

THE BROTHERS & SISTERS IN CHRIST OF
CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH
WELCOME YOU TO THE DIVINE SERVICE!

14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 25, 2024 – 8:00 A.M.



HOLY SPIRIT GUIDES US IN GOD'S ABUNDANT LIFE IN CHRIST

Christ the King Lutheran Church

A member of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

Declaring new life in Jesus Christ & encouraging all to take their next step of faith with Jesus!

205-988-5004 -- www.ctkbham.org

611 Riverchase Parkway West
Birmingham, Alabama 35244

Our vision: All people will ***know God*** personally through Jesus Christ.

Our mission: Inward ***searching***, outward ***seeking***, ***forward*** together with Jesus Christ.

Psalm 139:23--Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

Luke 19:10 – For the Son of Man came to ***seek*** and to save the lost.

Matthew 4:19 – “***Come, follow Me,***” Jesus said, “and I will make you fishers of men.”

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 25, 2024 – 8:00 a.m.

***All music used by permission, copyright info on file in Church Office.*

Welcome! We're glad you're here...

OUR INVITATION: Our family of faith invites you to participate in our mission to share the Gospel (which means “good news”) of Jesus Christ, as we gather to hear the word of God and share the presence of Christ in Holy Communion and Christian fellowship. The Gospel is that Almighty God is for us and with us, and we know this with certainty through Jesus Christ. With your participation, our God-given mission to spread this good news to the world and the surrounding community can only be strengthened. Our pastor and members are here for you!

Sunday School Classes and Rooms (all classes meet at 9:20 a.m.):

“Jesus’s questions in John & then the whole Gospel of John” led by Pastor Chris in the Luther Rm. Oasis with Martha Green & Maizie Nelson, in the Luther Room foyer.

Disciple 2 led by Anita Humphries in Fellowship 2.

Children’s Sunday Education - NURSERY IS available for infants & children 3 years of age during each worship service, and education time. Following are where everyone will meet:

Nursery (infant - 3 years old) ~ Main blg Nursery

3K & K ~ John Room

1st – 3rd grade ~ Matthew & Mark Room

4th – 5th grade ~ Disciple Room

Jr. High ~ Jr High Room

Sr. High ~ Youth Room

TODAY'S BIBLE READINGS NOTES: *In today’s gospel many people take offense at Jesus’s invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus’s disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John’s gospel for Peter’s confession of faith. “To whom can we go?” asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. “You have the words of eternal life.” In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.*

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PASTOR: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people...

Congregation: And kindle in us the fire of your love!

CALL TO WORSHIP & AUGUST MEMORY VERSE:

“Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.” Proverbs 22:6

BRIEF ORDER for CONFESSION of SIN and FORGIVENESS:

We confess our sinful nature and our actual sins and speak to one another the forgiveness in Jesus's name that the Lord would have us all speak to any who are sorry for their sin.

The invocation and call to confession of sin, then SILENCE FOR SELF-EXAMINATION.

Pastor: Let us now confess our sin to God our Father together.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment.

For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your way to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in his mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I announce to you the good news that all your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

♪ THE HYMN OF JOY: "O Worship the King" vss. 1-3 (LBW #548)

1. Oh, worship the King, all-glorious above.

Oh, gratefully sing his pow'r and his love;
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with
praise.

2. Oh, tell of his might; oh, sing of his grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;

His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds
form, And dark is his path on the wings of the
storm.

3. The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, your pow'r has founded of old;
Established it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

THE 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.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY: *(Spoken by all)* **Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME: Trust and follow Jesus. He gives you power, love, and self-control.

♪ SPECIAL MUSIC: "God is Here" Adult Choir (WOV#719)

THE FIRST LESSON: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

The Introduction: *In the Near East, covenant means “agreement” or “alliance.” It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.*

The Reading:

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and called for the elders of Israel and for their heads and their judges and their officers; and they presented themselves before God. ²Joshua said to all the people,
¹⁴“Now, therefore, fear the Lord and serve Him in sincerity and truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. ¹⁵If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will

serve the Lord.”

¹⁶The people answered and said, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; ¹⁷for the Lord our God is He who brought us and our fathers up out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and who did these great signs in our sight and preserved us through all the way in which we went and among all the peoples through whose midst we passed. ¹⁸The Lord drove out from before us all the peoples, even the Amorites who lived in the land. We also will serve the Lord, for He is our God.”

(Lector: “This is the word of the Lord!” then, **all**, “Thanks be to God!”)

♪ **THE PSALM: Psalm 34:15-22**

(Congregation has verses in bold)

The Introduction: *The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous.*

The eyes of the LORD are up- ‘ on the righteous,*
 and God’s ears are open ‘ to their cry.

¹⁶ **The face of the LORD is against those ‘ who do evil,*
 to erase the remembrance of them ‘ from the earth.**

¹⁷ The righteous cry, and ‘ the LORD hears them*
 and delivers them from ‘ all their troubles.

¹⁸ **The LORD is near to the ‘ brokenhearted*
 and saves those whose spir- ‘ its are crushed.**

¹⁹ Many are the troubles ‘ of the righteous,*
 but the LORD delivers them from ‘ every one.

²⁰ **God will keep safe ‘ all their bones;*
 not one of them ‘ shall be broken.**

²¹ Evil will bring death ‘ to the wicked*
 and those who hate the righteous ‘ will be punished.

²² **O LORD, you redeem the life ‘ of your servants,*
 and those who put their trust in you will ‘ not be punished.**

♪ **THE ALLELUIA REFRAIN FOR PENTECOST:**

Come, Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit, renew the face of the earth.

