# Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 1, 2023

As We Gather - The number of languages being spoken on our planet today is amazing. There are currently more than 6500 individual languages in use. The smallest group that speaks in a singular language is a tribe of indigenous people in Canada, about 50 in number, who speak a distinct dialect of the Tsuu T'ina tongue. The most widely spoken language on earth is English, with some 1.4 billion users, including a large group for whom English is not their native language. We are blessed by God to hear His Word in our own language. Through Moses, God said to His chosen people: "Lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, . . . as long as the heavens are above the earth" (Deuteronomy 11:18, 21). We continue to respond to that directive in our generation by holding fast the Word of life—and by sharing it as well!

**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.

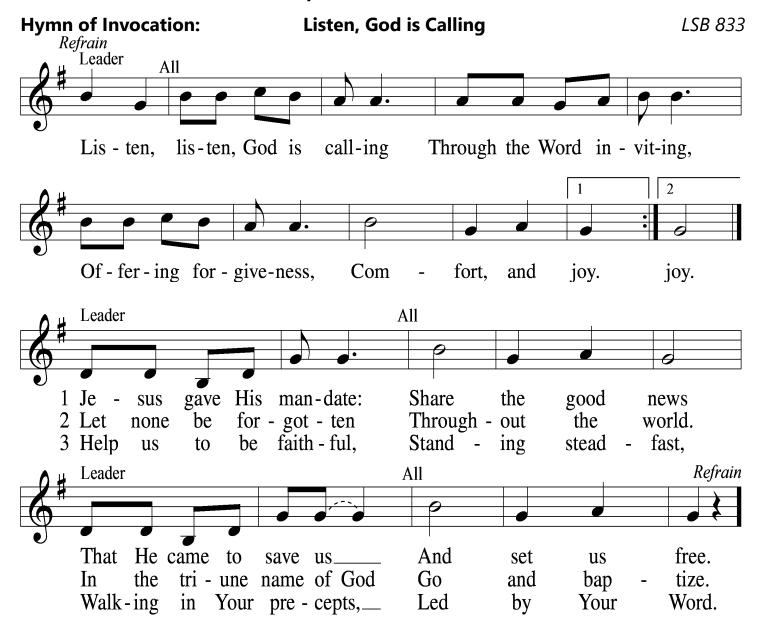
# GENERALLY, BE MINDFUL, NOT FEARFUL.

**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**



Text: tr. Howard S. Olson, 1922-2010

Text and tune: Kenyan

Text: © Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000852

Tune: Public domain

Stand

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

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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.
- **G** Amen.

Stand

#### Service of the Word

#### Introit

- The LORD lifts up the humble; he casts the wicked to the ground.
  Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God; for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.
- The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.
- He determines the number of the stars;
   he gives to all of them their names.
   Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
   his understanding is beyond measure.
- 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.

  The LORD lifts up the humble;
  he casts the wicked to the ground.

Kyrie LSB 152

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



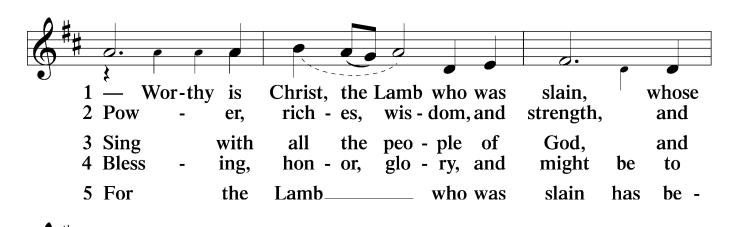
P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

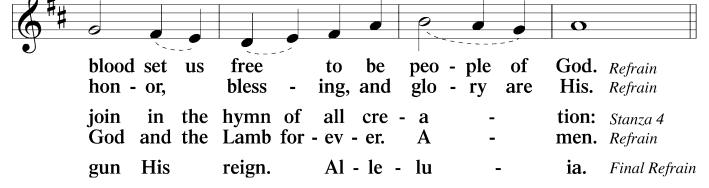


This Is the Feast LSB 155













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

P The Lord be with you.



