# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH 875 Sunflower Drive ~ DuBois, PA 15801 (814) 371-2470

Rev. John Miller, Pastor Rev. Amy Godshall-Miller, Pastor Abbey Lutz, Family Ministry Coordinator Chris Luckenbill, Organist & Choir Director

> 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost July 6, 2025 ~ 9:45 a.m.

# THE SERVICE

**BOLD** lettering indicates a spoken response

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

# <u>GATHERING</u>

The Litany for Independence Day:

P: On July 4, 1776, our forefathers bravely advanced the cause of freedom and liberty by declaring this nation's independence and sovereignty and that all her citizens possessed the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness given by our Creator. It is appropriate therefore as we celebrate our nation's 249<sup>th</sup> birthday that we give thanks to our Creator for our liberties and pray for His continued blessings upon our country, our government and our fellow citizens.

P: The earth is the Lord's, C: And all who dwell in it.

P: God is king over the nations:

C: God sits on his holy throne.

P: He rules by his might forever.

C: His eyes keep watch on the nations.

P: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

C: For God judges the peoples with equity and guides the nations upon earth.

P: O Lord, be gracious to us and bless us,

C: And make your face to shine upon us.

P: May your ways be known upon the earth,

C: Your saving power among all peoples.

P: Almighty God, Who has given us this good land for our heritage, we humbly beseech Thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance and from every evil way. Defend our liberties and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth.

In the time of prosperity fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble suffer not our trust in Thee to fail.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, C: Amen

From Song & Service Book for Ship & Field US. GPO 1942

Glorify thy name

CCLI 1763436

Father, we love you, we worship and adore you, Glorify thy name in all the earth; Glorify thy name, glorify thy name, Glorify thy name in all the earth.

#### **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.

P: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

C: Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.

P: Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name.

C: For the Lord is good and His love endures forever; His faithfulness continues through all generations.

Opening Song – My Country, 'Tis of Thee



# Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God, who hast given us a land wherein we are free to read and hear thy word, to confess thy Name, and to labor together for the extension of thy kingdom: Grant, we beseech thee, that the liberty vouchsafed unto us may be continued to our children, and our children's children; and that the power of the Gospel may here abound to the blessing of all the nations of the earth, and to thine eternal glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

# WORD OF GOD





Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 10:17-21

A: The First Lesson is from the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter of Deuteronomy.

The Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers I the land of Egypt. You shall fear the Lord your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

A: The word of the Lord.C: Thanks be to God.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 11:8-16

A: The Second Lesson is from the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter of Hebrews.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

A: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Gospel: Matthew 5:43-48

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.



Thy word is a lamp un-to my feet and a light un-to my path.

Jesus said, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be

children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

<u>Sermon</u> ~ Pastor John





hum - bly with

God.

walk

to

oth - er.

## Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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**

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

The Pastor will offer prayers for the whole Church, the nations, those in need, the parish, and special concerns.

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P: ... Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

P: +Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

# Sharing of God's Peace

We follow Jesus' direction in Matthew chapter 5 and make peace with each other before coming to the altar: Jesus said, "So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift."

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

C: And also with you.

The ministers and congregation greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words: **Peace be with you.** 

<u>Offering</u>

Contemporary Worship Team



## Offertory Prayer

P: Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

# **HOLY COMMUNION**

#### Communion Prayer

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: We are so grateful God that you welcome us to this table.

C: We have done nothing to earn your gifts,

P: we cannot claim to deserve your favor,

C: but in your mercy, you welcome us freely. We lift our hearts in thanksgiving.

#### Words of Institution

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. For this we give you thanks. We ask you to send your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith in this holy supper.

#### C: Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

P: In the night in which He was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: take and eat; this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

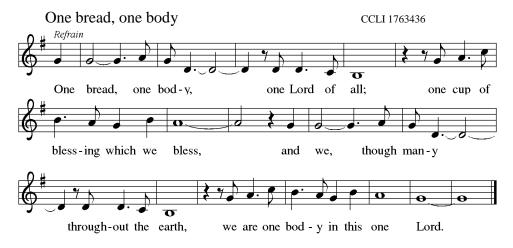
Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for all to drink saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen

#### **Invitation to Communion**

P: This is the true bread which came down from heaven and gave life to the world. Whoever eats this bread will live forever.