Come, Lord Jesus, send us your Spirit, renew the face of the earth. (REPEAT)

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 6:56-69

The Introduction: *The "hard saying" that offends Jesus's disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. Knowing that Jesus will always be the only One, Peter asks the most important question: "To whom shall we go?"*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 6th chapter.

(sung)

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel:

⁵⁶ "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. ⁵⁷ As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also will live because of Me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever."

⁵⁹ These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum. ⁶⁰ Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard this said, "This is a difficult statement; who can listen to it?"

⁶¹ But Jesus, conscious that His disciples grumbled at this, said to them, "Does this cause you to stumble? ⁶² What then if you see the Son of Man ascending to where He was before? ⁶³ It is the Spirit who gives life; the

flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life. ⁶⁴ But there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him. ⁶⁵ And He was saying, "For this reason I have said to you, that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted him from the Father."

⁶⁶ As a result of this many of His disciples withdrew and were not walking with Him anymore. ⁶⁷ So Jesus said to the twelve, "You do not want to go away also, do you?"

⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life.

⁶⁹ We have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

(sung)

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

THE PRAYER AND SERMON:

Pentecost Theme: "Holy Spirit Will Guide Us"

Today - "Jesus, you're still the One"

♪ **HYMN of the DAY: "O Savior, Precious Savior"** (LBW #514)

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| <p>1. O Savior, precious Savior, Whom yet unseen we love; O name of might and favor, All other names above: We worship thee; we bless thee; To thee alone we sing; We praise thee and confess thee, Our holy Lord and King.</p> <p>2. O Bringer of salvation, Who wondrously hast wrought, Thyself the revelation Of love beyond our thought: We worship thee; we bless thee; To thee alone we sing; We praise thee and confess thee, Our gracious Lord and King.</p> | <p>3. In thee all fulness dwelleth, All grace and pow'r divine; The glory that excelleth, O Son of God, is thine. We worship thee; we bless thee; To thee alone we sing; We praise thee and confess thee, Our glorious Lord and King.</p> <p>4. Oh, grant the consummation Of this our song above, In endless adoration And everlasting love; Then shall we praise and bless thee Where perfect praises ring, And evermore confess thee, Our Savior and our King!</p> |
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THE APOSTLES' CREED:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

After each petition, the leader says, "Lord, in your mercy" and all respond, "Hear our prayer."

SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE:

Greetings celebrate God bringing us peace together with Himself through Christ.

MINUTE for MISSION:

& GIVING THANKS to God with His tithes (*first 10% income*) & our offerings (*beyond 10%*).

Our Mercy Ministry basket today supports Urban Ministries

Prayer requests can be written on prayer cards and turned in here and/or sent to office@ctkbham.org.

Offerings are appreciated: plates are at the back of the sanctuary or give at www.ctkbham.org, or mail a check to:

Christ the King Lutheran Church, 611 Riverchase Parkway West, Birmingham, AL 35244.

♪ **THE OFFERTORY VERSE:** Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

THE OFFERING OF PRAYER: P: Let us pray. Merciful Father,
C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**CELEBRATING & SHARING
 CHRIST'S PROMISED PRESENCE IN HOLY COMMUNION**

♪ **THE LORD'S PRAYER:** 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

♪ **COMMUNION HYMN:**
 Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT: *All who are baptized and believe that Christ is truly present as he promised are invited to Commune. Pastor will speak a blessing in Christ for children who have not received First Communion instruction and all others who ARE NOT baptized.*

♪ **At Distribution: Congregation sings both 1) #429 &
 2) #433 in LBW, green book**

THE BLESSING, PRAYER, AND BENEDICTION

♪ HYMN to the WORLD: "O Worship the King" vss. 4-6	<i>(LBW #548)</i>
4. Your bountiful care what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light, It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.	Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end, Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.
5. Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, In you do we trust, nor find you to fail;	6. O measureless Might, ineffable love, While angels delight to hymn you above, The humbler creation, though feeble their lays, With true adoration shall sing to your praise.

THE DISMISSAL: P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God!

♪ **POSTLUDE CHORUS: "In the Garden"**
 And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own;
 And the joy we share as we tarry there none other has ever known.

The altar flowers & eternal candle are sponsored by John & Judy Roberts in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

If you'd like to sponsor altar flowers or the eternal candle, please sign up outside the library door or contact the church office.

THE SCRIPTURE TO CONSIDER FOR NEXT SUNDAY'S (9/1) WORSHIP:**Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9; Psalm 15; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23****THE SCRIPTURE TO CONSIDER FOR THIS WEDNESDAY'S WORSHIP:****James 1:17-27**

¹⁷ Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow. ¹⁸ In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

¹⁹ This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. ²² But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. ²³ For if anyone is

a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. ²⁵ But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

²⁶ If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is worthless. ²⁷ Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

God's Path for Growth as a Disciple/Follower of Jesus:*Save the Lost – Luke 19:10**Pastor the Saved – Acts 2:41-47**Equip the Pastored – Ephesians 4:11-16**a. prayer b. evangelism c. discipleship d. team**Send the Equipped – Matthew 28:18-20***Disclemaker's Prayer**

from Deut. 6:1-9; Mark 3:13-14; 12:30-31; Matt. 28:18-20; John 17:20; Acts 1:8; 1 Cor. 4:16-17

Heavenly Father, Thank you for giving me a discipling way of life in Christ Jesus. **As I go through every part of this day, help me to love you and love the people who cross my path -- starting with my family.** Don't let me miss the adventures you are sending my way to live or the exciting opportunities to speak the Good News about Jesus today. Draw my heart to you and to specific people you want me to pull close for Jesus-like discipling friendships. By your Word and Spirit, transform me into a follower of Jesus who loves you, loves people, and makes disciples who make more disciples, ad infinitum. In Jesus' name, Amen.