



**CLC Weekly Update - In-Person Worship
July 23rd at 9:30AM**

WORSHIP WITH US

8th Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

Psalm Psalm 86:11-17

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Pastor Erin Evans preaching

Christ Lutheran Church
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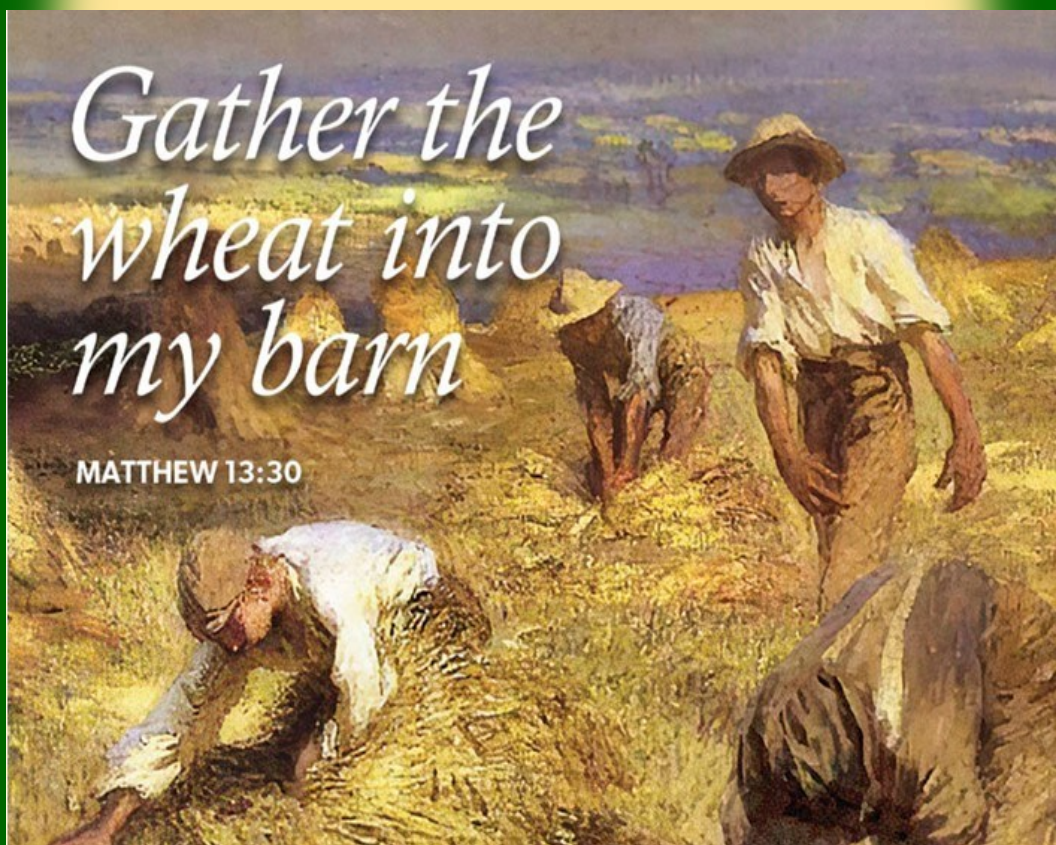
*In the neighborhood...
For good.*

CLC
MILLVALE
Christ Lutheran Church



*Gather the
wheat into
my barn*

MATTHEW 13:30



It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy. ~

Visit Us at CLCMillvale.com

Welcome to Church!

Join us after worship July 9, 16, 23, and 30th for an informative and informal look at Lutheran Church Basics.

For visitors, new members, life-long Lutherans and anyone in between. Coffee and light snacks provided.



Catechism and Sacraments
Church History
Denominational Differences
Worship and Liturgy



SUNDAY SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECT



Following worship on Sunday August 13th, we'll be making Birthday Bags to distribute at the food pantry!

Please join us!

In case of emergency....



Did you know we have an emergency defibrillator? It's on the wall, near the office and food pantry check-in table.

Did you know we have Narcan available? With the first aid kits in the narthex and in the office too!

Visit Us at CLCMillvale.com

“Ask The Pastor”

NEW QUESTION and ANSWER!

Submit an anonymous question in the offering plate, and you might get your question answered in the Weekly Update! Have a Bible question? A Church question? A burning query about what the number of candles means and why? *Ask away!*

You asked, I'll answer!

Question: What does Kyrie Eleison mean? Is there a reason we don't sing it all year long?

Answer: It means Lord, have mercy, and yes! It comes to the Western church from the Eastern orthodox church somewhere between the 4th and 6th centuries. It was originally part of the long entrance rite for special services. It takes a long time to get all the priests and deacons and everybody in the door! Now it has come to be a part of the introductory prayers, along with an apostolic greeting (The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all...) and the Hymn of Praise (This is the Feast OR Glory to God).

