

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

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 1, 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 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 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 Pr Chris in the Fellowship 2. Oasis with Martha Green & Maizie Nelson, in the Luther Room foyer.

Disciple 2 led by Anita Humphries in the Luther Room.

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: *Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law while the essence of God’s law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us, “the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life” (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.*

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 & SEPTEMBER MEMORY VERSE:

“For God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

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: "When Morning Gilds the Skies" (LBW #546)

1. When morning gilds the skies, My heart awaking cries: May Jesus Christ be praised!
When evening shadows fall, This rings my curfew call: May Jesus Christ be praised!

2. When mirth for music longs, This is my song of songs: May Jesus Christ be praised! God's holy house of prayer Has none that can compare With "Jesus Christ be praised!"

3. To him, my highest and best, I sing, when love-possessed: May Jesus Christ be praised!
Whate'er my hands begin, This blessing shall break in: May Jesus Christ be praised!

4. No lovelier antiphon In all high heav'n is known Than "Jesus Christ be praised!" There to the eternal Word The eternal psalm is heard: Oh, Jesus Christ be praised!

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)* O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved 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: "Be Still My Soul" Adult Choir

THE FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

The Introduction: *The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and to neither add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.*

The Reading:

"Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the judgments which I am teaching you to perform, so that you may live and go in and take possession of the land which the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. ²You shall not add to the word which I am commanding you, nor take away from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

⁶"So keep and do them, for that is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes and say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.' ⁷For what great nation

is there that has a god so near to it as is the Lord our God whenever we call on Him? ⁸Or what great nation is there that has statutes and judgments as righteous as this whole law which I am setting before you today?

⁹"Only give heed to yourself and keep your soul diligently, so that you do not forget the things which your eyes have seen and they do not depart from your heart all the days of your life; but make them known to your sons and your grandsons."

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

♪ THE PSALM: Psalm 15

(Congregation has verses in bold)

The Introduction: *LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?*

LORD, who may dwell in your ' tabernacle?*

Who may abide upon your ' holy hill?

² **Those who lead a blameless life and do ' what is right,***
who speak the truth ' from their heart;

³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil ' to their friends;*
 they do not cast discredit up- ' on a neighbor.

⁴ **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who ' fear the LORD.***

They have sworn upon their health and do not take ' back their word.

⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- ' gainst the innocent.*
 Those who do these things shall never be ' overthrown.

♪ 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: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Introduction: *Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from God's Word in scripture and a faithful heart.*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 7th chapter.

(sung)

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel:

The Pharisees and some of the scribes gathered around Him when they had come from Jerusalem, ² and had seen that some of His disciples were eating their bread with impure hands, that is, unwashed. ³ (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they carefully wash their hands, thus observing the traditions of the elders; ⁴ and when they come from the market place, they do not eat unless they cleanse themselves; and there are many other things which they have received in order to observe, such as the washing of cups and pitchers and copper pots.) ⁵ The Pharisees and the scribes asked Him, "Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat their bread with impure hands?" ⁶ And He said to them, "Rightly did Isaiah prophesy of

you hypocrites, as it is written: 'This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far away from Me. ⁷ 'But in vain do they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.' ⁸ Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men."

¹⁴ After He called the crowd to Him again, He began saying to them, "Listen to Me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ there is nothing outside the man which can defile him if it goes into him; but the things which proceed out of the man are what defile the man.

²¹ "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, ²² deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness. ²³ All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man."

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 - "God's commands testify to the greatness of God's heart"

♪ **HYMN of the DAY: “Beautiful Savior”**

(LBW #518)

1. Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2. Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

3. Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky.

4. Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man! Glory and honor, Praise, adoration, Now and forevermore be thine!

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 Special Equestrians

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 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.

♪ 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) #523 &

2) #524 in LBW, green book

THE BLESSING, PRAYER, AND BENEDICTION

♪ HYMN to the WORLD: "Lead On, O King Eternal"

(LBW #495)

1. Lead on, O King eternal! The day of march has come; Hence-forth in fields of conquest Your tents will be our home. Through days of preparation Your grace has made us strong; And now, O King eternal, We lift our battle song.

2. Lead on, O King eternal, Till sin's fierce war shall cease, And holiness shall whisper The sweet amen of peace; For not with swords

loud clashing, Nor roll of stirring drums, But deeds of love and mercy The heav'nly kingdom comes.

3. Lead on, O King eternal: We follow, not with fears, For gladness breaks like morning Where'er your face appears. Your cross is lifted o'er us; We journey in its light; The crown awaits the conquest; Lead on, O God of might!

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 available for sponsors.

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 (9/8) WORSHIP:

Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm 146; Mark 7:24-37

THE SCRIPTURE TO CONSIDER FOR THIS WEDNESDAY'S WORSHIP:

James 2:1-17

My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism. ²For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes, ³and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, "You sit here in a good place," and you say to the poor man, "You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives? ⁵Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you and personally drag you into court? ⁷Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have been called?

⁸If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor

as yourself," you are doing well. ⁹But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one point, he has become guilty of all. ¹¹For He who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not commit murder." Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him?

¹⁵If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and be filled," and yet you do not give them what is necessary for their body, what use is that? ¹⁷Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, being by itself.

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

Disciplemaker'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 disciplmaking 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 disciplmaking 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.