

Sunday, July 12, 2026

OTHER SEEDS

fell on good soil
and produced grain...

Matthew 13:8, ESV



Christ's Lutheran Church
Murrysville, Pennsylvania

"A Place to Believe, Belong, and Become"



Christ's Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered and welcoming, Christian community committed to encouraging faith-filled living, deepening friendships, and life-changing discipleship.

ARE YOU VISITING? START HERE!

Welcome! If you are new to worship in a Lutheran church, this introduction will help guide you through our service. Here are some things to know!

There is a quiet space in the back of the sanctuary if you or your child needs less sensory input or a chance to stretch and move. There are also blue cloth bags with fidget toys and other activities in that space. Please return the bags and their contents (minus any artwork your child creates).

Restrooms (with diaper decks) and a nursery are down the hall on the right. The nursery is unstaffed but has a TV displaying the worship service.

General info:

- The prayers, responses, and service music are printed in this bulletin. Just follow along!
- Words for the longer songs (hymns) are in the red pew books. The hymn numbers are in the bulletin and look like this ELW #.
- All baptized Christians are welcome to come forward for Holy Communion. Children who haven't received Holy Communion may also come forward for a blessing. Please take an empty cup for wine or grape juice on your way forward. We serve both wheat and gluten-free wafers. If you would like to receive a gluten-free wafer, please let the Pastor know.
- Our Sunday morning service is livestreamed on YouTube. Your image may appear. Can't make it to worship? Find us here: <https://www.youtube.com/@christslutheranchurchmurry443>
- We do receive an offering or donation as part of the service. There is a QR code in the bulletin or an envelope in the pew.

CHRIST'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

5330 Old Logan Ferry Road, Murrysville, PA 15668

Office: 412-795-1212

Church Office email: office@christsmurrysville.org

Website: www.christsmurrysville.org

App: Christ's Lutheran (ELCA)

Seventh Sunday of Pentecost

(Please silence your electronic devices)

PRELUDE

Instrumental

Please use this time to prepare your hearts and minds for worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SHARING OF CONCERNS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(please stand)*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, [God] who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Please take a moment in silence for confession.

P: Let us bring every burden to God.
Compassionate God,

C: we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

P: In the name of God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. In this time of reconciliation, we experience peace with God through the forgiveness of sins, we share this same peace with one another as a way of showing love and forgiveness to our neighbors.

PASSING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always,

C: And also with you.

P: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"What is this Place?"

ELW #524

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.

KYRIE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

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

C: Lord have mercy.

P: 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.

C: Lord have mercy.

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

C: Lord have mercy.

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

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING: PSALM 65:1-13 *(please be seated)*

A: You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

**C: To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**

A: Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.

**C: Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts
to dwell there!**

**They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by
the holiness of your temple.**

A: Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,

O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

**C: You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**

A: You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

**C: Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at
your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

A: You visit ^{the} earth and water it abundantly; you make it very
plenteous; the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

**C: You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its
increase.**

A: You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

**C: May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

A: May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys
cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

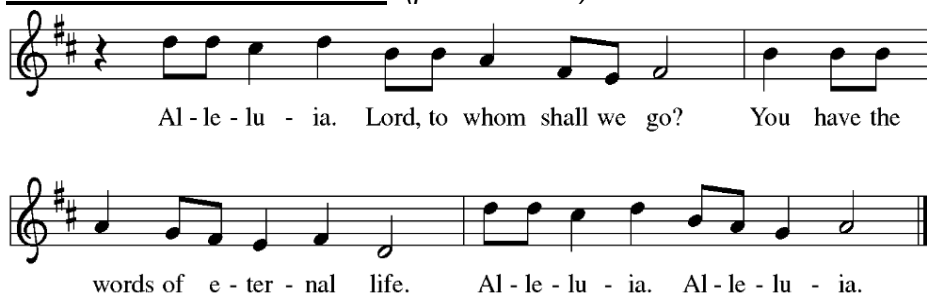
SECOND READING: ROMANS 8:1-11

Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, and those who are in

the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

IMAGINATION TIME with Pastor Sue

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please stand)*



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

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL: MATTHEW 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. If you have ears, hear!"

"Hear, then, the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and

snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE *(please be seated)*

Pastor Sue Washburn

HIStory/OURstory

Amy Lederer

HYMN OF THE DAY *(please stand)*

“We Plow the Fields and Scatter”

ELW #681

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Apostles’ Creed

We say together what Christians have believed for centuries.

