

Sunday, August 30, 2026



**What good
will it be for**

someone to

**gain the
whole world.**

yet forfeit

their soul?

**Or what can anyone give
in exchange for their soul?**

MATTHEW 16:26. NIV

***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)

Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost

(Please silence your electronic devices)

PRELUDE

Instrumental

*Please use this time to silently 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, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

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.

Please take a moment in silence for confession.

P: Compassionate God,

C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to love our neighbors. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way and truth of Jesus Christ. Amen.

P: Now hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. Yet, Christ died for us. Christ rose for us. Christ remains in power for us. Christ prays for you and for me. In Christ we are a new creation. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

PASSING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

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

The peace of Christ be with you always,

C: And also with you.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

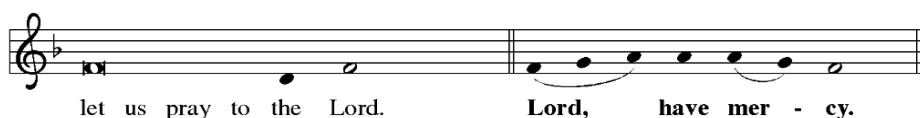
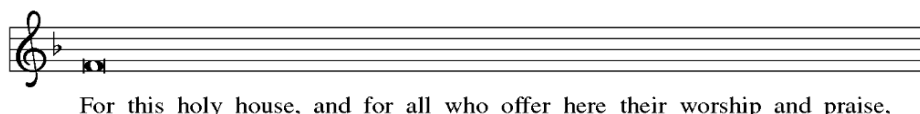
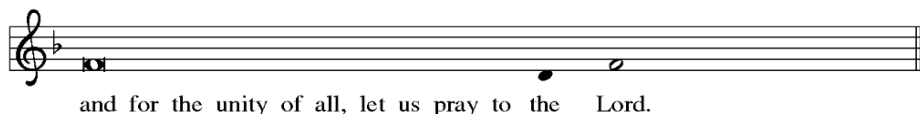
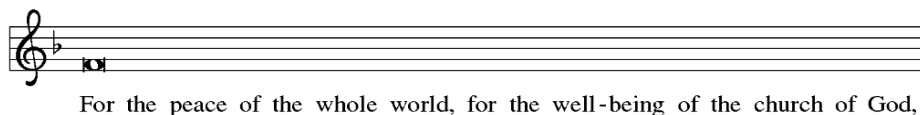
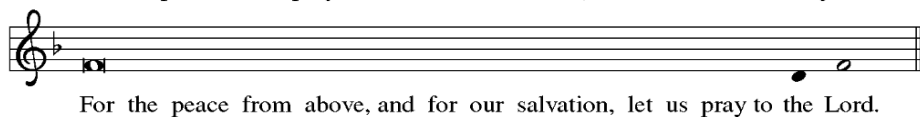
ELW #879

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



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING: PSALM 26:1-8 *(please be seated)*

A: Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

**C: Test me, O Lord, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind.**

A: For your steadfast love is before my eyes;
I have walked faithfully with you.

**C: I have not sat with the worthless,
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

A: I have hated the company of evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked.

**C: I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

A: singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

**C: Lord, I love the house in which you dwell
and the place where your glory abides.**

SECOND READING: ROMANS 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." Instead, "if your enemies are hungry,

feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

IMAGINATION TIME with Pastor Sue

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please stand)*



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

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

HOLY GOSPEL: MATTHEW 16:21-28

From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE *(please be seated)*

Pastor Sue Washburn

Pick Up Your Cross and Follow Me

HYMN OF THE DAY *(please stand)*

"Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"

ELW #808

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: With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence

P: For the church in every land, that its mission and ministry is anchored in the love of Christ. When threats or challenges arise, teach us to take up our cross and follow you in faith. Lord in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: For the well-being of your creation, that all that lives and grows on the earth may thrive. Bring relief to areas ravaged by droughts, floods, fires, storms, and other disasters. Today we especially remember the families of those lost in the flood in Tibet. Watch over the emergency responders in the area. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For the nations and all in authority, that they seek to live in peace with one another. Bless the work of international and diplomatic organizations and all who work to bring peace to a world scarred by violence Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: For the congregation gathered here to serve you, that they remain strong in faith and united in purpose. Guide our committees, study groups, and other meetings toward honesty and humility, always seeking genuine love. 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. As the majority of council members have filled their terms, we pray that you will inspire members to serve in leadership positions. 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: For the faithful departed, that their witness continues to strengthen and guide the church. Renew our hope in your promises in this life and the life to come. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: For all those in need, that they be satisfied. Ensure all your children have safe access to food, water, shelter, and medical care. Bring healing to all who bear wounds in body, mind, and spirit. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: *Today we pray for:*

Pastor John Cawkins, Randy Clouser, Pearl Elliott, David Favero, Joel Erwin, Joseph



Grabowski, Sr., Paul Graham, Peggy Henry, James Holt III,
Lisa Lehman, John Magnus, Derwood Montgomery,
Michael O'Donnell, Jeff Pope, Betty Reagan, Paul Rizzo,
Ron Spagna, Marianne Trainor, and Sue Werner



And for our church members and friends:

Lynn Favero

George, Patti and Jason Federovich

Matthew, Summer and Adison Federovich

Matt and Michelle Federovich

P: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

OFFERING *(please be seated)*

P: Your offering directly helps our church inspire people to live abundantly. Your gifts share the message of Jesus' love. They help our missions like:

Caring Hearts and Hands

Plum Food Pantry and Westmoreland County Food Bank

Our own Christ's Little Pantry

Your gifts also help us to keep the building inviting for our worship and for groups like AA, NA, Kindermusik, and Girl Scouts. Please give generously for all our ministries.

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)*



The musical score is written on six staves of music. The melody is in G major, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, half notes, and rests. There are also triplets indicated by a '3' over a group of notes. The lyrics are: We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you, we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours, we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you, we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you, we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours, we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you, we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

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.

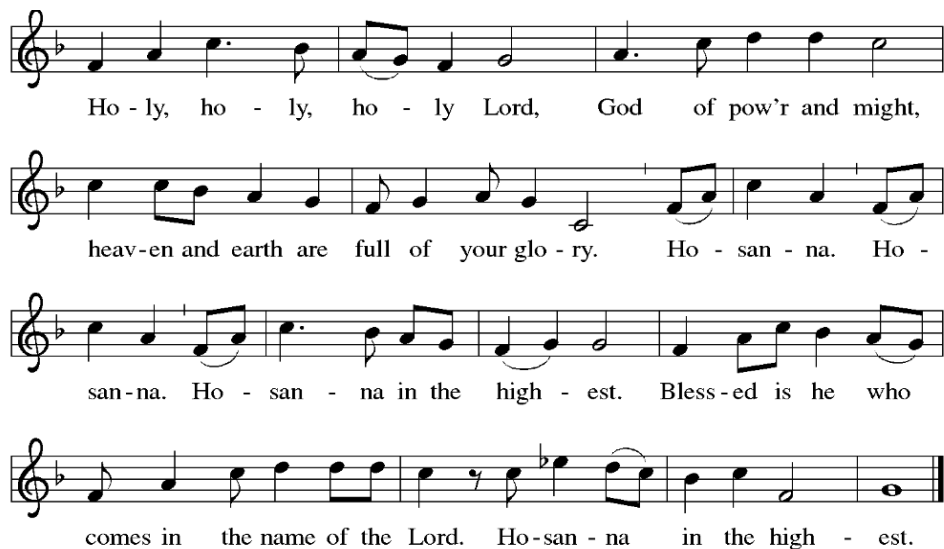
C: We lift them to the Lord.

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



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second and third staves continue the melody and lyrics. The fourth staff concludes the piece with a final double bar line.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

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.