# The Meal

Please receive the bread and wine as the pastor speaks the words:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. *The communicant may say: "Amen."* 

#### MUSIC AS WE SHARE COMMUNION

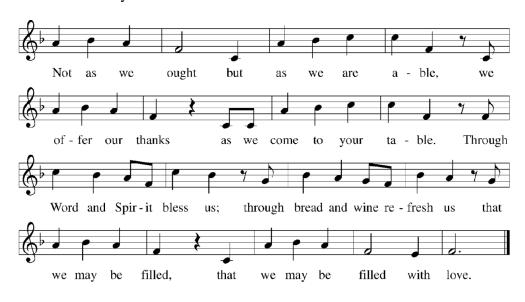
Here is bread CCLI 1763436

Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us. Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here. *Refrain* 

Refrain: In this bread there is healing,
In this cup is life forever.
In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us, Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Jesus here. *Refrain* 

Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us. We'll proclaim till he comes Jesus crucified. *Refrain* 



# Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen



# Prayer

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C: Amen** 

# SENDING

# **Blessing**

P: May you be strengthened with the power of God, + the love of Jesus, and the help of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

# Closing Song- God Bless America

God bless America,
land that I love,
stand beside her and guide her
thru the night with a light from above.
From the mountains
to the prairies
to the oceans white with foam,
God bless America,
My home, sweet home;
God bless America,
My home, sweet home!

#### Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

#### **Postlude**

## **OPPORTUNITIES AT CHRIST LUTHERAN**

#### **Today**

8:30-Traditional Worship

9:45-Contemporary Worship

11:00-Traditional Worship

Monday-9:00-Quilters/Sewers

Tuesday-2:00-Bible Study

6:00-Contemporary Team Instrumental/6:30-Vocal

## **FUTURE MINISTRIES**

# Sun-July 13-6:00-Baptism Event

Mon-July 14-9:00-Quilters/Sewers

6:00-Property

Tues-July 15-2:00-Bible Study

6:00-Contemporary Team Instrumental/Vocal

Fri-July 18-7:30-9:30-Movie & Popcorn!

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Next Sunday's Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

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Attendance last week:

Sunday Worship: 8:30-49; 9:45-62; 11:00-30

The flowers in the chancel vases have been presented to the Glory of the Lord and in loving memory of Sophia by Tim & Cindy Chelednik.

Items available . . . the small wooden desk and several pairs of window curtains from the Fellowship Hall. First come, first served; you take them away. Just let the church office or the pastors know. Also, check out the "Lost & Found" & Free table in the Fellowship Hall. Items not taken TODAY will be donated to Goodwill.

**Baptism Event!** On <u>Sunday, July 13</u> - from 6 to 8 p.m. our congregation will hold a Baptism Event for parents whose children are not yet baptized and for adults and youth who desire to be baptized. If

you have any questions, would like to sign up, or would like to help with the event, please see Pastor Amy *TODAY*. <u>The deadline to sign up is this morning</u>, July 6.

**Mid-Summer Movie Night** . . . *Friday, July 18* from 8-9:30. Popcorn and the movie "Sandlot" under the stars! Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.

**Summer Sunday School** for preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> graders **Sunday, July 20** at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Family summer pool party**. . . **Sunday, July 27** from 7:15-9:15 p.m. at the DuBois City Pool. Sign up today!

**New Organ Donations. . .** If you would like to contribute toward the new organ, pledge cards and donation envelopes are available by the organ pipe display in the narthex. They may be placed in the offering plate or left in the church office. Thank you!

Pentecost Season Devotions "I Just Wanna Be a Sheep!" are available in the narthex and can be downloaded from our website.

**Mission of the Month: United Hatzalah.** In the aftermath of devastating rocket attacks by Iran on Israeli civilians, United Hatzalah of Israel is there to help. United Hatzalah is a medical emergency response organization working diligently to respond to urgent needs on the ground in Israel. If you would like to contribute, please use the pew envelopes, and write "Israel" in the "other" line. Checks may be made payable to Christ Lutheran Church.

**Food Pantry Items** for July are GROUND BLACK PEPPER and/or CANOLA OIL.