The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 10, 2023

As We Gather - The word *mentor* can be both a noun describing a trusted counselor or a verb meaning to guide someone in new learning. The word originally was the name of a person from classical literature: Mentor was a friend of the Greek hero Odysseus who was entrusted with the education of his son Telemachus. You may have had special mentors throughout your life. We are reminded that Jesus our Lord is our best and most devoted mentor. A well-loved hymn by German writer Sigismund von Birken begins with these words: "Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow His example pure" (*LSB* 685:1). Jesus is our merciful mentor who gently leads us day by day along the path that leads to eternal life. We follow gladly in His footsteps!

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



world be - low, Bound-less in pow'r and love. Our thanks And rules the From foes and fears at rest, Pro - tect - ed by Your care. For Shine in Your Word's pure light, And its rich fruits be seen! May ev re - joice, And wor-ship Him a - lone. Cast down Be - lieve, o - bey, tombs Send forth a From all its rend - ing glo-rious band, A



joy and praise, Our hearts we raise To You, our King! bring In we For this fair land—Gifts of bright day, Your hand—Our thanks we pay. tongue Be tuned to praise And join to raise Α grate - ful song. 'ry de - plore, And bow pride, Your sin be - fore The Cru - ci - fied. your throng, With joy to sing To heav'n's high King Sal - va-tion's song!

Text: Francis Scott Key, 1779–1843, alt. Tune: John Darwall, 1731–89 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C 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** But 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.
- Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

- How great are your works, O LORD!
 Your thoughts are very deep!
 It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
 to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
- to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night, to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.
- For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.
- 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. How great are your works, O LORD! Your thoughts are very deep!





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

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



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.
- **a** And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 33:7-9

⁷"So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul."

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

Epistle Romans 13:1–10

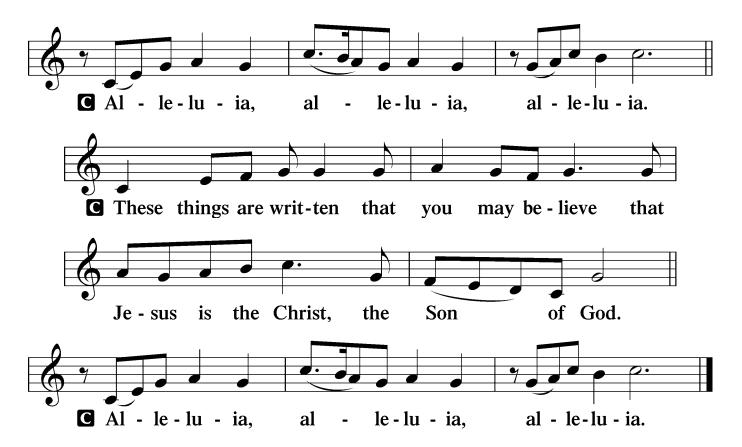
¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

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

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel Matthew 18:1–20

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

G Glory to You, O Lord.

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³ and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

⁵"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

⁷"Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

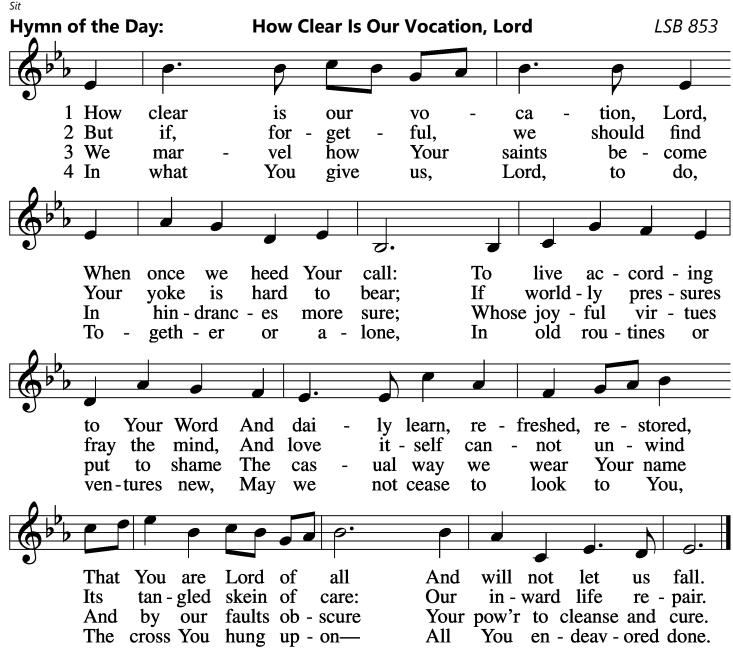
¹⁰"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