A: Please join me in affirming our faith together

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

**I believe in Jesus 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 to the dead.
On the third day, he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(please stand)*

P: Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence

P: God our gardener, you scatter grace like seed across the world. Continue to cultivate the garden of your church with your abundant Spirit. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God our joy, your bountiful creation reflects your commitment to life despite our actions disregarding its wonder. We look toward the day when all creation rejoices, and the trees will clap for joy at your salvation. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God our life, you give us the same Spirit by which you raised Christ from the dead. Set our minds on that Spirit whenever fear or condemnation overwhelm throughout the world. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God our host and table, we pray for children on summer vacation. We lift up those who hunger because they rely on school meals. We look forward to our upcoming vacation Bible school, that we might bless those who attend with your love and mercy. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God our source, May those who travel for work or recreation do so safely, and may visitors find refreshment among us. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Sustainer of faith, we pray for Christ's Lutheran Church as it discerns your call for future ministries. Guide the leadership of the church to seek your vision first. Inspire everyone to share in the new thing God is doing. Be working in the heart and mind of

the next pastor as you prepare them to lead this congregation.
Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Today we pray for:

Judy Bernardini, Randy Clouser, Kristin DeMarco, Pearl Elliott, David Favero, Chris Fox, Joseph Grabowski, Sr., Peggy Henry, Lisa Lehman, John Magnus, Derwood Montgomery, Michael O'Donnell, Evan Pavloff, Jeff Pope, Betty Reagan, Paul Rizzo, Kathy Schultz, Ron Spagna, Marianne Trainor, Terri Veltre, Sue Werner, and the family and friends of Stephen Paulovitch



P: Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

OFFERING *(please be seated)*

P: Our offering is an act of worship, a demonstration of our love for God. The Apostle Paul says: "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." Thank you for your gifts, tithes, and offerings.

You can place your offering in the offering plate that is passed at this time in our service,

You can scan this QR code to our online giving page,

You can use our app to send your offering,

or mail your offering to the church:

*Christ's Lutheran Church
5330 Old Logan Ferry Road
Murrysville, PA 15668*



THE OFFERTORY

Instrumental

OFFERTORY RESPONSE *(please stand)*



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

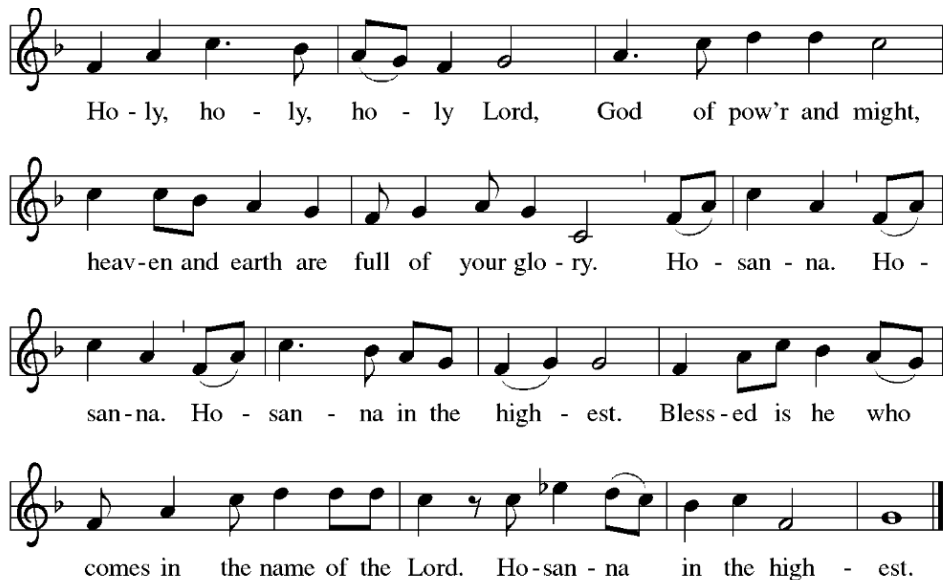
C: We lift them to the Lord

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Let us now pray together as Jesus taught us.

C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come,

thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread,

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Heaven has come near.

Come, share in the feast!

C: Amen.

LAMB OF GOD



HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the gift of Holy Communion. You may come forward and take an empty cup for wine or a filled cup of grape juice to the altar. If you are unable to come forward, please let us know and we will come to you. When Communion is finished, please stand.

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

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE BLESSING

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✝ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

ELW #547

THE DISMISSAL

A: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Instrumental

Pastor
Pastor Emeritus
Organist
Pianist
Laura Vincenti

Rev. Sue Washburn
Rev. Steven J. Myers
Joshua Beck
Nancy Finke Sheehan
Parish Administrator

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mission Study Focus Groups

Your Voice is Important!

