

CHRIST
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
ZIONSVILLE



18th Sunday after Pentecost

September 27, 2026

Setting 3

All members and guests, please fill out the Welcome Form found at the end of your row and pass it on to your neighbor. The pastoral and spiritual care of the members of Christ Church is very important to us. In order to care for all of you, we need to know who is present and who is not. So, please take a moment to sign the pad. The Welcome Forms will be picked up by the ushers during the offering.

WELCOME TO CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Looking for a Church Home?

Mr. Rogers once asked, "Won't you be my neighbor?" Jesus asked, "Who is your neighbor?" At Christ Lutheran Church (CLC) - Zionsville, our answer to Jesus' question is EVERYONE, and to Mr. Rogers - YES.

God calls us to meet people wherever they are in their journey of faith – and that includes YOU!

At Christ Lutheran Church you are welcomed, just as you are:

- Single, committed, married, divorced, lost your partner, still looking or not.
- Every race, nationality, gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation
- Ready to join a group or prefer to sit back
- Regardless of knowing a little or a lot about Jesus
- Whether you have left the Church and are returning
- Whether you find yourself on this list or not

We are calling YOU neighbor! Join us!

Children in Worship

Children hold a special place in our congregation! We warmly invite children of all ages to join us in worship. We embrace their natural tendencies to giggle, poke, squirm, and swing their legs - it's all part of being a child and a precious gift to our community.

Our nursery is available from **10:30 to 11:30**, staffed by dedicated caregivers who will lovingly care for infants and toddlers. This allows parents to fully engage in worship, knowing their little ones are in safe hands. The nursery provides age-appropriate toys and a comforting environment, ensuring your child's needs are met while you worship with the congregation.

We respect and support each family's unique circumstances and preferences. Whether your child joins the worship service or utilizes our nursery, we are here to accommodate and make everyone feel welcome and comfortable.

Flowers on the Altar are Sponsored by Tom & Gretchen Jeffers
~ In Loving Memory of their Grandson Truman on his birthday! ~

+Gathering+
The Holy Spirit Calls Us Together As The People of God

PRELUDE

Let All Things Now Living

arr. Hobby

WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

C Amen.

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

*Silence is kept for reflection as we come before God with our own individual sins before
confessing our corporate sins.*

P Compassionate God,

**C 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.

P 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.

C Amen.



1 God is here! As we your peo - ple meet to of - fer
 2 Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long
 3 Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's
 4 Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of



praise and prayer, may we find in full - er mea - sure
 need of grace; here are ta - ble, font, and pul - pit;
 flock and fold; here as bread and wine are tak - en,
 change and doubt, keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel;



what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the
 here the cross has cen - tral place. Here in hon - es -
 Christ sus - tains us as of old. Here the ser - vants
 help us work your pur - pose out. Here, in this day's



world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence, as in speech,
 of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;



