

**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](http://clcmd.org) or [christlutheranofgermantown.org](http://christlutheranofgermantown.org)

**Facebook:** Christ Lutheran Church AALC

**Email:** [clcedargrove@outlook.com](mailto:clcedargrove@outlook.com)

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**Pastor Emeritus:** Irvin Stapf  
**Pastor:** Vacant  
**Vicar:** Chris Clarke  
**Liturgist:**



# *The Holy Trinity*

*May 31, 2026*

*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*

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

**People:** Amen.

**Pastor:** 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.)*

**Pastor:** 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

**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 therefore declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen. Thanks be to God.

### *\*\*\*Opening Hymn:*

### *Holy, Holy, Holy*

*Hymnal #131*

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!*

*Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
Which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.*

*Holy, holy, holy! through the darkness hide thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,  
Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,  
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.*

*Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy Name, in earth and sky and sea;  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!*

**\*\*\*Psalm: Psalm 8 (read responsively)**

**Liturgist:** O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**People:** You have set your glory above the heavens.

**Liturgist:** From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise

**People:** because of your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.

**Liturgist:** When I consider your heavens,

**People:** the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

**Liturgist:** what is man that you are mindful of him,

**People:** the son of man that you care for him?

**Liturgist:** You made him a little lower than the heavenly beings

**People:** and crowned him with glory and honor.

**Liturgist:** You made him ruler over the works of your hands;

**People:** you put everything under his feet:

**Liturgist:** all flocks and herds,

**People:** and the beasts of the field,

**Liturgist:** the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,

**People:** all that swim the paths of the seas.

**Liturgist:** O Lord, our Lord,

**People:** how majestic is your name in all the earth!

**\*\*\*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:** Almighty and everlasting God, who hast given unto us thy servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of the Divine Majesty to worship the Unity: We beseech thee, that thou wouldest keep us steadfast in this faith, and evermore defend us from all adversities; who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

**The Scripture Lessons:**

**First Reading: Genesis 1:1-2:4a**

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup> The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

<sup>3</sup> And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup> And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup> God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>6</sup> And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." <sup>7</sup> And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. <sup>8</sup> And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

<sup>9</sup> And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. <sup>10</sup> God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>11</sup> And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

<sup>14</sup> And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night. And let them be for signs and for seasons, and for days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light upon the earth." And it was so. <sup>16</sup> And God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup> And God set them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup> to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup> And God said, "Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens." <sup>21</sup> So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." <sup>23</sup> And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup> And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so. <sup>25</sup> And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

<sup>27</sup> So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup> And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” <sup>29</sup> And God said, “Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup> And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. <sup>31</sup> And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

<sup>2</sup> Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. <sup>2</sup> And on the seventh day God finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. <sup>3</sup> So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation.

<sup>4</sup> These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

**Liturgist:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

### **Epistle Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 22-36**

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them:

<sup>22</sup> “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— <sup>23</sup> this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. <sup>24</sup> God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. <sup>25</sup> For David says concerning him,

“I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; <sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. <sup>27</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. <sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.”

<sup>29</sup> “Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, <sup>31</sup> he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. <sup>32</sup> This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. <sup>33</sup> Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. <sup>34</sup> For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

“The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, <sup>35</sup> until I make your enemies your footstool.””

<sup>36</sup> Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

**Liturgist:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

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

**Liturgist:** Lift up your hearts and hear the Holy Gospel as it is recorded in the twenty-eighth chapter of Saint Matthew beginning with the sixteenth verse.

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

**Gospel Lesson: Matthew 28:16-20**

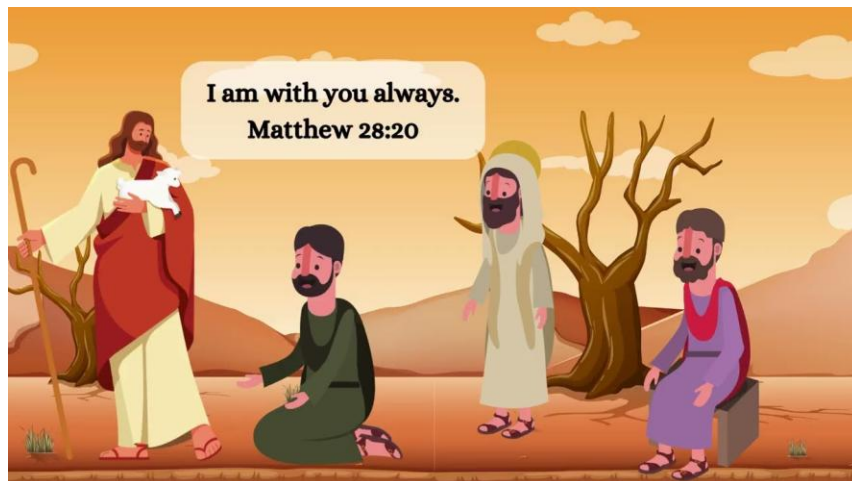
<sup>16</sup>Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

