

Christ the Servant - Lakeview



Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 27, 2026



Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,

but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.

Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN - GOODNESS OF GOD

I love You Lord

Oh Your mercy never fails me

All my days I've been held in Your hands

From the moment that I wake up

Until I lay my head

I will sing of the goodness of God

All my life You have been faithful

All my life You have been so, so good

With every breath that I am able

I will sing of the goodness of God
I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night
You are close like no other
I've known You as a father
I've known You as a friend
And I have lived in the goodness of God

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me

With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so, so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God
I will sing of the goodness of God

(CCLI Song # 7117726 Ben Fielding | Brian Johnson | Ed Cash | Jason Ingram | Jenn Johnson
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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING - Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹ The word of the LORD came to me: ² What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? ³ As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

²⁵ Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶ When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed, they shall die. ²⁷ Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸ Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰ Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25:1-9

¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³ Let none who look to you be put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴ **Show me your ways, O LORD,
and teach me your paths.**

⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake
of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸ **You are gracious and upright, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

⁹ You lead the lowly in justice
and teach the lowly your way.

SECOND READING - Philippians 2:1-13

¹ If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, ² make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. ⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human, ⁸ he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, ¹⁰ so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹² Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL - MATTHEW 21:23-32

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

²³ When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸ "What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹ He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON -

HYMN OF THE DAY - HOLY FOREVER

A thousand generations. Falling down in worship
To sing the song of ages to the Lamb
And all who've gone before us. And all who will believe
Will sing the song of ages. To the Lamb

Your name is the highest. Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions. All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all

And the angels cry Holy. All creation cries Holy
You are lifted high Holy. Holy forever

If you've been forgiven. And if you've been redeemed
Sing the song forever to the Lamb
If you walk in freedom. And if you bear His name

Sing the song forever to the Lamb
We'll sing the song forever and amen

And the angels cry Holy. All creation cries Holy
You are lifted high Holy. Holy forever

Hear Your people sing Holy. To the King of Kings Holy
You will always be Holy. Holy forever

Your name is the highest. Your name is the greatest
Your name stands above them all
All thrones and dominions. All powers and positions
Your name stands above them all

And the angels cry Holy. All creation cries Holy
You are lifted high Holy. Holy forever

Hear Your people sing Holy. To the King of Kings Holy
You will always be Holy. Holy forever

You will always be Holy. Holy forever

Apostle's Creed

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - RESPONSE: Your mercy is great.

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERING HYMN - I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story: how pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
the message of salvation from God's own holy word.

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long.

I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911

OFFERING PRAYER

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMN - I SPEAK JESUS

I just wanna speak the name of Jesus
Over every heart and every mind
Cause I know there is peace within your presence
I speak Jesus

I just wanna speak the name of Jesus
'Til every dark addiction starts to break
Declaring there is hope and there is freedom
I speak Jesus

Your name is power, your name is healing
Your name is life
Break every stronghold, Shine through the shadows
Burn like a fire (*sing twice*)

I just wanna speak the name of Jesus
Over fear and all anxiety
To every soul held captive by depression
I speak Jesus (*sing twice*)

Your name is power, your name is healing
Your name is life
Break every stronghold, Shine through the shadows
Burn like a fire

Shout Jesus from the mountains
Jesus in the streets
Jesus in the darkness, over every enemy
Jesus for my family, I speak the holy name – Jesus

Your name is power, your name is healing
Your name is life
Break every stronghold, Shine through the shadows
Burn like a fire

I just wanna speak the name of Jesus
Over every heart and every mind
Cause I know there is peace within Your presence
I speak Jesus

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

COMMUNITY LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN - THE LORD'S PRAYER

Father let Your kingdom come. Father let Your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven. Right here in my heart

Father let Your kingdom come. Father let Your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven. Right here in my heart

Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us, forgive us
As we forgive the ones. Who sinned against us, forgive them
And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from the evil one
Let Your kingdom come

