

Christ Lutheran Church

23425 Davis Mill Road
Germantown, Maryland 20876

A Congregation of the American Association of Lutheran Churches



Our Mission Statement

We strive to be worthy witnesses to the world.

At Christ Lutheran, we strive to lead lives worthy of our calling as witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ in God's world.
(Ephesians 4:1)

Web Site: clcmd.org or christlutheranofgermantown.org

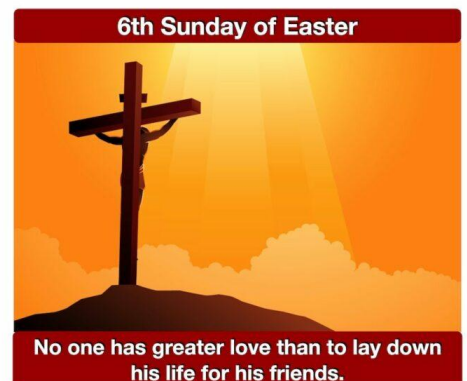
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Pastor Emeritus: Irvin Stapf
Pastor: Vacant
Vicar: Chris Clarke
Liturgist: Bob Petersen



Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2025

During the music before the service let us join in a time of prayer and meditation as we prepare our hearts for worship.

*Please stand as you are able where marked****

Greetings and Announcements

Prelude

*****The Confession and Absolution**

Vicar: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Vicar: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(A time of silent reflection and self-examination.)

Vicar: Most merciful God.

People: 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 ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen

Vicar: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ, He gives the power to become children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen. Thanks be to God

*****Opening Hymn:**

The Church's One Foundation

Hymn #149

The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is his new creation By water and the word:
From heaven he came and sought her To be his holy bride,
With his own Blood he bought her, And for her life he died.

Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy Name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

'Mid toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation Of peace for evermore;
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
Like them, the meek and lowly, On high may dwell with thee.

*****Psalm: Psalm 67 (read responsively)**

Liturgist: ¹ May God be gracious to us and bless us

People: and make his face shine upon us,

Liturgist: ² that your ways may be known on earth,

People: your salvation among all nations.

Liturgist: ³ May the peoples praise you, O God;

People: may all the peoples praise you.

Liturgist: ⁴ May the nations be glad and sing for joy,

People: for you rule the peoples justly and guide the nations of the earth.

Liturgist: ⁵ May the peoples praise you, O God;

People: may all the peoples praise you.

Liturgist: ⁶ Then the land will yield its harvest,

People: and God, our God, will bless us.

Liturgist: ⁷ God will bless us,

People: and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

*****The Gloria Patri: (sung)** Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

*****The Kyrie: (responses are sung)**

Liturgist: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Liturgist: Christ, have mercy upon us.

People: Christ, have mercy upon us.

Liturgist: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: Lord, have mercy upon us.

Liturgist: Glory be to God on high!

*****Gloria in Excelsis: (sung)** And on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*****Collect:**

Liturgist: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Liturgist: Let us pray.

People: O Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life: Grant us perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life; that following his steps we may steadfastly walk in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

The Scripture Lessons:

First Reading: Acts 16:9-15

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰ After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

¹¹ From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day we went on to Neapolis. ¹² From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days.

¹³ On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul’s message. ¹⁵ When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. “If you consider me a believer in the Lord,” she said, “come and stay at my house.” And she persuaded us.

Liturgist: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Lesson: Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27

⁹ One of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues came and said to me, “Come, I will show you the bride, the wife of the Lamb.” ¹⁰ And he carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. ¹¹ It shone with the glory of God, and its brilliance was like that of a very precious jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. ¹² It had a great, high wall with twelve gates, and with twelve angels at the gates. On the gates were written the names of the twelve tribes of Israel. ¹³ There were three gates on the east, three on the north, three on the south and three on the west. ¹⁴ The wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

²¹ The twelve gates were twelve pearls, each gate made of a single pearl. The great street of the city was of gold, as pure as transparent glass.

²² I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. ²⁵ On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. ²⁶ The glory and honor of the nations will be brought into it. ²⁷ Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

Liturgist: This is the word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

The Alleluia: (sung) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Vicar: Lift up your hearts and hear the Holy Gospel as it is recorded in the fifth chapter of Saint John, beginning with the first verse.

*****People (sung)** Glory be to thee, O Lord

Gospel Lesson: John 5:1-9

¹ Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. ² Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. ³ Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. ⁵ One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?”



