



Worship with Us

The 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Presiding Minister: Pastor Erin Evans

Christ Lutheran Church, 917 Evergreen Avenue, Millvale, PA 15209

CLC Council and Congregation

Leonard Jansen, President
Ed Kapsha, Director of Music and Liturgy
Steve Slepecki - Seminarian
Pat Bauer - Children's Music Director
Patty Ellison - Office and CLC Kids Support
Jade Lane - Minister for Youth
Sherrie Lane and Michelle Hilliard - Sextons



Visit Us at CLCMillvale.com

Christ Lutheran Church

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eMail: christlutheran917@gmail.com ~ www.clcmillvale.com

CLC Weekly Update - Sept. 18, 2022

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

This Sunday, September 18th at 9:30AM



WORSHIP WITH US

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7

Psalm 113

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

Pastor Erin Evans preaching



As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need. ~

***See the next page for CLC's
New Adult Education Class:
"Psalms and Prayers", led
by Pastor Erin Evans!!***

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NEW ADULT EDUCATION CLASS

Wednesdays at 7:00pm

**Starting October 12th, Pastor Erin will lead
"Psalms and Prayers."**




This class will not only explore the basics of prayer, how to pray, and patterns for prayer, but perhaps offer a thoughtful counter-perspective to the phrase "thoughts and prayers" as we respond to situations in our life. Learn from the Psalms how to pray, alongside Martin Luther and Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and explore the richness of scripture as it grounds our prayers. This class will be just six weeks long - sign up in the narthex after church or let Pastor Erin know you are interested.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL for PRE-K THROUGH GRADE 6
SUNDAYS AT 8:30AM**

SUNDAY STEAM IS IN FULL SWING!

Thanks to everyone who came to our Rally and Rejoice Ice Cream Social Party, those who helped with set up, and clean up, and Pat Bauer who contributed to a rocking party with her drum circle talents. Sunday STEAM is a one room schoolhouse curriculum for Sunday school that pairs scripture with science! Join us this week for some chemical reactions!



Our Deepest Sympathy
Martha Flack, mother of Lynn Thomas, passed away peacefully on Saturday, September 10, 2022.

Please keep the family in your prayers as we remember Martha.

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HARVEST HOMECOMING on OCTOBER 2nd

Join us as we celebrate all that God has provided for us, the heritage of God's word, and the home we have in God's house. We give thanks by giving back, and will have a special offering of donations for the food pantry that morning. With our Harvest Homecoming Offering Envelopes, we will give one more time to the investment we've made in our "home" through the Capital Campaign. We will also have mums available for purchase to decorate the sanctuary, look for more info to come!



food pantry update



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

IMMEDIATE NEEDS:

Pancake Mix and
Pancake Syrup

The Food Pantry is Open
Mondays and Fridays from
9:30am to 11:30am, and on
Wednesdays from 5pm to 7pm.

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YOGA at CLC!

**Join this small class on the
2nd and 4th Monday of
each month at 6:00pm.**

**No experience necessary,
\$10 donation per class.**



Teach Us to Pray 4

Joseph Imhoff

‘Prayer may seem a lonely activity. When gladness overflows we are moved to spontaneous praise ... at the expense of others, ... prayer is lonely when we cry out in deep anguish. We may not be a praying people, but sometimes, when grief or trouble comes, we at least verge on prayer...! This observation is made by Philip Pfatteicher in his small book *Praying with the Church an Introduction to Prayer in Daily Life*. The late Dr. Philip Pfatteicher was a Lutheran Pastor, college professor of English, prolific writer on religious subjects and and the expert everyone cites on Lutheran liturgical practices.