Thursday, July 16 @ 10:00 am In-person
Tuesday, July 28 @ 10:00 am In-person
Wednesday, August 5 @ 6:30 pm ONLINE ONLY
Wednesday, September 9 @ 6:50 pm ONLINE ONLY



Scan the QR code to register, or sign up on the form in the Entryway

CHRIST'S LITTLE PANTRY WEEKEND - THIS WEEKEND!

Thank you to everyone who has been contributing to our Little Pantry. The food in the Pantry goes quickly and we have been replenishing almost daily. Scan this QR code or contact the church office for a list of our current needs,



We appreciate food donations, but **WE CAN'T ACCEPT CANNED VEGETABLES OR BEANS AT THIS TIME!**

Pastor Sue's Community Hours

Pastor will be holding drop-in hours in community locations. Stop by to say hello, to chat, to ask theological questions or any kind of questions! Bring friends along to meet Pastor Sue.

Wednesday, July 15th

***Pastor will be at Groove Coffee, from 10 am to Noon
4453 William Penn Highway, Murrysville
Near Shop 'n Save, on the opposite side of Rt 22)***



Join us on Wednesday, July 15th - each study is on a different focus, so you can drop in anytime. It's been so hot that we're meeting inside in the air conditioning!

Ladies' Brunch: Saturday, July 25th 11:00 – 1:00

Please join us for food & sistership on the **4th Saturday of each month** when we can enjoy our time together. Young ladies are welcome, too!

Any tasty treat you'd like to share is appreciated.

Kindly register so we know how many to prepare for: on our website, on our app, or on the sign-up sheet at church

We look forward to seeing you!

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The portable air conditioner in the choir room has been replaced. Our thanks to two CLC members who funded some of the purchase price.

The new AC unit is now in the Council room (behind the upstairs fellowship hall). Any CLC team, committee, mission group, etc. is welcome to meet in the cool of the Council room.

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The kids will be performing songs celebrating their VBS experience! Stick around after service and purchase a cone from Millie's Homemade Ice Cream, one of Pittsburgh's most **highly rated** treats.

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Attention all **OWLS**, otherwise known as Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors, an elite group of people **age 80 and older**. We would like to invite you to our OWLS Recognition Luncheon in October, but we can't invite you if we don't know who you are!

If you have turned 80 in the last two years, or will be turning 80 between now and December, please let us know so we can be sure to include you.

And those of you who are, or will soon be, 90 are our **HOOT OWLS!** Please let us know that you've reached this milestone.

Even if you have been invited to the OWLS Luncheon in the past, please feel free to check with the office to make sure you're still on the list. You can reach the office at [office@christsmurrysville.org](mailto:office@christsmurrysville.org) or 412-795-1212.



**Our church office is open:**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

**9 am-12:00 pm, 12:30 pm-2:30 pm**

The office is closed on Wednesday.

## **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**July 12<sup>th</sup> – June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

***Keep our Ministry and Community in Your Prayers Each Day This Week***

### **LITTLE PANTRY WEEKEND**

#### **Sunday 7/12**

***Our Little Pantry donors, and those experiencing food insecurity***

10:00 am

Sunday Worship

*live streamed at [christsmurrysville.org](http://christsmurrysville.org)*

7:30 pm

Narcotics Anonymous

#### **Monday 7/613**

***Those who faithfully volunteer with ministries throughout our communities***

8:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous

#### **Tuesday 7/14**

***The ministry of Scouting***

9:00 am

Stitched With Love

9:30 am

Kindermusik

10:00 am

Congregational Life Team meeting

4:00 pm

Outreach Team meeting

6:00 pm

Girl Scouts

6:30 pm

Worship & Music Committee meeting

#### **Wednesday 7/15**

***The safety of those who are traveling***

10:00 am

Kindermusik

6:00 pm

Backyard Bible Study

#### **Thursday 7/16**

***Those serving in all fields of healthcare***

9:30 am

Kindermusik

10:00 am

Focus Group – in person

#### **Friday 7/17**

***Those who are moving through times of grief***

10:00 am - noon

Pastor Sue Drop-In Office Hours

#### **Saturday 7/18**

***Those who do not have health insurance***

6:00 pm

Saturday Worship

#### **Sunday 7/19**

***The volunteers of the Worship Team, who contribute their time to assist in our services***

10:00 am

Sunday Worship

*live streamed at [christsmurrysville.org](http://christsmurrysville.org)*

7:30 pm

Narcotics Anonymous