

WHAT IS A Christian

[kris-chuhn]

Built On Christ

Producing Fruits of Faith

Trusts God to Provide

Seeks Spiritual Wealth

Lives as Salt and Light

Loves God Above All

September 10, 2023 | September 13, 2023

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Tim Denney | Office Phone (218) 722-4364 | Cell (517) 392-8494

WELCOME

We are glad that you have chosen to spend time with us in worship. In our worship, we gather, before Jesus, our Good Shepherd, to offer him our love and praise. Our Lord builds us up in faith through his Word and equips us for living now and in eternity. Our prayer is that the good news of Christ's love touches your heart and transforms your life. Whether you're worshipping with us here this morning or watching online, we are happy you have joined us today.

WORSHIP SERVICE

The goal of our worship is to praise God and enrich your faith through his Word. To make your experience this morning easier, the worship folder you're holding has the entire order of service. The pieces marked [P] are spoken by the pastor, and the parts marked [C] are to be spoken or sung by the congregation.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Our congregation enjoys the "worshiping family." Each service includes a children's message which teaches God's truth to your kids. Parents with small children are an essential part of God's kingdom. That's why children are never considered an inconvenience to our worship. We also want your family to be comfortable. There is a cry room outside the main doors to the right if you need a moment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Midweek Bible Study & Worship: On Wednesday evening, September 13th, Midweek Bible study resume for the fall. Midweek Bible studies will take place at 6:30 PM. Our Bible study for the fall will be the Life of Joseph. As we look at Joseph's life from the Old Testament we see how God can use hardships and difficulties for our eternal good. Also, on September 13th, our Midweek Worship time will change from 7:00 to 7:30 PM.

Men's Fellowship: This Thursday, September 14th at 6 PM will be the Men's fellowship night. All men from the congregation are welcome. We will be grilling and having a short bible study each time. There will be yard games and a campfire, weather permitting. For more details speak with Jesse or Bill Dunsmoor, or read the full description in the weekly News and Notes from the weekly emails.

Altar Flowers for Service: To give glory to God and beautify our sanctuary, we will add fresh flowers to the altar area. Members are encouraged to sign-up for a Sunday to donate. Our flower volunteer, Renee Graen, will purchase and place the flowers on the altar. You can sign-up on the flower chart by the office. Please indicate if the flowers are in memory of someone or a special occasion. Please donate and contact Renee Graen at 763-607-4498 or sign up on the flower chart on the bulletin board adjacent to member mailboxes.

Campus Ministry Meals: Campus Ministry has started again and one area where we are requesting the congregation's help is with meals for the students when we meet on Tuesday evenings. We ask members to buy or prepare a meal for about a dozen people. If you are interested in helping, please sign-up online at www.duluthlutheran.org/campus-ministry. If you have any questions, please speak with Peter Moeri or Pastor Denney.

Sunday School and Youth Group: Classes resume this morning at 10:15 AM.

Youth Confirmation Class: Youth Confirmation Classes will resume on Sunday, September 17th at 11:20 AM. This class is for students in 6th to 8th grade and we will meet in the fellowship hall. In Youth Confirmation, students learn the main teachings of the Bible and Luther's Catechism to prepare them for making their public confession of faith and receiving the Lord's Supper. If you have any questions or would like more information, please speak with Pastor Denney.

P: Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;

C: Let us shout to the Rock of our salvation.

P: Let us come before Him with thanksgiving,

C: And praise him with music and song;

P: Come let us bow down in worship; Let us kneel before the Lord our maker;

C: For He is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

OPENING HYMN

“Father, We Praise You”

CW 581

1 Fa - ther, we praise you, now the night is o - ver. Ac - tive and
 2 Mon - arch of all things, fit us for your man - sions; Ban - ish our
 3 All - ho - ly Fa - ther, Son, and e - qual Spir - it, Trin - i - ty

watch - ful, stand - ing now be - fore you, Sing - ing, we of - fer
 weak - ness, health and whole - ness send - ing. Bring us to heav - en,
 bless - ed, send us your sal - va - tion; Yours is the glo - ry,

prayer and med - i - ta - tion; Thus we a - dore you.
 where your saints u - nit - ed Joy with - out end - ing.
 gleam - ing and re - sound - ing Through all cre - a - tion.

CONFESSION OF SIN & GOD'S PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

- P: Dear friends, let us approach God with a repentant heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- C: **Almighty God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with all of our heart, and we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us sorrow for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy; may the power of your forgiveness give peace to our hearts, strength to our will, and rest to our souls.**
- P: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Our Lord promises to us, "if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:57)**
- P: Therefore, go bear fruit in every good work. Live because Jesus has lived for you. For God will give you what is necessary to accomplish what he desires. For we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us in his presence.
- C: **If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come. (2 Corinthians 5:17)**
- P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

RESPONSE OF FORGIVENESS

"Oh Taste and See"

P. 39 in the front of the Hymnal

After a brief introduction please sing...

**Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless-ed are they who take ref-uge in him.
Your Word, O Lord, is e-ter-nal;
It stands firm in the heav-ens.
Your faith-ful-ness con-tin-ues for-ev-er.
Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless-ed are they who take ref-uge in him.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P: O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 11:18-21, 26-28

¹⁸ Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ¹⁹ Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ²⁰ Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, ²¹ so that your days and the days of your children may be many in the land that the LORD swore to give your forefathers, as many as the days that the heavens are above the earth.

²⁶ See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse— ²⁷ the blessing if you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today; ²⁸ the curse if you disobey the commands of the LORD your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods, which you have not known.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 121

Pg. 112 in front of the Hymnal

Refrain

Keep me, keep me as the ap - ple of your eye.