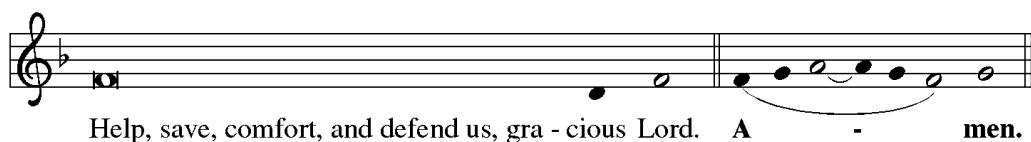
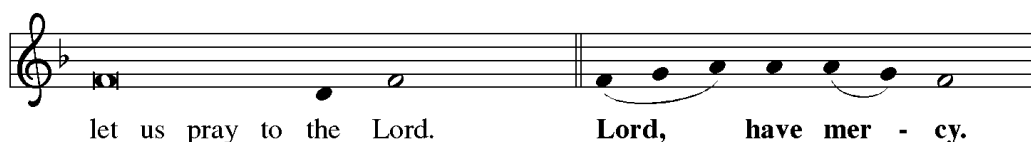
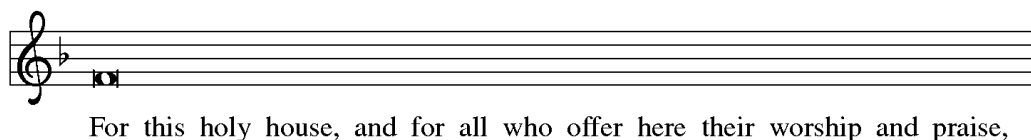
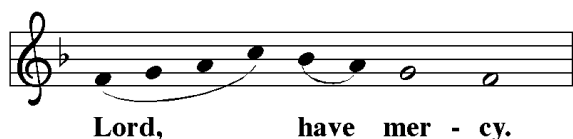
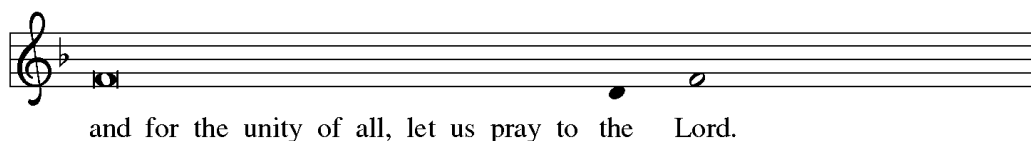
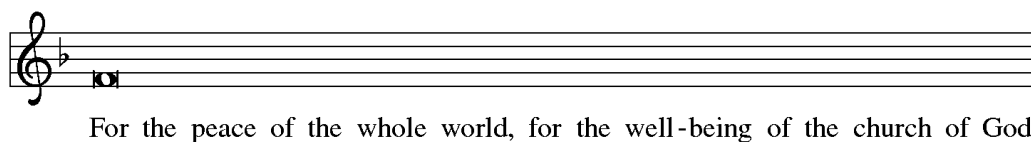
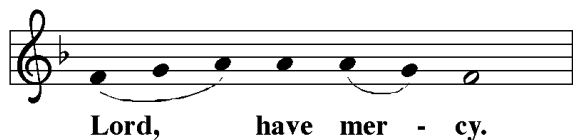
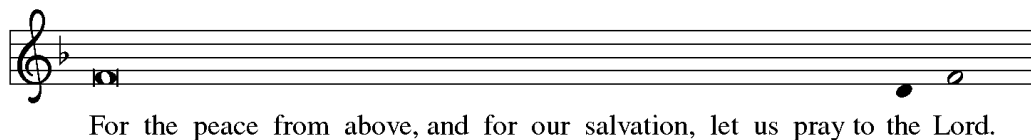
wait the com - ing of the Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here, in new - ness and re - new - al, God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we, who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! We be - lieve!

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.

KYRIE



CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and

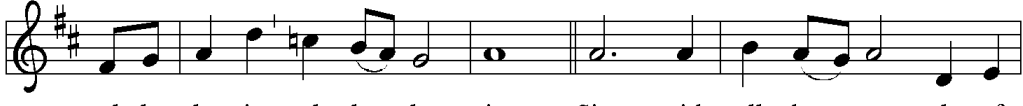


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



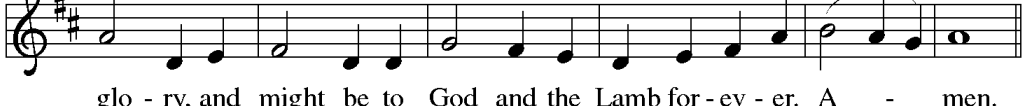
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon-or,



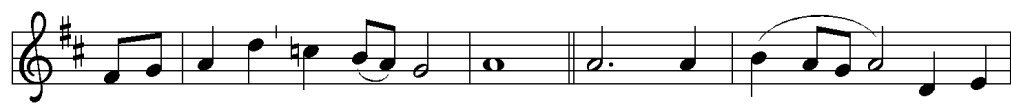
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev - er. A - men.

Continued on next page...

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P 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.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

+WORD+

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

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

L A reading from Ezekiel.

The word of the Lord came to me: 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"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. 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.

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? 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. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. 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?

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. 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? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

L Word of God, Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25:1-9

L To you, O Lord,
I lift up my soul.

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

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

**C Show me your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.**

L 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.

**C Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.**

L 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

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

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

SECOND READING Philippians 2:1-13

L A reading from Philippians.

If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.

Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

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, for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

L Word of God, Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL Matthew 21:23-32

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew the 21st chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

P 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?" 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. 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?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet." 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.

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go. 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. 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."

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Joe Pittman

SERMON

Pastor Lecia Beck

Please stand as you are able after the sermon.



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and



by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
 Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
 u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife



and bring to naught all he has done.
 may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
 and lead us out of death to life.