¹⁵"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

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

Apostles' Creed

Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 Tune: Public domain Tune: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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Sermon:

"Know Your Place" Matthew 18:1-20

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Choir Anthem:

Blest Are the Pure In Heart

by Dana Mengel

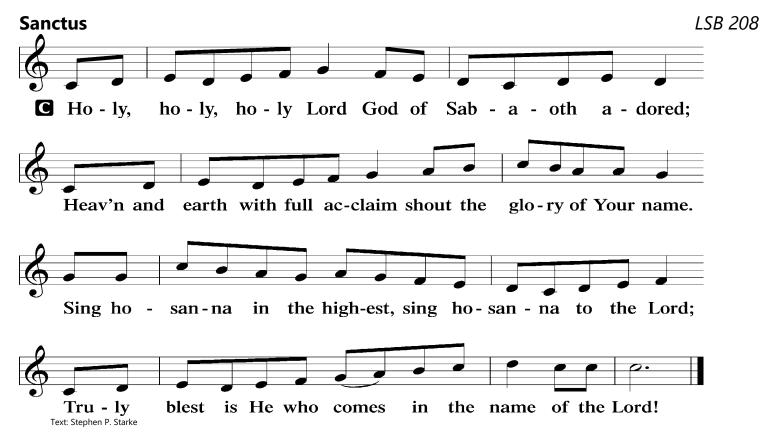
Gathering of Our Tithes and Offerings (Sunday Only)

Registry of Worship Cards (Sunday Only) – Please pass your completed cards to the center aisle.

Stand

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

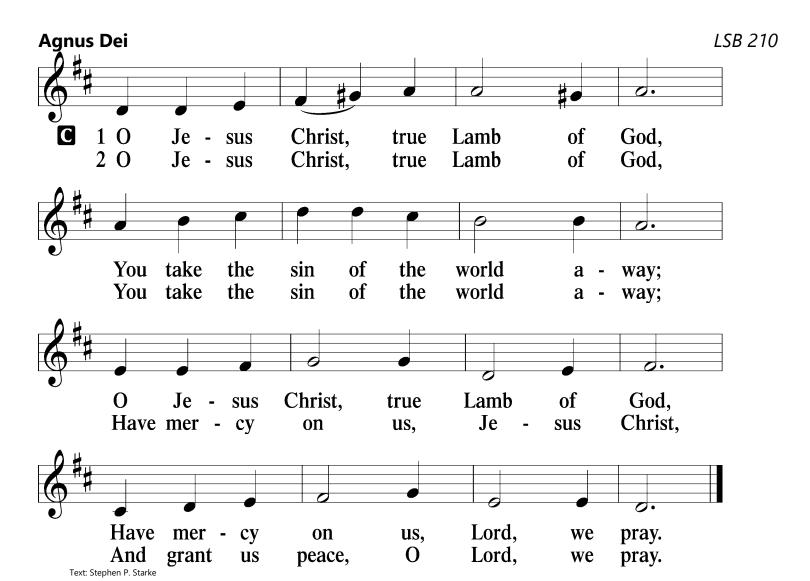
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My

→ 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 624 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born LSB 725 Children of the Heavenly Father LSB 707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

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.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

Benedicamus LSB 212

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

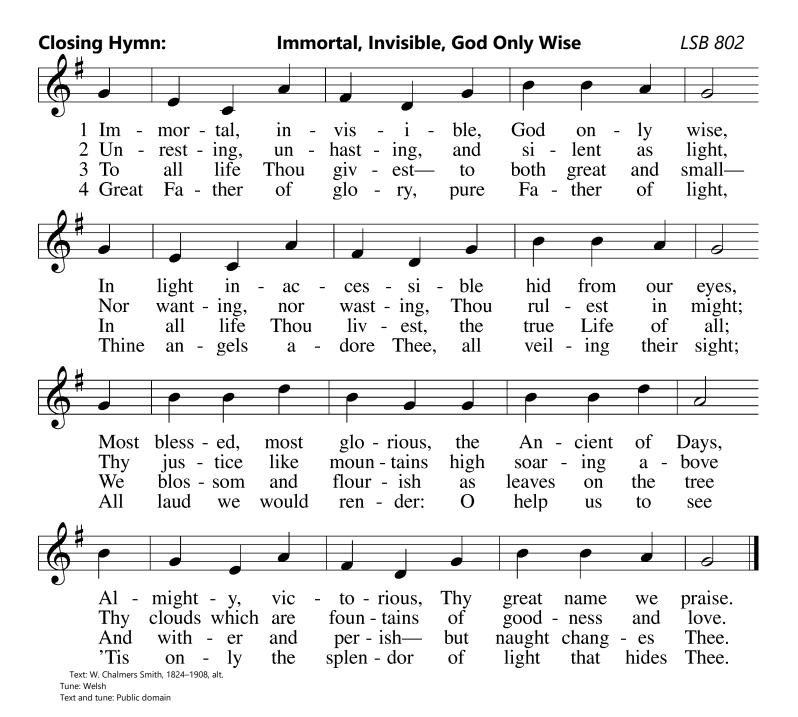
Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and \pm give you peace.