Hide me, hide me in the shad-ow of your wings.

Psalm tone

I lift up my eyes to the hills.*
Where does my help come from?

My help comes from the LORD,*
the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip,*
he who watches over you will not slumber;

indeed, he who watches over Israel*
will neither slumber nor sleep.

Refrain

The LORD watches over you,*
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

The LORD will keep you from all harm,*
he will watch over your life;

the LORD will watch over your coming and going*
both now and forevermore.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

VERSE OF THE DAY

- P:** Alleluia. "When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O Lord God Almighty." Alleluia. (Jeremiah 15:16)
- C:** **These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing we may have life in his name.**

SECOND READING

Romans 3:21-28

²¹ But now a righteousness from God, apart from law, has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. On what principle? On that of observing the law? No, but on that of faith. ²⁸ For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from observing the law.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

CONFESSION OF CHRISTIAN FAITH

(THE APOSTLES' CREED)

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right
hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection
of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
 2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for his
 4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how



steeples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
 High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth his
 own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
 God did re - ceive us. Th' al - tar re - calls Christ's



ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
 tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
 grace us owns Heirs of his won - drous sal - va -
 sac - ri - fice And what the sac - ra - ment gives



ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
 ling. Yet he who dwells in heav'n a - bove
 tion. Were we but two his name to tell,
 us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim



But a - bove all the soul dis - tressed,
 Choos - es to live with us in love,
 Yet he would deign with us to dwell
 Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,



Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
 Mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
 With all his grace and his fa - vor.
 And ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.

† THE MESSAGE †

WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN?

"Built on Christ"

Matthew 7:24-29

²⁴ "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

²⁸ When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, ²⁹ because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

WORSHIPING THE LORD WITH OUR OFFERINGS

Members of Shepherd of the Hills respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully and freely according to how the Lord has blessed them. If you are a guest today, please know that there are no expectations for you to make a donation. If you wish to support us by making an online offering, visit our website: www.duluthlutheran.org and click on the "Give" tab.

SUNDAY SCHOOL INSTALLATION

Kely Dunsmoor (Pre-K and Kindergarten)
Kiersten Nash (Pre-K and Kindergarten)
Hannah Black (1st and 2nd Grade)
Dave and Diane Schlossin (1st and 2nd Grade)
Kim Kirkland (3rd and 4th Grade)

Brandon Benzer (3rd and 4th Grade)
Joeleen Hacker (5th and 6th Grade)
Lisa Dunsmoor (5th and 6th Grade)
Jesse Dunsmoor (Youth Group)
Alison Moeri (Youth Group)

✠ PRAYERS ✠

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

- P:** God of all knowledge and wisdom we pray that the Church may be renewed and strengthened for her mission. You have revealed your good and gracious will to your people on earth. Forgive us for pursuing that knowledge that serves only our selfish desires and cleanse our hearts of the apathy we feel for searching out the deeper truths of your Word.
- C:** **Holy Spirit, hear our prayer that we may put self aside and rejoice in the truth that builds up.**
- P:** Heavenly Father, send the Spirit of Jesus into our hearts so that like the Bereans of old we eagerly learn of you. As the deer pants for streams of water, may we be instilled with a longing to explore the mysteries of your grace.
- C:** **Holy Spirit, increase in us the knowledge of your truth.**
- P:** As you sent your Son among us as the Word made flesh, so bless the efforts of schools and colleges to train those who proclaim your presence among us in Word and sacrament.
- C:** **Holy Spirit, instill in us a desire to teach others the wisdom of your ways.**
- P:** God of light, give to the Church renewed wisdom and fresh understanding that the message of your salvation may shine ever brighter in this age.
- C:** **Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love so that others may see our good deeds and praise our Father in heaven.**
- P:** Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.
- Silent prayer.*
- P:** Holy Spirit, renew the face of the earth so that at the name of Jesus every knee may bow.
- C:** **May your peace, which transcends all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

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.

HYMN

"Oh, Blest the House, Whate'er Befall"

CW 506

1 Oh, blest the house, what - e'er be - fall, Where Je - sus
2 Oh, blest that house where faith you find And all with-
3 Oh, blest the par - ents who give heed Un - to their
4 Blest such a house; it pros - pers well. In peace and

Christ is all in all! A home that is not whol -
in have set their mind To trust their God and serve
chil - dren's fore - most need And wea - ry not of care
joy the par - ents dwell, And in their chil - dren's lives

ly his — How sad and poor and dark it is!
him still And do in all his ho - ly will.
or cost. May none to them and heav'n be lost!
is shown How rich - ly God can bless his own.

- 5 Then here will I and mine today
A solemn promise make and say:
Though all the world forsake his Word,
I and my house will serve the Lord!

CLOSING PRAYER

P: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Speak O Lord”
New Hymnal
Printed on the next page.



1 Speak, O Lord, as we come to you To re -
2 Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, Ho - ly
3 Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; Help us



ceive the food of your Ho - ly Word.
rev - er - ence, true hu - mil - i - ty.
grasp the heights of your plans for us.



Take your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and
Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes In the
Truths un - changed from the dawn of time, That will



fash - ion us in your like - ness That the
ra - di - ance of your pur - i - ty. Cause our
e - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by



light of Christ might be seen to - day In our acts of
faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your ma - jes - tic
grace we'll stand on your pro - mis - es, And by faith we'll



love and our deeds of faith. Speak, O Lord, and ful -
love and au - thor - i - ty. Words of pow'r that can
walk as you walk with us. Speak, O Lord, as your



fill in us All your pur - pos - es for your
nev - er fail, Let their truth pre - vail o - ver
Church is built And you fill the earth with your



glo - ry.
un - be - lief.
glo - ry.

