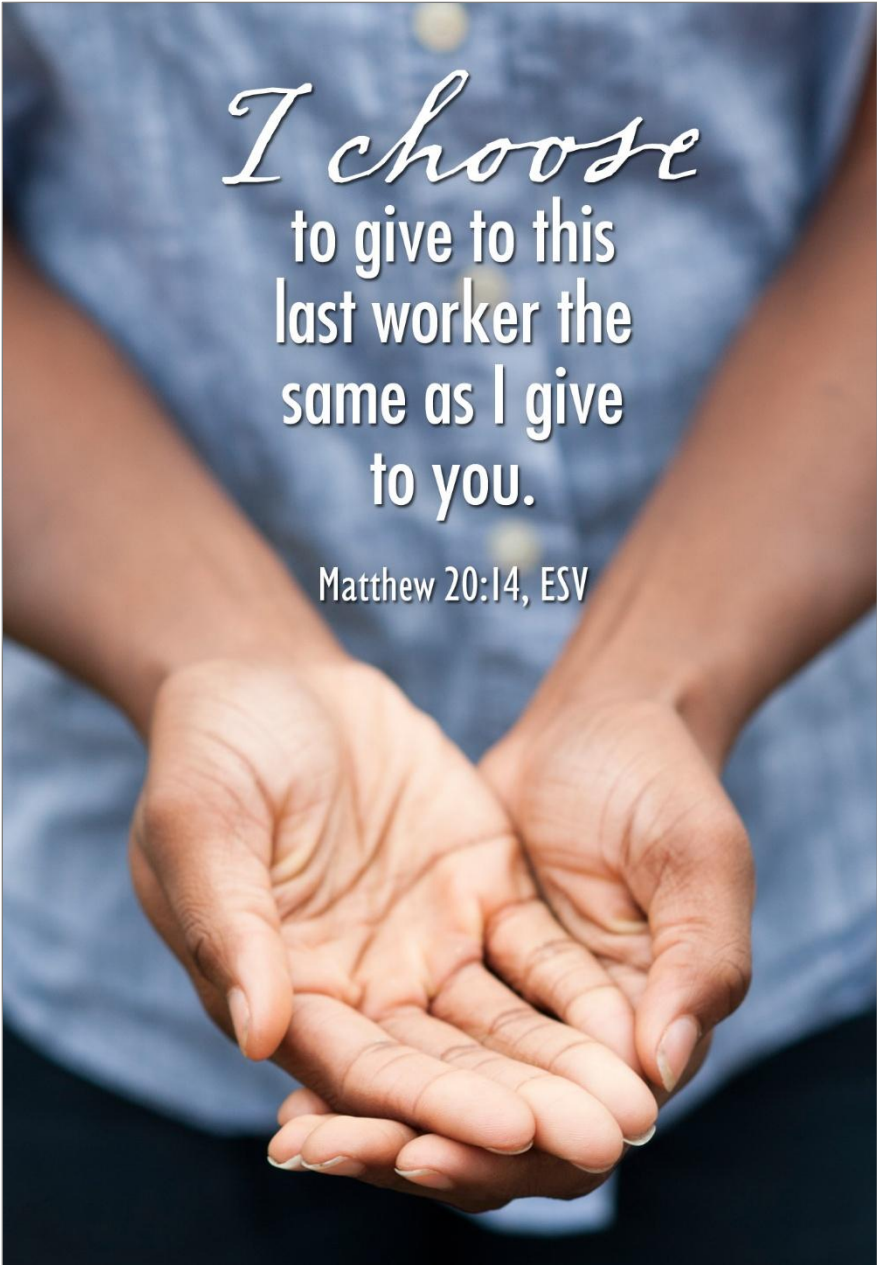


Sunday, September 20 , 2026

A photograph of a person's hands held out in a gesture of giving. The hands are cupped together, palms up, and are positioned in the lower half of the frame. The person is wearing a blue button-down shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue. Overlaid on the image is the text "I choose to give to this last worker the same as I give to you." in a white, serif font. The word "I" is in a larger, cursive script. Below the main text is the reference "Matthew 20:14, ESV" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

I choose
to give to this
last worker the
same as I give
to you.

