

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

18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SEPTEMBER 22, 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.ctkham.org](http://www.ctkham.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 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

**September 22, 2024 – 8:00 a.m.**

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

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

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**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!

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

**“Gospel of John”** led by Ralph Hyatt & Pastor Chris in the Library.

**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

4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade ~ Disciple Room

3K & K ~ John Room

Jr. High ~ Jr High Room

1st – 3rd grade ~ Matthew & Mark Room

Sr. High ~ Youth Room

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**TODAY'S BIBLE READINGS NOTES:** *In the Book of James, God warns against selfish ambition which appears today while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in our hearts and daily interactions, and to give them a place of honor in our gatherings.*

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## **WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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

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

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## **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

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## **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.

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**♪ THE HYMN OF JOY: "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" (LBW #549)**

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| <p>1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven; To his feet your tribute bring. Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Evermore his praises sing. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King!</p> <p>2. Praise him for his grace and favor To our forebears in distress. Praise him, still the same forever, Slow to chide and swift to bless. Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious in his faithfulness!</p> | <p>3. Tenderly he shields and spares us; Well our feeble frame he knows. In his hands he gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes. Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely as his mercy flows.</p> <p>4. Angels help us to adore him, Who behold him face to face. Sun and moon bow down before him; All who dwell in time and space. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.</p> |
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**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.**

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**THE PRAYER OF THE DAY:** *(Spoken by all)* **O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

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**CHILDREN'S TIME:** *The Holy Baptism of Charlie Reese Cain and reception of new members*  
*Do you believe in God the Father?*

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

*Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?*

**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.**

*Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?*

**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**

## AT THE CONCLUSION OF CHARLIE'S BAPTISM:

We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers with us in the kingdom of God.

## SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE:

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

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### ♪ SPECIAL MUSIC: "Come, Come Unto Me" Adult Choir by Ken Dosso

*Come, Come unto Me, all you who are weary, all who are weak, tired, and lonely. Come, come unto Me. Strong arms will enfold you, and lift you up. Oh, come unto Me.*

*Come, come unto me. Bring Me all your burdens, Show Me your wounds, and I'll soothe them.*

*Oh, come, come unto Me. Drink now of My goodness, and erst your soul. Oh, come unto Me*

*All are invited; there's none who aren't welcome to know of My comfort and peace. My arms are opened and My voice is calling to come, simply come and believe.*

*Oh, come unto Me. Live with Me forever. All those who seek Me will find Me! Oh come, come unto Me. Strong arms will enfold you and lift you up. Oh, come unto Me. I'll lift you up, oh, come unto Me.*

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## THE FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 11:18-20

**The Introduction:** *Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God in the midst of his suffering.*

### The Reading:

<sup>18</sup> Moreover, the LORD made it known to me and I knew it; Then You showed me their deeds. <sup>19</sup> But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter; And I did not know that they had devised plots against me, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, And let us cut

him off from the land of the living, That his name be remembered no more." <sup>20</sup> But, O LORD of hosts, who judges righteously, Who tries the feelings and the heart, Let me see Your vengeance on them, For to You have I committed my cause.

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

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### ♪ THE PSALM: Psalm 54

*(Congregation has verses in bold)*

**The Introduction:** *God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.*

Save me, O God, ' by your name;\*

in your might, de- ' fend my cause.

<sup>2</sup> **Hear my ' prayer, O God;\***

**give ear to the words ' of my mouth.**

<sup>3</sup> For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have ' sought my life,\*

those who have no re- ' gard for God.

<sup>4</sup> **Behold, God ' is my helper;\***

**it is the Lord who sus- ' tains my life.**

<sup>5</sup> Render evil to those who ' spy on me;\*

in your faithful- ' ness, destroy them.

**<sup>6</sup> I will offer you a ' freewill sacrifice\*  
and praise your name, O LORD, for ' it is good.**

<sup>7</sup> For you have rescued me from ' every trouble,\*  
and my eye looks down ' on my enemies.

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**♪ 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)**

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**THE HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37**

**The Introduction:** *Jesus's teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.

*(sung)* **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**The Gospel:**

<sup>30</sup> From there they went out and began to go through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know about it. <sup>31</sup> For He was teaching His disciples and telling them, "The Son of Man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and when He has been killed, He will rise three days later."

<sup>32</sup> But they did not understand this statement, and they were afraid to ask Him.

<sup>33</sup> They came to Capernaum; and when He was in the house, He began to question them, "What were you discussing on the

way?" <sup>34</sup> But they kept silent, for on the way they had discussed with one another which of them was the greatest. <sup>35</sup> Sitting down, He called the twelve and said to them, "If anyone wants to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all." <sup>36</sup> Taking a child, He set him before them, and taking him in His arms, He said to them, <sup>37</sup> "Whoever receives one child like this in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me does not receive Me, but Him who sent Me."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

*(sung)*

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

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**THE PRAYER AND SERMON:**

*Pentecost Theme: "Holy Spirit Will Guide Us"*

*Today - "Your true sentiments toward Christ are revealed in your treatment of children"*

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♪ **HYMN of the DAY: "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"** (LBW #423)

1. Lord, whose love in humble service Bore the weight of human need, Who upon the cross, forsaken, Worked your mercy's perfect deed; We, your servants, bring the worship Not of voice alone, but heart, Consecrating to your purpose Every gift which you impart.
2. Still your children wander homeless; Still the hungry cry for bread. Still the captives long for freedom, Still in grief we mourn our dead. As you, Lord, in deep compassion, Healed the sick and freed the soul, By your Spirit send your power To our world and make it whole.
3. As we worship, grant us vision, Till your love's revealing light In its height and depth and greatness Dawns upon our quickened sight, Making known the needs and burdens Your compassion bids us bear, Stirring us to ardent service, Your abundant life to share.

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:**

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

**MINUTE for MISSION:**

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

*Our Mercy Ministry basket today supports Voice of the Martyrs*

*Prayer requests can be written on prayer cards and turned in here and/or sent to [office@ctkbham.org](mailto:office@ctkbham.org).*

*Offerings are appreciated: plates are at the back of the sanctuary or give at [www.ctkbham.org](http://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.

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**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) #385 &  
2) #390 in LBW, green book**

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**THE BLESSING, PRAYER, AND BENEDICTION**

♪ **HYMN to the WORLD: "Give To Our God Immortal Praise"** (LBW #520)

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| <p>1. Give to our God immortal praise! Mercy and truth are all his ways; Wonders of grace to God belong; Repeat his mercies in your song.</p> <p>2. He sent his Son with pow'r to save From guilt and darkness and the grave. Wonders of grace to God belong; Repeat his mercies in your song.</p> | <p>3. Give to the Lord of lords renown; The King of kings with glory crown. His mercies ever shall endure When lords and kings are known no more!</p> |
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**THE DISMISSAL:** P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

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♪ **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.

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*The altar flowers & eternal candle are sponsored by Martha Wurtele Jones in memory of her father, George Wurtele on his 99<sup>th</sup> birthday.*

*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 (9/29) WORSHIP:**

**Daniel 10:10-14; 12:1-3; Psalm 103:1-5, 20-22; Luke 10:17-20**

**THE SCRIPTURE TO CONSIDER FOR THIS WEDNESDAY'S WORSHIP:**

**Revelation 12:7-12**

<sup>7</sup> And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels waged war, <sup>8</sup> and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven. <sup>9</sup> And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. <sup>10</sup> Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of

our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, he who accuses them before our God day and night. <sup>11</sup> And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death. <sup>12</sup> For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time."

**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 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.