As far as when to sing and when not to sing those parts, there are suggested orders and rules about all that. The kyrie is a more penitential piece of liturgy - asking for mercy, so it would be used during penitential seasons and omitted during others. However, the tone and tune of our current Kyrie from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal, is a more upbeat and lively prayer for God's mercy, so we're using it for the summer, and not just saving for seasons like Lent.

continued

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“Ask The Pastor”

When it comes to rules like this, its good to know them - and the reason for them and the tradition behind it. But using the Kyrie in a service is a "may" rubric - as in, The Kyrie MAY be sung. One of Martin Luther's sticking points in his criticism of practices in the Church is that traditions and "may" rubrics have the potential to turn into something else entirely.

In the Augsburg Confession, Martin Luther and Philip Melancthon sought to not only put forth their reformation ideals, but to also show their orthodoxy and where they were in unity with the rest of the Church. From the Article Concerning the Church *"The Church is the congregation of saints, in which the Gospel is rightly taught and the Sacraments are rightly administered. And to the true unity of the Church it is enough to agree concerning the doctrine of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments. Nor is it necessary that human traditions, that is, rites or ceremonies, instituted by men, should be everywhere alike."*

The liturgy of the church is a gift to be used and honored! Thanks for your insightful question!

Pastor Erin



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A Righteous Harvest

One of the lessons of history is that when humans try to do the weeding, things end badly. Whenever we try to divide the world into good guys and bad guys, people get hurt. Everyone winds up being a bad guy to somebody, and you can do anything to the bad guys. You can lie about them. You can hurt them. You can hurt other people on your way to getting the bad guys, and that's regrettable. But it's okay to sacrifice some of the good guys in order to get the bad guys, right?

But the kingdom of heaven is not like the farmer who pulled up half of the wheat seedlings while going after the weeds. The kingdom of heaven is more like Jesus, who was so unwilling to cause harm to others that he died instead. Instead of pulling up the weeds and casting them into the fire, Jesus went into the fire himself.

Therefore, the harvest is fruitful beyond imagining, because the harvest is Jesus himself! Jesus bears the fruit of righteousness, reconciliation, and peace. He will gather all people into his care, and they will not be troubled by sickness, or violence, or hatred, or death. This will happen, not because Jesus will destroy all enemies, but because Jesus, by his death, will transform enemies into friends.

The weeds and the wheat are still growing in this world. Although Jesus has already done all that is needed for the final harvest, all of us growing here on this earth still need the help of our neighbors. Just as the farmer in the story instructed his servants to care for the wheat until it was time for the harvest, so God calls us to actively work with Jesus to make things better for people right here and right now. ~

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Upcoming Commemorations



Birgitta of Sweden, renewer of the church, died 1373

Sunday, July 23, 2023

Birgitta married at age thirteen and had four daughters. Widowed at age thirty-eight, she gave all that she owned to the poor, and founded a community of monks and nuns led by a woman. Her work is continued today by the Society of St. Birgitta.



James, Apostle

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

James and his brother John were the sons of Zebedee, fishermen by trade before their call from Jesus. He was the first of the twelve apostles to be martyred, and his death is the only one recorded in scripture (Acts 12:1-2).



Johann Sebastian Bach, died 1750; Heinrich Schütz, died 1672; George Frederick Handel, died 1759; musicians

Friday, July 28, 2023

These three German-born musicians have done much to enrich the life of the church. Schütz was an early master who focused on settings of biblical texts. Bach wrote over 300 cantatas along with works for organ and instrumental pieces, and has been called the "fifth evangelist" for the way he proclaimed the gospel in music. Handel's great work, *Messiah*, is a setting of scriptural texts.



Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany
Saturday, July 29, 2023

Friends of Jesus, Mary and Martha are remembered for the hospitality of their home that they offered him—Martha focused on serving their guest, and Mary on listening to him. Their brother Lazarus was raised from the dead as a sign of the greater resurrection to come.



Olaf, King of Norway, martyr, died 1030
Saturday, July 29, 2023

Considered the patron saint of Norway, Olaf went from a life of piracy to becoming Christian and declaring himself king of Norway. He revised the laws and tried to administer them fairly. Driven from Norway in a rebellion, he was killed in battle trying to regain his kingdom.



I wish to thank everyone for showing
their support and offering their prayers
for the time I have been laid up!
They have been most appreciated
and welcomed.

Thanks to all!

Joe Imhoff



Refrigerator Art

Check out our "mini fridge"
bulletin board in the narthex,
and add your art!

Tiny coloring pages available in
the Playground in the side aisle.



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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Gather the Wheat: Harvesting the Sheaves by Clausen George. British school, 19th century. Photo copyright Artepics age footstock Superstock. Used by permission.

A Righteous Harvest: Gather the Harvest_Thanks to SundaysandSeasons.com

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ONLINE GIVING



SCAN ME



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