⁷“Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.”

⁸Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” ⁹At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

The day on which this took place was a Sabbath.

Vicar: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

*****People: (sung)** Praise be to thee, O Christ

Children’s Sermon:

Vicar Chris Clarke



Pulpit Hymn:

Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
Thou my best thought... by day and by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true world;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul’s shelter, thou my high tower,
Rise thou me heav’n-ward, O Pow’r of my pow’r.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou, and thou only, first in my heart,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Light of my soul, after victory won,
May I reach heaven’s joys, O heaven’s Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.



The Sermon Response: (sung) Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right Spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and uphold me with thy free spirit.

******Passing of the Peace***

******The Apostles' Creed:***

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And 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, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick 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.

******The General Prayer: (after each petition)***

Vicar: Lord in your mercy.

People: Hear our prayer.

******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, For ever and ever. Amen.

******The Prayer Response: (sung)***

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer, O Lord. Incline thine ear to us and grant us thy peace. Amen.

******The Benediction:***

Vicar: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: (sung) A-men, A-men, A----men.

*****Closing Hymn:**

Bless The Lord, O My Soul

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
It's time to sing your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
Let me be singing when the morning comes. (*Chorus*)

*Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul Worship his holy name,
Sing like never before, O my soul I'll worship your holy name.*

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger,
Your name is great and your heart is kind.
For all your goodness I will keep on singing,
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. (*Chorus*)

And on that day, when my strength is failing,
The end draws near and the time has come.
Still my soul will sing your praise unending,
Ten thousand years and then forevermore. (*Chorus*)

Prayers and Praises:

For our church leaders:

Presiding Pastor: Rev. Dr. Carey G. Larson
Assistant Presiding Pastor: Rev. Roger Twito
AALC Administrator: Rev. Dean Stoner
Secretary Pastor: Rev. Joe Marsh
Home Mission Developer: Rev. Joe Christina
National Office Manager: Bonnie Ohlrich
Seminary President: Rev. Dr. Jordan Cooper
Seminary Administrator: Duane Kleven

Robin Nicholson	Hope Johnston	Dorothy Foster	Paul Beall
Rebecca Robinson	Bill Trall	Harvey Jester	Justin Serene
Fred Carlson	Bob Petersen	Norita Shipley	Audrey & Irv Stapf
Debbie Stapf	Danny Beall	Nick Wrenn	Caroline Reiwertz
Ben Flynn	Terri & Mike Taylor	Bob & Mike Wolfgang	

For those that have suffered loss, due to hurricanes, fires, and other natural disasters

For the President and the leaders of our nation

For those in the armed Services: Grace Gorevin, Zach Gorevin, Christopher Clarke,
Bethany Hueter, Cameron Donk, Ethan Stone, Wendy Ahern, Kris Johnson

For our Seminary Students: Chris Clarke, Kris Johnson

For a Region congregation: Pastor Jamie Strickler, St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Charleston, WV

For our missionary work: Pastor Scott Yount

For those being persecuted for their faith in Christ

For the congregations of our Germantown/Clarksburg/Damascus community: Saint Paul's Catholic Church

For the congregations of the American Association of Lutheran Churches

For our college students: Maddie Day, Joseph Flesch, Jude Stapf, Paul Stapf

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Men's Bible Study: Tuesday: 1:30 PM at Joe's home.**
- **Women's Bible Study: Wednesday: 10 AM at Mt. Airy Fire Hall**
- **Adult Sunday School: 9:30 AM**
- **Children's Sunday School: 9:30 AM**
- **You may continue to watch the Sunday services (10:30 AM) via Livestream on Facebook – Christ Lutheran Church AALC. The Bulletins for the services are on our website: clcmd.org or christlutheranofgermantown.org. The video of every livestream is on our Facebook page. You can access the livestream by clicking the link at the bottom of the first page of our website or by visiting the Facebook page directly. Be sure to click on the 'videos' tab.**
- **We have begun [CareNet's Baby Bottle Campaign](#)! Bottles are available at Church. We encourage all the children to do chores for change! Bottles are due on Father's Day, June 15th
(**CareNet will accept cash or check**)**
- **The next Church Council meeting will be Sunday, June 22nd, and will cover May and June. Reports are due to Carrie by Tuesday, June 17th.**
- **The last day of Sunday School for adults and children will be Sunday, June 1st. We will resume in September; date to be determined.**