### P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

### **Old Testament Reading**

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>"What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? <sup>3</sup>As I live, declares the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .

<sup>25</sup>"Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? <sup>26</sup>When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. <sup>28</sup>Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

<sup>30</sup>"Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your

ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GoD; so turn, and live."

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

### **Epistle**

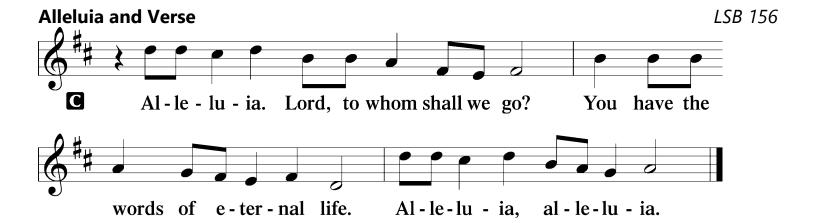
Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

<sup>1</sup>If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . .

<sup>14</sup>Do all things without grumbling or questioning, <sup>15</sup>that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, <sup>16</sup>holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. <sup>17</sup>Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. <sup>18</sup>Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

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

Stand



Holy Gospel Matthew 21:23–27

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

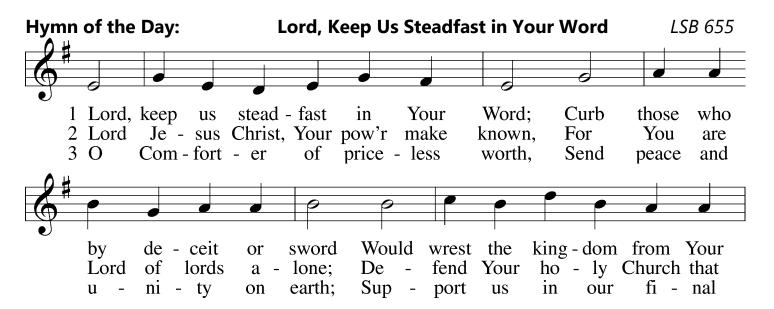


<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" <sup>24</sup>Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit





Sermon:

Text and tune: Public domain

"Who Gets to Decide?"
Matthew 21:23-27

Stand

#### **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.

### **Prayer of the Church**

Sit

**Choir Anthem:** (Sunday Only) Water, Blood, and Spirit Crying by Jeffrey Blersch Pat Wiesenauer playing the clarinet

## **Gathering of Our Tithes and Offerings (Sunday Only)**

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

Stand

### **Service of the Sacrament**

Preface LSB 160

**P** The Lord be with you.



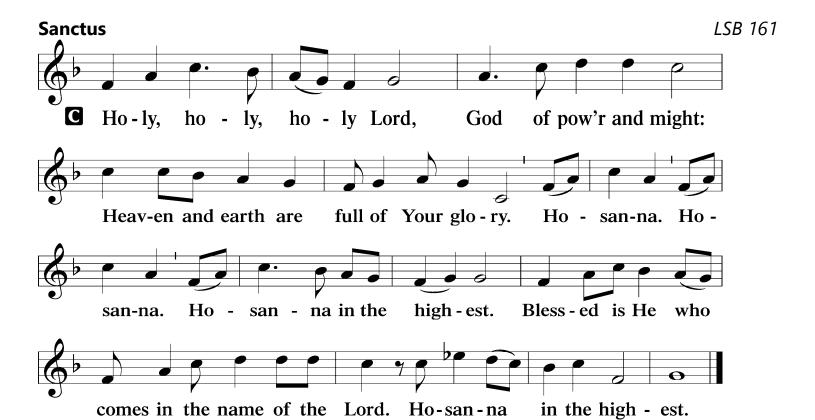
**P** Lift up your hearts.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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**

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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."

- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

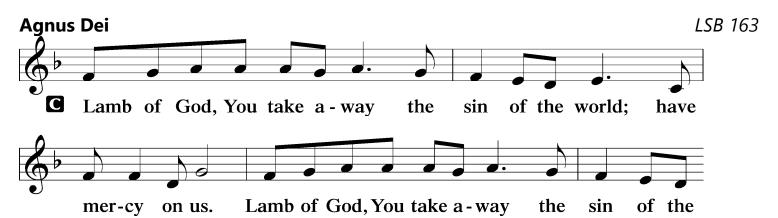
### **Lord's Prayer**

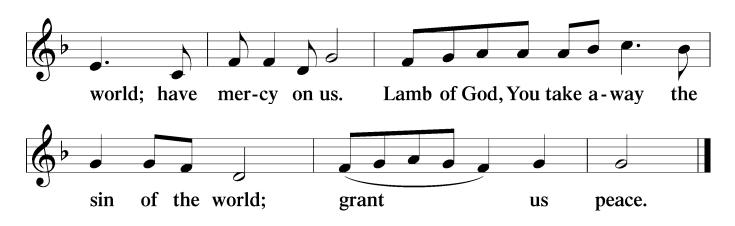
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Pax Domini LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.





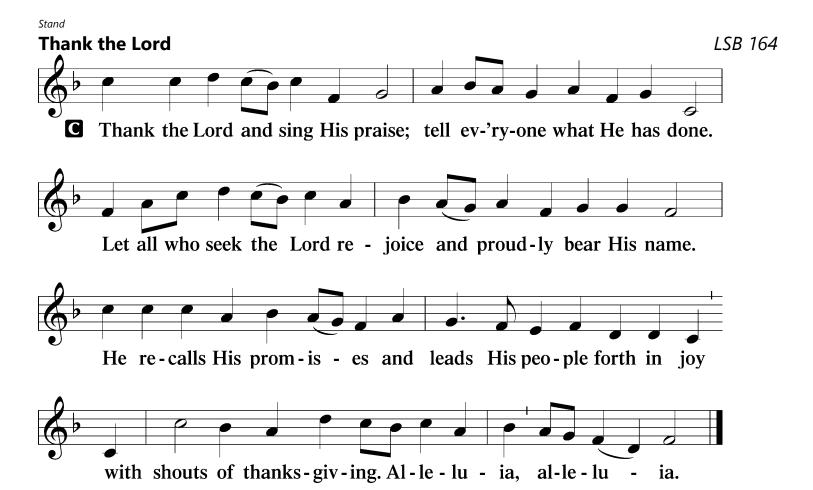


Sit

#### **Distribution:**

### **Distribution Hymns (Sunday Only)**

LSB 631 Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face LSB 596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized



#### **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.



Benediction LSB 166

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

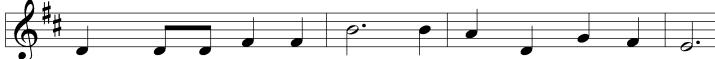
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.





#### **Crown Him with Many Crowns**

LSB 525



- 1 Crown Him with man y crowns,
- 2 Crown Him the vir gin's Son,
- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love.
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life,
- 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,

The Lamb up - on His throne; The God in - car - nate born,

Be - hold His hands and side, Who tri-umphed o'er the grave En-throned in worlds a - bove,



Hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own. Whose arm those crim-son tro-phies won Which now His brow a-dorn: Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri-fied. And rose vic - to-rious in the strife For those He came to save. Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The won-drous name of Love.



A - wake, my soul, and sing Fruit of the mys-tic rose, No an - gels in the sky His glo-ries now we sing, Crown Him with man - y crowns

Of Him who died for thee. And Yet of that rose the stem. The ful - ly Can bear that sight, But Who died and high, rose on Who As thrones be - fore Him fall:



hail Him as thy match-less king Through all root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, The babe down-ward bend their won-d'ring eyes At mys died e - ter - nal life to bring And lives Him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, For He

th all e - ter - ni - ty.

babe of Beth - le - hem.

mys - ter - ies so bright.

lives that death may die.