COMMUNION RESPONSE



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

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: The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

P: The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: The God of grace ✙ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

ELW #656

THE DISMISSAL

A: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Instrumental

Pastor
Pastor Emeritus
Organist
Pianist
Parish Administrator

Rev. Sue Washburn
Rev. Steven J. Myers
Joshua Beck
Nancy Finke Sheehan
Laura Vincenti

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAKE NOISE FOR MISSION! September 5th and 6th

We celebrate the first weekend of each month with the donation of your loose change to benefit *our sister church*, Trinity Lutheran. Collection cans will be located on the offering table and up front by the baptismal font. So, gather up your change and let's all make some **NOISE!!!**

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## **Focus Group Opportunity**

Wednesday, September 9 @ 6:50 pm via Zoom

*Please join in this final focus group discussion to help CLC build a strong plan for moving forward. Scan to register.*



## **JOIN CLC AND THE WESTMORELAND FOOD BANK FOR THE ANNUAL 9/11 (SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>) FOOD DRIVE**

- Westmoreland Food Bank is hosting its 3rd Annual 9/11 Week of Service Food Drive **to honor September 11<sup>th</sup>**.
  - **"Shopping List"** No Glass Jars Please!  
Boxed meals (ex: Hamburger Helper, Velveeta Skillet, pasta/rice sides), Canned meals (ex: hearty soups & stews, ravioli), Peanut butter, Whole grain cereal, Canned fruits & vegetables, Canned fruits & vegetables, macaroni & cheese, canned tuna, chicken and/or salmon, low sodium vegetables and soups, fruit in water or 100% juice. Easy to read shopping lists are in the Entryway.
  - The last day to donate is **Sunday, Sept 6<sup>th</sup>**. Drop off your food items in the large boxes in the Entryway.
- ~~~~~

We're trying something new! You may have noticed a few changes in the church lobby... to alleviate the congestion and noise at the door to the sanctuary, we've created a **Welcome & Ministry Center** directly across from the main sanctuary doors.

When you arrive for service, **the greeter will now be standing to the right of our main entrance door. The bulletins will be there too.** If you wish to sign up for church events, see what's happening at CLC, or would like to direct a visitor to get more information about our church, you can find everything you need by the bulletin boards!

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LARGE PRINT BULLETINS and Children's Bulletins are now available for all services. You'll find them in the rack by the sign-in sheets.

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***Our church will be closed on Monday, September 7th for Labor Day.***

Fall Kickoff Weekend September 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>

## **Christ's Lutheran will be kicking off a new season of fun, friends and faith!**

- ❖ *IMPACTFUL WORSHIP*
- ❖ *SOCIAL MINISTRY PROJECTS*
- ❖ *SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR KIDS AND ADULTS*
- ❖ *COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES*
- ❖ *SUNDAY MORNING FAMILY MINISTRIES*
- ❖ *A BLESSING OF THE PETS*
- ❖ *CRAFT FAIR & BAKE SALE*
- ❖ *THE OWLS LUNCHEON*
- ❖ *AND MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP YOU FEEL CONNECTED AND ENCOURAGED.*



**10 am  
Worship  
followed  
by our  
Tailgate  
Picnic**



It's time to **sign up for our TAILGATE PICNIC** on Kick Off Sunday. There will be food, games, bingo and raffle baskets! The main dish, hotdogs and chipped ham barbecue, will be provided by the church; we'd really appreciate it if you would bring a covered dish or dessert. Signup sheets are at the Ministry Center in the Entryway.

And, we hope you'll sign up to donate a raffle basket. That signup sheet is in the Entryway as well.

***Bring your CLC spirit and let's Kickoff a great Fall season.***

# FAMILY ADVENTURE

## *faith for busy lives*



Small group class  
for parents and  
other caregivers.  
Sundays at 9 am  
starting  
September 20<sup>th</sup>.  
(during children's  
Sunday School)



**Share the stories of Jesus with children.**  
CLC's Sunday School program is recruiting teachers for the upcoming year. For information, contact the office at 412-795-1212 or [office@christsmurrysville.org](mailto:office@christsmurrysville.org).