**Liturgist:** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

**Children’s Sermon:**

**Vicar Chris Clarke**



**Pulpit Hymn:**

***Hark! The Voice of Jesus Crying***

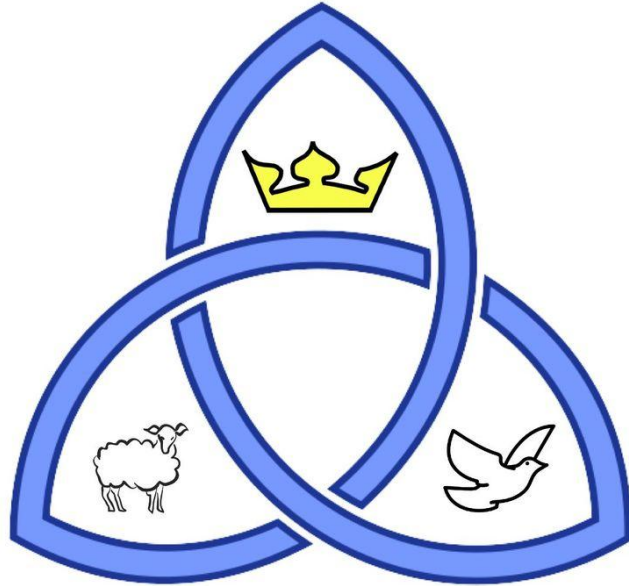
***Hymnal #59***

*Hark! the voice of Jesus crying, “Who will go and work today?  
Fields are white and harvests waiting, Who will bear the sheaves away?”*

*Loud and long the Master calleth, Rich reward he offers free;  
Who will answer, gladly saying, “Here am I; send me, send me?”*

*If you cannot speak like angels, If you cannot preach like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus, You can say he died for all.  
If you cannot rouse the wicked with the judgment’s dread alarms,  
You can lead the little children To the Saviour’s waiting arms.*

*Let none hear you idly saying, ‘There is nothing I can do,’  
While the souls of men are dying, And the Master calls for you:  
Take the task he gives you gladly, Let his work your pleasure be;  
Answer quickly when he calleth, ‘Here am I; send me, send me.’*



***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 Athanasian Creed: The Church's Confession of the Holy Trinity***

**Liturgist:** Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the Christian faith.

**People:** **Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally.**

**Liturgist:** And the Christian faith is this,

**People:** **That we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.**

**Liturgist:** For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another.

**People:** **But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.**

**Liturgist:** Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit:

**People:** **The Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;**

**Liturgist:** The Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;

**People:** **The Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.**

**Liturgist:** And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,

**People:** **Just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinites, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.**

**Liturgist:** In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;

**People:** **And yet there are not three Almightyies, but one Almighty.**

**Liturgist:** So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;

**People:** **And yet there are not three Gods, but one God.**

**Liturgist:** So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;

**People:** **And yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.**

**Liturgist:** Just as we are compelled by the Christian truth to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord,

**People:** So also are we prohibited by the catholic religion to say that there are three Gods or Lords.

**Liturgist:** The Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone.

**Men:** The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone.

**Women:** The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.

**Liturgist:** Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.

**Men:** And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another;

**Women:** But the whole three persons are coeternal with each other and coequal, so that in all things, as has been stated above, the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity is to be worshiped.

**People:** Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.

**Liturgist:** But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**People:** Therefore, it is the right faith that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is at the same time both God and man.

**Men:** He is God, begotten from the substance of the Father before all ages;

**Women:** And He is man, born from the substance of His mother in this age;

**People:** Perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;

**Liturgist:** equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.

**Men:** Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ;

**Women:** One, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;

**People:** one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.

**Liturgist:** For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,

**People:** Who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,

**Liturgist:** Ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, God Almighty, from whence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**People:** At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.

**Liturgist:** And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.

**People:** This is the Christian faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.

**Liturgist:** And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.

**People:** This is the Christian faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.

**\*\*\*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:**

***Come, Thou Almighty King***

***Hymnal #136***

*Come, thou almighty King, Help us thy Name to sing, Help us to praise!*

*Father all glorious, O'er all victorious,  
Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.*

*Come, thou Incarnate Word, Gird on thy mighty sword; Our prayer attend;*

*Come and thy people bless, And give thy word success;  
And let thy righteousness To us descend.*

*Come, Holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear In this glad hour:*

*Thou who almighty art, Now rule in every heart,  
And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.*

*To thee, great One in Three, Eternal praises be, Hence evermore!*

*Thy sovereign majesty May we in glory see,  
And to eternity Love and adore.*

**\*\*\*The Postlude**

### ***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	Brian Gray
Rebecca Robinson	Bill Trall	Harvey Jester	Justin Serene
Fred Carlson	Norita Shipley	Debbie Stapf	Carrie Perini
Ben Flynn	Meryl Benenati	Rodney Perini	Mary Neighly
Rev. Joe Christina	Carolyn Shriver	Sarah Shriver	Jimmy Beall

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, Ethan Stone, Wendy Ahern, Kris Johnson

For our Seminary Students: Chris Clarke, Kris Johnson

For a Region congregation: Pastor Raymond Lorthioir, Jr., Trinity Lutheran Church, West Hampstead, NY

For our missionary work: Care Net Frederick

For those being persecuted for their faith in Christ

For the congregations of our Germantown/Clarksburg/Damascus community: Potomac Valley Assembly of God

For the congregations of the American Association of Lutheran Churches

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Men's Bible Study: Monday – 11AM at Joe's home.**
- **Women's Bible Study: Wednesday – 10 AM at Church.**
- **Adult Sunday School and Children's Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>.**
- **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](http://clcmd.org) or [christlutheranofgermantown.org](http://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 will be collecting hand soap, laundry detergent & toilet paper for Damascus HELP during the month of June. There is a collection bin in the Narthex.**
- **We are collecting change for Care Net of Frederick. Please take a baby bottle and return it with cash/check by Father's Day, Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. We encourage the kids to do "chores for change" so they may participate as well.**