C Amen.



Postlude:

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

 Pastor
 Pastor Christopher Hazzard

 Organist
 Elena Miraztchiyska

Saturday	
Elder	Steve Rosane
Lector	Rick Smith/Gerie Slaten
Audio	Lee Crapo/Robin Fox
Sunday	
Elder	Lee Crapo
Lector	Jon Lindstrom
Greeter	
Audio	Maria Hazzard
Video	Video TD: Josiah Hazzard
	GFX/ Stream: Andrea Hazzard/Rita Czanko
Altar Guild	Sandy Spanier and Larry Nimetz
LEADING AND ASSISTING	G IN WORSHIP <u>NEXT SUNDAY</u>
Pastor	Pastor Christopher Hazzard
	Elena Miraztchiyska
	Steve Rosane
Lector	Kim Kaniecki
Greeter	Dave and Lora Wacker
Audio	Kyle Welch
Video	Video TD:Kris
	GFX: / Stream: Robin Fox/Steve Klement
Altar Guild	Sandy Spanier and Larry Nimetz
ATTENDANCE AND OF	FERINGS FROM <u>LAST WEEK</u>
Saturday Worship Attendance	39
	88
	\$0
	\$0
	\$0
	\$0
	\$0
	\$0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH- Pentecost XV – Abortion doesn't just end unborn lives. It also breaks hearts with grief and guilt. So the Lord doesn't exempt it from condemnation. He commands us to warn our brothers and sisters about its sinfulness (Ezekiel 33:7-8). Nor does He exclude abortion from His forgiveness. He would have us apply His absolution as explicitly to this iniquity as to our own (Psalm 32:5).

FLOWER SPONSOR- Robert and Cheryl Langanke, in memory of Vi Fleck.

BULLETIN SPONSOR – No Bulletin Sponsor this week.

MARY MARTHA QUILTERS – The Mary Martha Quilters have resumed meeting each Tuesday from 10am – Noon. All ladies are welcome.

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

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

CHURCH POTLUCK- Mary Martha will be hosting an "Old Fashioned" potluck lunch on Sunday, September 17th after our morning worship service. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE – The Endowment Fund Committee will have their meeting on Sunday, September 24th following the worship service. The meeting will be held in the Choir Room. Looking forward to seeing everyone on the Committee. Helen Borgwardt, Chairperson.

UPDATE FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE –We have been blessed with people willing to use their talents to serve as President and Vice President of our congregation. However, we still need to fill the following positions of Treasurer (2 Year Term), Christian Education (1 Year Term), and Youth (1 Year Term). Elections will be during the November Voters' 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 blessed opportunity to use your talents helping with God's work.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR FELLOWSHIP HOUR - Volunteers are needed for the fellowship teams which will begin Sunday October 1st and will end on Sunday, May 19th. 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 des1954@gmail.com. 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 johnjuke2@aol.com 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 this month. 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 18:4 – "Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." What does it mean to have childlike faith? Certainly Jesus does not want us to have a faith that is *childish* — we are not called to ignorance or silliness. Rather, we are called to trust the way a child trusts: with complete confidence in the Father. We show that confidence in our lives when we follow His directives for our life. Father knows best, so we'll take His advice!

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Monday	Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm
Tuesday	Trustee Workday @ 9 am
	Quilters @ 10 am
	Outreach Meeting @ 5:30 pm
Wednesday	Mary Martha Meeting @ 9 am
	Dream Center @ Christ Lutheran
	Private Communion @ 1:30 – 2:30 pm
	Jr. Confirmation Class @ 7 pm
	Choir @ 7 pm
Thursday	In Person & ZOOM Bible Study@ 9:30 am
Friday	Church Office closed, Pastor's Day Off
Saturday	Worship @ 5:30 pm
Sunday	Bible Study @ 8:30 am
	Worship Service @ 10 am
	Bible Study @ 11:15 am
	Congregational Pot Luck
	Communications Meeting