SUNDAY SCHOOL

## Teachers Needed



**Pastor Sue's "Drop-In Wednesdays" Community Outreach**

In September, Pastor Sue's community hours will be at Dunkin on Rt. 286. Stop by and bring friends to meet and talk with Pastor Sue.

*September Drop-In Wednesdays: 10 am-12 pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>  
(no community drop-in on September 16th)*

*Dunkin, Holiday Park, 1803 Golden Mile Highway (Route 286)*



We are putting together our classes for the fall for **first communion and confirmation**. For more information, scan the code, or contact the office.

Calling all craft vendors!

Are you, or someone you know, a maker of handmade crafts, home décor, gifts, jewelry, soaps, woodwork, body care products, or other artisan goods?

CLC's **Craft Fair and Bake Sale is on Saturday, Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Show off your craftsmanship and sell your goods!

Scan the QR code for the Vendor Registration form; printed copies are available by contacting the church at 412-795-1212 or [office@christsmurrysville.org](mailto:office@christsmurrysville.org). Registration forms are also on the table in the Entryway. Please share our info!



**Pastor Sue's Drop-In Office Hours**      **Fridays from 10 am to 12 pm**

*Please feel free to stop by to talk about what's on your mind.*

You can also schedule private time with Pastor Sue by using this link to her calendar, where you can set up a specific time and location:  
<https://calendar.app.google/HfC4jyoazNMnGwnW6>

**IMPRESSED WITH EVERYTHING HAPPENING AT CLC?**

Our Outreach Team puts together the events and projects that are putting CLC's **Social Ministry** on the map! Through these activities, CLC builds our presence in our community while serving our congregation.

Join the fun and enjoy the blessings of social ministry work! Our Team needs a few **new members** to help plan and execute our projects. And the Team needs a **chairperson** to lead and guide us in our activities.

Are you called to join the Team or lead it? For more information, contact the church office at 412-795-1212 or [office@christsmurrysville.org](mailto:office@christsmurrysville.org)

# Christ's Lutheran Church

## Blessing of the Pets



### October 4 4PM

Bring your furry or feathered friends for a time of fellowship in the parking lot of Christ's Lutheran Church.

*You must maintain control of your pet at all times.*

**5330 Old Logan Ferry Road  
Murrysville, PA 15668**



**Our church office is open:** Monday, Tuesday,  
Thursday and Friday

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

*Please phone the church before coming to make sure  
someone is available to assist you: **412-795-1212***

## **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**August 30<sup>th</sup> - September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

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

### **Sunday 8/30**

***Children, teens and teachers who are embarking  
on a new school year.***

10:00 am

Sunday Worship

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

7:30 pm

Narcotics Anonymous

### **Monday 8/31**

***The ministry of Heifer International***

8:00 pm

Alcoholics Anonymous

### **Tuesday 9/1**

***The members of our Worship & Music Committee  
who plan our services, choose our hymns and  
ensure that our church has everything needed to  
conduct each worship service***

9:00 am

Stitched With Love

6:30 pm

Worship & Music Committee

### **Wednesday 9/2**

***Pastor Sue as she welcomes CLC members and  
members of the community to chat and ask  
questions about whatever may be on their mind***

9:00 am

Property Committee

10 am - noon

Pastor Sue's Community Hours: Dunkin on  
Rt 286, Holiday Park

### **Thursday 9/3**

***All artists as they share their talent with the world***

6:30 pm

East Suburban Artists League

### **Friday 9/4**

***Those who have been hardest hit by the change  
to our country's economy***

10 am - noon

Pastor Sue's Office Hours

### **Saturday 9/5**

***Those who are moving through loss and grief***

6:00 pm

Saturday Worship

### **Sunday 9/6**

***Joshua Beck and Nancy Sheehan, our church  
musicians***

10:00 am

Sunday Worship

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

7:30 pm

Narcotics Anonymous