Matthew 20:14, 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)

Seventeenth 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

"All Are Welcome"

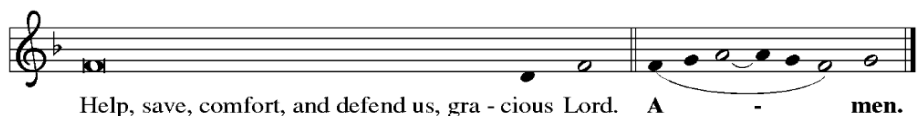
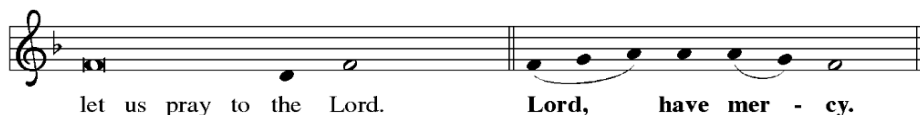
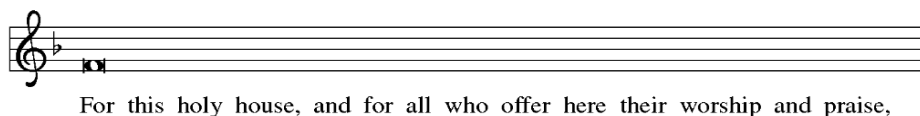
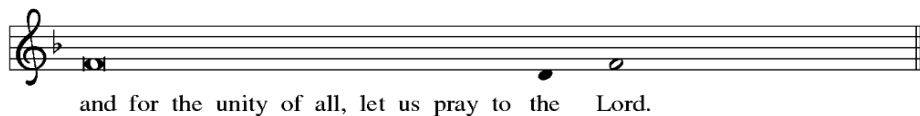
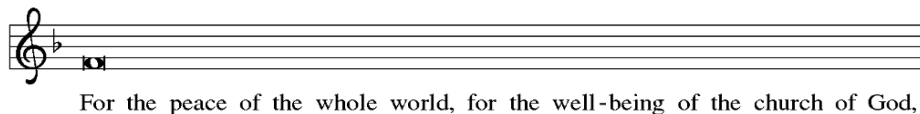
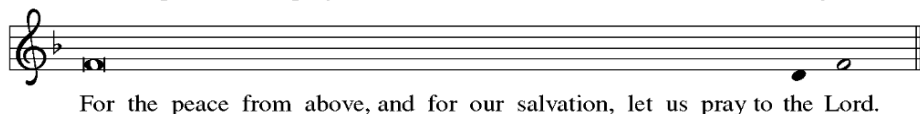
ELW #641

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: Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING: PSALM 105:1-6 *(please be seated)*

A: Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name;
make known the deeds of the Lord among the peoples.

C: **Sing to the Lord, sing praises,
and speak of all God's marvelous works.**

A: Glory in God's holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

C: **Search for the strength of the Lord;
continually seek God's face.**

A: Remember the marvels God has done,
the wonders and the judgments of God's mouth,

C: **O offspring of Abraham, God's servant,
O children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.**

SECOND READING: JONAH 3:10 - 4:11

When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The Lord God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat

down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

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 twentieth chapter.

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

HOLY GOSPEL: MATTHEW 20:1-16

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay,

beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE *(please be seated)*

Pastor Sue Washburn

HYMN OF THE DAY *(please stand)*

“Blessed Be the Tie That Binds”

ELW #656

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: Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence

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: Hold your church accountable for our unwillingness to share your good news and our anger at your generosity to others. Nourish us by your grace to be witnesses to your love. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Guide scientists and researchers studying responses to the climate crisis so that all your creation may inspire us to give thanks for your great goodness. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Show employers the benefits of equal pay standards for all their employees. Reconcile conflicts between employees. Fill places of employment with camaraderie, and bring an end to employment disparity. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Strengthen all those in this congregation whose labor serves the needs of others in the community. Inspire all in this congregation to support community endeavors with our time and talents. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Comfort us with the promise of the resurrection as we remember all our loved ones whose desire to be with Jesus is fulfilled. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Encourage any who cannot work or who cannot work a full day with the truth that their value comes from your everlasting love for them. Provide for those who are injured, ill, and for all in any need. Lord in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: *Today we pray for:*

Karen & Tom Adams, Greg & Donna B.,
Ron Brennan, Debbie C., Randy Clouser,
Pearl Elliott, Joel Erwin, David Favero,
Nancy Fiedler, Chuck G., Joseph
Grabowski, Sr., Peggy Henry, James Holt III, Marlene Karl,
Lisa Lehman, Tom M., John Magnus, Derwood Montgomery,
Michael O'Donnell, Jeff Pope, Betty Reagan, Paul Rizzo,
Sandi Shaffer & Kate Hall, Ron Spagna, Marianne Trainor,
Sue Werner and the family and friends of Barbara Salenske



And for our church members and friends:

Nancy Glunt
Linda Gould
Joseph, Jennifer, Amber & Ashley Grabowski
Robret & Lynn Graper

P: Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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)*

A musical score for a congregational response, written on a single treble clef staff. The music is in 4/4 time and consists of six lines of notation. 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 three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a group of notes) in the first, third, and sixth lines. 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." The score ends with a double bar line.