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Teach Us to Pray 4 *continued*

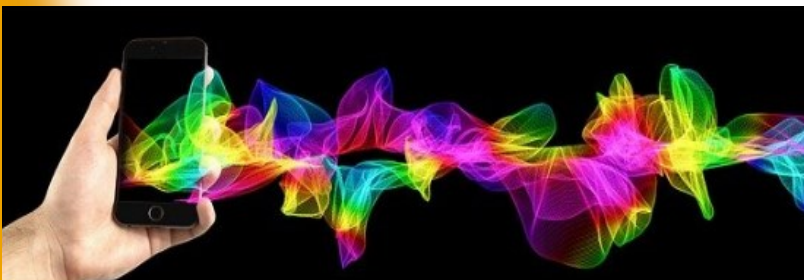
But he went further: 'The truth is, however, we never pray alone. When...we begin to enter that strange and disconcerting temple we call prayer, we join with multitudes of others who share similar lonely cries...We are part of a community that shares in the blessings given through Holy Baptism.' This sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever so, according to Luther, God allies himself with you and becomes one with you in a gracious covenant of comfort.

The line between private and public prayer becomes muddled because the early Christians prayed much as a group, evening, morning and noon as in their Jewish heritage. In monastic tradition there added other times using the third, sixth and ninth hours of the Crucifixion. These are outward signs for true prayer comes through the bond created in Baptism and the Holy Spirit within. In that sense we are linked with the Church of every time and every place in praise of God.

Martin Luther: Every prayer should be concluded with a hearty Amen.

Dear God, I know that my prayer spoken in the name of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, is indeed pleasing to you. It will most surely be heard. Amen. AMEN. ~

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. ✝



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The Grace of Confusion

In today's gospel, Jesus tells a challenging parable about a dishonest steward that ends with an unsettling moral: "And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes" (Luke 16:9).

Is Jesus being ironic or sincere? Do the characters in the story somehow represent our relationship with God? Are we supposed to emulate the dishonest steward? This text is filled with questions. If you find Jesus' words today perplexing, even baffling, don't worry—you are in good company. Both the details of the parable itself and the lesson Jesus is drawing from it have vexed and puzzled generations of the best interpreters, theologians, and preachers.

There are many plausible ways to explain what is happening and what it means for our lives as Christians that might be explored in your assembly today. At the same time, scriptures like this are a reminder that the life of discipleship does not always come with easy answers and neatly packaged meanings. The gospels frequently report moments when Jesus' disciples simply could not understand what he was saying to them or profoundly misinterpreted his meaning.

The value of the community you join today does not come from the perfect understandings of either the assembly or its leaders. It comes from the one who continues to speak even when we do not understand, who daily affirms God's love for us through the waters of baptism, who offers his own body and blood at the table each week for those who are still struggling and learning what it means to be his disciples—and that includes all of us. In short, the value of the community you join today comes from a Lord committed to leading us as disciples, even when we are unclear of the way. ~

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Upcoming Commemorations

Dag Hammarskjöld, renewer of society, died 1961

Sunday, September 18, 2022

A Swedish diplomat, Hammarskjöld served as the second Secretary General of the United Nations until his death in a plane crash while trying to negotiate peace in present-day Zambia. His journal, published as *Markings*, revealed the depth of his Christian faith.

Nelson Wesley Trout, bishop, died 1996 (TFF)

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

A native of Ohio, Trout served parishes in several parts of the United States before being elected bishop of the South Pacific District of the American Lutheran Church, the first African American Lutheran to serve in such a capacity.

Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

Matthew (or Levi) was a tax collector in Capernaum for the Roman government. Tax collectors were frequently despised for dishonesty and for assisting the occupiers. Jesus nevertheless showed love for them, and chose Matthew to be a disciple.

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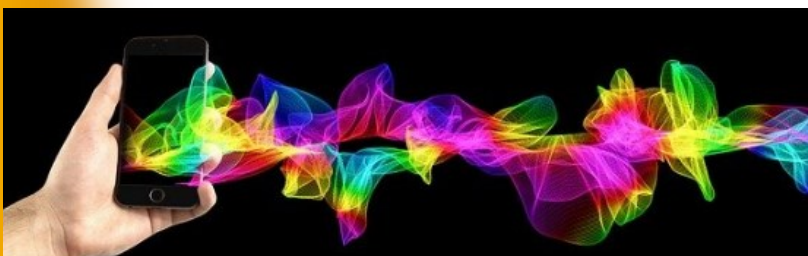
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