APOSTLES' CREED

AM Gathered together by the power of the Holy Spirit, we confess our common faith:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead*.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use. ** meaning the church universal

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

AM Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

AM Center your church in humility as we strive to follow in your way. Help us listen to the cries of those who have been unfairly hurt by the church and dare to name difficult truths. Show all your love. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

AM You call us to care for your creation. Lead us into your promise of a better world through sustainable practices and respect for your handiwork. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

AM Inspire all in positions of authority to act honorably. Remind them of their call to use their authority for the sake of the common good. Give them the gift of humility. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

AM Comfort those who come before you in fear and trembling. Calm troubled hearts with your forgiveness. Help all those in need especially **Barb, Family of Pete H., Jo Anne, Algis, Dalia, Marla, Hannah, Robin, Jon, Rita, Ray, Janice, Tina, Charlotte.** Grant us your salvation. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

AM Change our heart when we say no to your call. Open us to courageous learning and service in our community, especially in new or challenging places. Hear us, O God

C Your mercy is great.

AM Your steadfast love holds all the saints who have finished their work and are at rest. As we grieve, remind us of your mercy so we may also give thanks. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

AM Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please be seated.

RECEIVING OUR OFFERINGS

God calls us to be generous stewards for the sake of our ministry near and far. You can support our ministry by placing an offering in the offering plate, mailing it to the church, giving online through our website, or by scanning the QR code. If you would like more details on direct deposit, please contact our Financial Secretary for more information at giving@clczionsville.org.



Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY SONG**Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful**

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

AM 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.
C Amen.

+MEAL+

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy God,
you alone are holy,
you alone are God.

P The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars;
beneath the sea;
within each cell;
with every breath.

C We praise you, O God.

P Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water;
by night and day;
across the wilderness;
out of exile;
into the future.

C We bless you, O God.

P We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner;
among the poor;
with us now.

C We thank you, O God.

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread,
and gave thanks; broke it,
and gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take and eat;
this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper,
he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink,
saying: This cup
is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us
on the way,
at the table,
and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks
to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit,
in your church,
without end.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Christ invites you to this table.

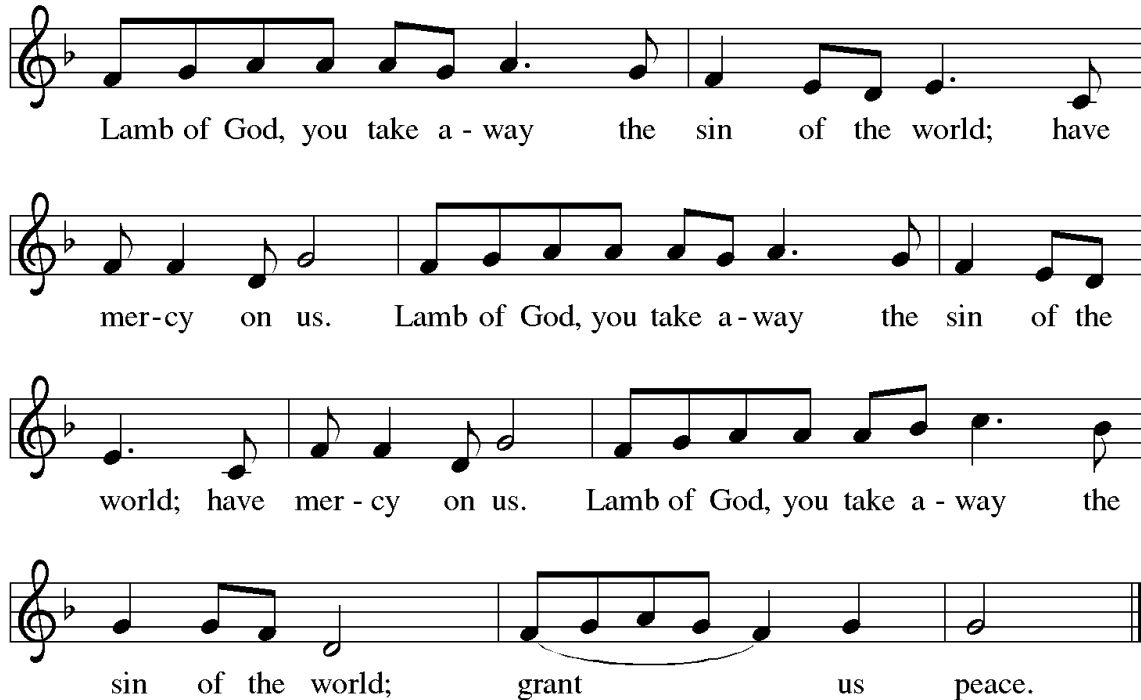
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome to participate in the Lord's Meal. If it's been years or just a week, the bread and wine/juice and Jesus' presence in, with, and around them are for all. If you have questions about taking your first communion, don't hesitate to ask. The elements will be brought to you. You will receive a wafer from the Pastor or Assisting Minister and you will hear the words "the body of Christ, given for you." Once you eat the wafer you are invited to take either wine or juice from the communion assistant and you will hear the words, "the blood of Christ, shed for you."