Father let Your kingdom come. Father let Your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven. Right here in my heart

Father let Your kingdom come. Father let Your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven. Right here in my heart

Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us, forgive us
As we forgive the ones. Who sinned against us, forgive them
And lead us not into temptation. But deliver us from the evil one
Let Your kingdom come

It's Yours, it's Yours. All Yours, all Yours
The Kingdom, the power. The Glory are Yours

It's Yours, it's Yours. All Yours, all Yours
Forever and ever. The Kingdom is Yours

Father let Your kingdom come. Father let Your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven. Right here in my heart

Father let Your kingdom come. Father let Your will be done
On Earth as in Heaven. Right here in my heart

On Earth as in Heaven. Right here in my heart

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST THE SERVANT

Today: Sunday, September 27 - Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 AM - Bible Study
9:30 AM - Worship
10:30 AM - Fellowship
10:30 AM - Lakeview Congregational Meeting

Monday, September 28

9:00 AM - Package Bread and Delivery
12:00 PM - Piecemakers (FH)

Tuesday, September 29

7:00 AM - Bread Preparation (FH)
8:30 AM - Bread Distribution (FH)
6:00 PM - VH Green Team
6:30 PM - AA (FH)

Wednesday, September 30

10:00 AM - Bible Study (FH)
6:00 PM - Youth
7:00 PM - AA Meeting (Class A)

Thursday, October 1

3:45 PM - Thursday Chair Yoga
5:30 PM - Fellowship Hall Tear Down (*Blood Drive*)

Friday, October 2

11:00 PM - Red Cross Blood Drive
5:30 PM - Set Up Fellowship Hall (*Post Blood Drive*)

Saturday, October 3

8:15 AM - St. Paul AAPC Chapter
9:30 AM - Women's Bible Study
11:00 AM - Revelation Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
12:00 PM - UCG Church (S/K/FH)

Sunday, October 4 - Blessing of Animals Sunday

8:30 AM - Bible Study
9:30 AM - Outdoor Worship
10:30 AM - Fellowship

Announcements

Statistics

Attendance last Sunday, September 20 was 56.
Online: 14.

This week's offerings to General Fund: \$1322.00.
Received online: \$505.00.

UPCOMING DATES:

September 27 Lakeview Congregational Mtg. - 10:30 AM

October 2	Red Cross Blood Drive
October 4	Blessing of Animals
October 5	Book Club - Nomadland by Jessica Brader
October 11	Pumpkin Delivery - 4:00 PM
October 12	Pumpkin Patch Opens
	Photo Directory Picture Day 1
October 13	Photo Directory Picture Day 2
October 24	Trunk or Treat - 2-4 PM
November 8	60th Anniversary Celebration

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS TODAY! THANK YOU!

Greeter: Katie Wright
Ushers: Tigges
Reader: Lisa J.E.
Sound Booth: Tim, Tom, Peter, Kim, Tony
Communion Assistants: Roberta I. & Chandra S.
Musician: Revelation
Coffee Servers: Mike & Deb G.
Cub Bread Pickup: Farms
Counters: Mike W., Tim K. & Sandy M.
Flowers: Mary J. - Brother Charlie's Birthday

PRAYER REQUESTS...

We pray for those in need of healing and mercy:

Kayla, (Tasha's friend), Norma, (Leila's Mother), Burdette P, Linda W, Jennifer C (best friend of Angie M), Mary Kay (Joni's Mother) Brian I (son of Pam I), Salomie (sister-in-law of Peter S), Patty W (sister of Mike W), Clarice, Jean A, Anne, Peter, Grace B.

We pray for our service men and women:

Laiden S (deployed to Germany)

We pray for those who are grieving:

The family of Robert M., Leila's brother.

(Please call the church office with prayer concerns or updates.)

Thank you for giving to support the ministries at Christ the Servant. You may give on our website: www.cslcvh.org/giving.

Scan the QR code below to make a secure online donation.



CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH

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