He is king of all.

Text (sts. 1–3, 5): Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, alt.; (st. 4): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93

Text and tune: Public domain

#### **Postlude:**

#### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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# **LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

Pastor	I I
Organist	Elena Miraztchiyska
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Saturday	
Elder	Lee Crapo
Lector	Rick Smith/Gerie Slaten
Audio	
Sunday	
Elder	Lee Crapo
Lector	
Greeter	Joanne Shepker
Audio	Kyle Welch
Video	
	GFX/ Stream: Robin Fox
Altar Guild	•
	<i>y</i> 1

# LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP <u>NEXT SUNDAY</u>

Pastor	Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist	Elena Miraztchiyska
Elder	Lee Crapo
Lector	Charlotte Mantz
Greeter	Pat Hurd
Audio	Maria Hazzard
Video	Video TD:
	GFX: / Stream:
Altar Guild	Sandy Spanier and Janette Williams

#### ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS FROM LAST WEEK

Saturday Worship Attendance	27
Sunday Worship Attendance	84
Envelope and Loose Plate Offerings	\$0
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 XVIII –** Remaining silent about the sanctity of life enslaves us to selfishness just like abortion does. But God's grace and forgiveness in Christ Jesus free us from looking out only for ourselves. We get to speak His truth and show His love to every one of our neighbors—not out of "selfish ambition or conceit," but in service to "the interests of others" (Philippians 2:3-4).

**FLOWER SPONSOR**– No flower sponsor this week.

**BULLETIN SPONSOR** – No bulletin sponsors this week.

**FELLOWSHIP HOUR STARTS TODAY (SUNDAY)** –Team 1 is serving today; team 2 will serve next week. Everyone is invited. There is no charge and a freewill offering is voluntary.

**ELDERS MEETING** – The Elders will meet today, Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, after Service.

**OUTREACH MEETING** – The Outreach Committee will meet this Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**LWML WINTER HAVEN ZONE RALLY** – The Winter Haven Zone Rally will be at Grace Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, from 9AM – 2PM. Cost is \$10 and a \$5 donation for Young Woman's Rep. A continental breakfast and light lunch will be served.

**CLC NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY** –Outreach is having a Neighborhood Block Party on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> from 11AM to 3PM. We will have grilled hot dogs and hamburgers, etc. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED**. There will be two shifts - 9AM to 12:30PM and 12:30PM to 4 PM. There is a Volunteer sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Church members are invited to come and meet your fellow church members and our neighbors.

**SHINE PRESENTATION** – MARK your calendars for this important meeting on: OCTOBER 19, at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Jean Berken, counselor from SHINE will be presenting a meeting on Medicare from an unbiased health insurance perspective. She will give us the scoop on Medicare's Annual Open enrollment, and changes for 2024. Let me know if you plan to attend by signing up on the sign- up sheet in the Narthex, to help us know how many chairs to setup. It is open to the public, so invite a friend.

**CLC BAZAAR & CRAFT SHOW CANCELLED-** Due to the lack of participation, the Bazaar and Craft show has been cancelled.

**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.

**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 21:26 – "But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd..."** Foolish Pharisees! They fear men more than they fear God, and so they miss out on the great blessing of knowing Jesus and His love. All our sins are like this: we fear something more than we fear God. And how foolish that is! Just think of the blessings we miss out on whenever we place our fear or trust in something other than God.

#### THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Tuesday	Trustee Workday @ 9 am
	Quilters @ 10 am
	Outreach Meeting @ 5:30 pm
Wednesday	Dream Center @ Christ Lutheran
	Private Communion @ 1:30 – 2:30 pm
	Youth Group @ 6 pm
	Jr. Confirmation Class @ 7 pm
	Choir @ 7 pm
Thursday	
Friday	
Saturday	
Sunday	Bible Study @ 8:30 am
	Worship Service @ 10 am
	Bible Study @ 11:15 am
	LWML Sunday

