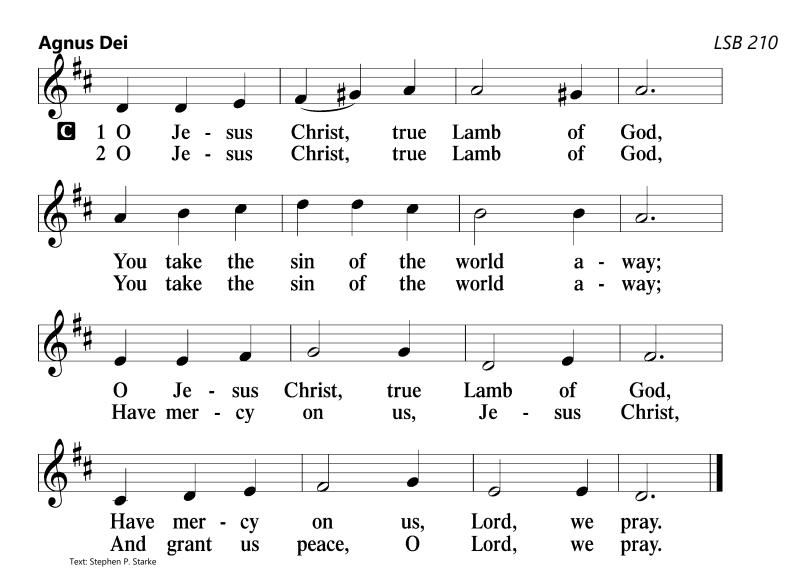
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My 

→ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My → blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

#### **Pax Domini**

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



Sit

Distribution: Distribution Hymns (Sunday Only)

LSB 425 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross LSB 861 Christ Be My Leader LSB 718 Jesus, Lead Thou On

LSB 211



## **Post-Communion Collect**

## (Saturday)

- **P** Let us pray together.
- I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

# (Sunday)

**P** Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus LSB 212

- P Let us bless the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

## **Benediction**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

C Amen.



#### Postlude:

#### Acknowledgments

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# **LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

Pastor	Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist	Elena Miraztchiyska
Saturday	
Elder	Lee Crapo
Lector	Rick Smith/Gerie Slaten
Audio	Lee Crapo/Robin Fox
Sunday	
Elder	Carlos Orellana
Lector	
Greeter	
Audio	
Video	Video TD: Kris Welch
	GFX/ Stream: Robin Fox/Charles Henning
Altar Guild	Sandy Spanier and Larry Nimetz

# **LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY**

Pastor	Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist	Elena Miraztchiyska
	Lee Crapo
	Jon Lindstrom
Greeter	
	Maria Hazzard
Video	Video TD: Josiah Hazzard
	GFX: / Stream: Andrea Hazzard/Rita Czanko
Altar Guild	Sandy Spanier and Larry Nimetz

#### ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS FROM LAST WEEK

Saturday Worship Attendance	34
Sunday Worship Attendance	78
Envelope and Loose Plate Offerings	
Simply Giving/Vanco	
Paypal Offerings	
Website (ShareFaith)	
Total of Offerings Received	\$0
Misc. Income, Memorials and Special Gifts	

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH- Pentecost XIV** – Our bodies and lives are on loan from Almighty God. He creates us in His image, redeems us with His Son, and calls us by His name (Jeremiah 15:16) from fertilization to forever. So He does not abandon us in our frailties and mistakes. Shall we not extend this Gospel also to neighbors facing surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis?

**FLOWER SPONSOR** – Rick Smith, in memory of his mother Patricia Henson. **BULLETIN SPONSOR** – No Bulletin Sponsor this week.

**ELDERS MEETING** – The Elders will meet today, Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, after service.

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY** – The Church office will be closed Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup> in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

**JR CONFIRMATION CLASSES** – Junior Confirmation classes start this month on Wednesday at 7 pm. To enroll, please contact Pastor Chris.

**YOUTH MEETING** – The Youth Group will meet this Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY MOVED TO THURSDAYS** –The mid-week Bible Study has been moved to Thursdays at 9:30 AM starting this week, September 7<sup>th</sup>. It will be in person as well as ZOOM.

**WREATH MAKING CLASS – THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 7 –** There will be a class on how to make a wreath from sheet music pages on Thursday, September  $7^{th}$  from 1-4 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Items needed for the class are a glue gun & glue sticks, cardboard box, small clamps, scotch tape, a stapler, and a small decorative cord for hanging. You could also use ornaments, garland, ribbon and bold silver or gold marker if you want to make the paper edges look antiqued. We

are making cones with the sheet music and gluing them to a 12 inch round piece of sturdy cardboard, foam board, or a light wooden board.

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING** – The Outreach Committee will meet Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**MARY MARTHA MEETING** – The Mary Martha will meet Wednesday September 13<sup>th</sup> at 9am in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies in the congregation are invited to join us. Refreshments will be served.

**FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE – CLC COUNCIL –** The Nominating Committee is currently searching for CLC members to prayerfully consider volunteering or accepting a position when asked, whether it be a one year or two year position. The officers needed are President, Vice President, Financial Treasurer, Christian Education, Youth, and Elders. Election will be in November at the Congregational meeting. The new officers will begin serving in January, 2024. For more information, please contact Pastor Thomas Block (863-853-9792) or Carol Ceaglske (863-660-2426). This is a wonderful opportunity to use your talents for helping with God's work.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR** - Volunteers are needed for the fellowship teams which will begin Sunday October 1<sup>st</sup> and will end on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. Light snacks to be served after the service in the Fellowship Hall to enhance our Christian family and fellowship, welcome visitors, and our winter visitors. A minimum of six teams is needed with at least 5-6 people on each team. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

**VOLUNTEER READERS** – We are looking for a couple of volunteers who would be willing to serve as readers at the Saturday night services. If you can help, please contact Debbie Smith at 863-399-2411 or at <a href="mailto:des1954@qmail.com">des1954@qmail.com</a>. Thank you in advance.

CLC BAZAAR & CRAFT PREPARATIONS – It's time again to reserve a space for the Christ Lutheran Church Bazaar & Craft Sale. This year the sale will be on Saturday, November 11, 2023, from 9am – 1pm, and will cover two holidays – Thanksgiving and Christmas. The non-refundable fee for inside the Fellowship Hall is still just \$25.00 which includes two chairs and an approx. 8X6 space which is air conditioned or if you would rather be outside in the courtyard a space is \$20. Both options have electricity available, you will need to supply your own extension cord. You can bring your own table but it must fit in the 8X6 space or you can rent a table from Christ Lutheran Church (CLC) for \$10.00, please let me know if you want a table when you reserve your space. Space is first come first serve. Make checks payable to CLC Church with "Bazaar" written in the memo line. Each vendor is ask to donate one item from their table for the Door Prize

table. For more information or questions, please contact Belinda Freer at <u>johnjuke2@aol.com</u> or call 863-602-5159. Proceeds will be given to a local non-profit.

MARY MARTHA COLLECTION - Mary Martha is collecting baby items to take to the LWML District retreat in St Augustine in September. These "gifts from the heart," will go to the not-for-profit St Gerard Maternity Home whose mission is to serve pregnant young women who are in need of support. The services there are free and available to all women in the community. There is a box in the narthex to collect needed donation items: Diapers, all sizes, wipes, formula, burp cloths, diaper cream, pacifiers, swaddling blankets and toiletries for the mommies! Please contact Charlotte Mantz (863-409-6270) or Joyce Munz (863-430-1130.) Pick up is available for those who cannot bring to Church!

**DREAM CENTER VOLUNTEERS** – Volunteers are needed to help check- in and sort items here at Christ Lutheran for the Dream Center. Please see or contact Robin Fox at 863-513-4774 to schedule a day and time to volunteer.

**RECIPES WANTED** - Mary Martha is collecting favorite recipes for the Church Cookbook. If you have a favorite recipe and would be willing to share it, please write it legibly, sign your name on it and put it in the box located in the Narthex. There is no limit to number of recipes you can submit.

**CHURCH DIRECTORY** – For those that are not aware, our church member directory is now available online. Please see the flyer sheets in the narthex for more information or email Kim Kaniecki at stewardship@clclakeland.org.

**TRUSTEE VOLUNTEER DAY** – Every Tuesday from 9 am - 1 pm. If you would like to help with the various needs of the church, come join us. A job, whether large or small can be found to help with. If you notice something you think needs attention, come let us know. Thanks for helping.

**GREETERS NEEDED** – Volunteers are needed to be Greeters in the Narthex to welcome guest and members as they enter for service. If you are interested, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board.

**NAMETAGS** – We would like to encourage all our members to please wear their nametags to church. If you can't find your nametag or don't have one, please sign-up for one on the bulletin board in the Narthex of the church.

**STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Matthew 16:26 – "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul?"** He who dies with the most toys ... is dead. But the one who trusts in the Lord, even though he dies, yet shall he live. We live out our trust in the Lord by faithfully fulfilling the roles God has given us to play in home, church and society as loving, generous people. Those who don't know the Lord are afraid to be generous because they think that what they give away is lost to them. But we who know the Lord know that the things of this world become true blessings when they are used for God's kingdom.

#### THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Monday	Church Office Closed
Tuesday	Trustee Workday @ 9 am
Wednesday	Dream Center @ Christ Lutheran
	Private Communion @ 1:30 – 2:30 pm
	Youth Group Meeting @ 6 pm
	Jr. Confirmation Class @ 7 pm
	Choir @ 7 pm
Thursday	In Person & ZOOM Bible Study@ 9:30 am
	Wreath Making Class @ 1 pm
Friday	Church Office closed, Pastor's Day Off
Sunday	Bible Study @ 8:30 am
	Worship Service @ 10 am
	Bible Study @ 11:15 am



Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:21



# Rejoice

with those who rejoice,

# weep

with those who weep.
Romans 12:15