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: God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

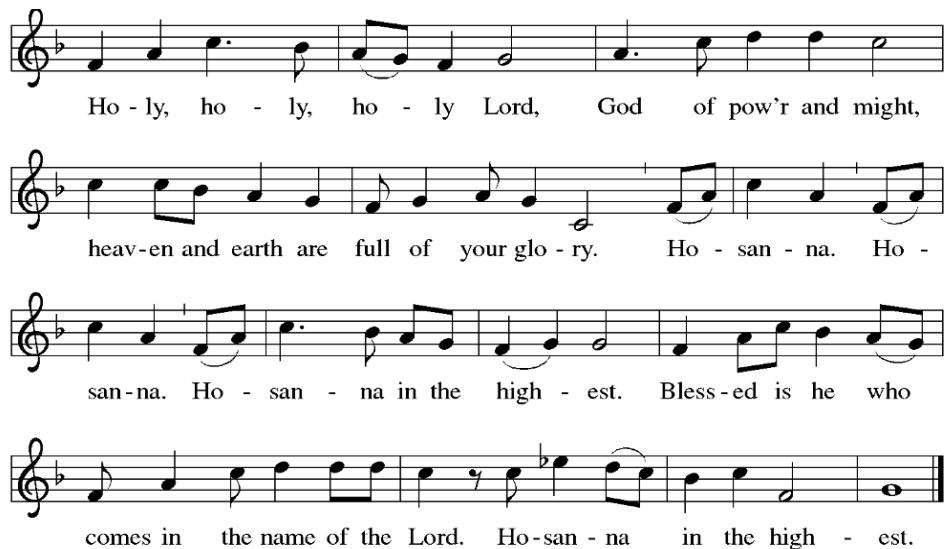
C: We lift them to the Lord.

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: Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!
C: Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD



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: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

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

"Rise Up, Oh Saints of God!"

ELW #669

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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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 23rd & 30th
Dunkin, Holiday Park
1803 Golden Mile Highway
(Route 286)*

Pastor Sue's Open Office Hours at the Church

***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>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Join Us on
Sunday!**

**And wear
your
favorite
team gear**



~~~~~  
The Outreach Team is again partnering with the Plum Food Pantry to support their annual Coat Drive!

The sign-up sheet and tags can be picked up in the Mission Center this weekend.

Any questions, please contact Judy Bernardini 412-795-6769.

~~~~~  
A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED TO THE WESTMORELAND FOOD PANTRY'S 9-11 FOOD DRIVE! WE WERE OVERWHELMED WITH YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS – OUR CLC CHURCH FAMILY CAME THROUGH ONCE AGAIN! ❤️

~~~~~  
**Ladies' Brunch Saturday, September 26th 11:00 – 1:00**

Ladies of the church - Please join us **4th Saturday of each month** for food & sistership.

Any tasty treat you'd like to share is appreciated but not required.

Register on our website or on our app, or sign-up at the Mission Center.

~~~~~



FOCUS GROUPS

We need your thoughts on Christ's Lutheran Church!
Sign up to share at a small focus group to help us choose the next pastor!

Bonus opportunity!!!

September 23 @ 6:30 PM

***ONLINE ONLY**





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

September 20th - 27th, 2026

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

Sunday 9/20

9:00 am

9:00 am

9:00 am

10:00 am

11:00 am

7:30 pm

Our congregation, as we kick off our fall season

Kids' Sunday School

Bible Study for Adults

Parent/Caregiver Small Group Class

Sunday Worship

Tailgate Picnic

Narcotics Anonymous

Monday 9/21

8:00 pm

The people served by Westmoreland Food Bank

Alcoholics Anonymous

Tuesday 9/22

9:00 am

6:00 pm

Pastor Melissa Stoller, our Synod Bishop

Stitched With Love

Girl Scouts

Wednesday 9/23

10:00 am

6:30 pm

Homebound members of our community

Pastor Sue's Community Hours – Dunkin Rt. 286

Bonus Focus Group, online only

Thursday 9/24

6:30 pm

The leadership of our Congregational Council

Council Meeting

Friday 9/25

10:00 am

3:30 pm

5:00 pm

Our communities' first responders

Pastor Sue's Drop-In Office Hours

Scent Training for Dogs

Scent Training for Dogs

Saturday 9/26

11:00 am

6:00 pm

Pastor Ed Sheehan

Ladies' Brunch

Saturday Worship

Sunday 9/27

9:00 am

9:00 am

9:00 am

10:00 am

11:00 am

7:30 pm

Those who do not have enough to eat

Kids' Sunday School

Bible Study for Adults

Parent/Caregiver Small Group Class

Sunday Worship

Tailgate Picnic

Narcotics Anonymous