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

AM 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.

C Amen.

+ SENDING +

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able for the blessing.

BLESSING

P The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.
The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

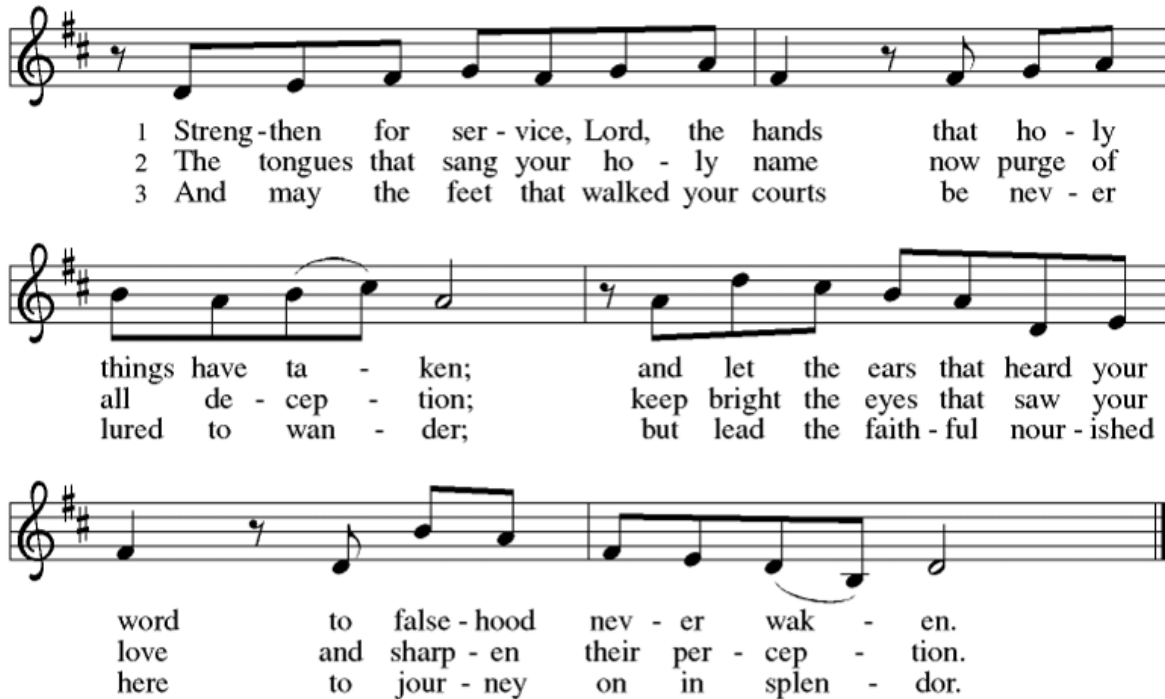
The God of grace ✠ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Strengthen for Service, Lord

ELW 497



1 Streng-then for ser-vice, Lord, the hands that ho-ly
2 The tongues that sang your ho-ly name now purge of
3 And may the feet that walked your courts be nev-er

things have ta-ken; and let the ears that heard your
all de-cep-tion; keep bright the eyes that saw your
lured to wan-der; but lead the faith-ful nour-ished

word to false-hood nev-er wak-en.
love and sharp-en their per-cep-tion.
here to jour-ney on in splen-dor.

DISMISSAL

AM Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Legions for Christ

Wilson

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**CHRIST
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**
ZIONSVILLE

SERVING US AT WORSHIP THIS SUNDAY

Pastor:	Rev. Lecia Beck
Director of Music & Organist:	Rhonda Blacklock
Assisting Minister:	Maddie McKinzie
Cantor:	Joe Pittman
Lector:	Brad Holtz
Communion Assistants:	Connie Ashenfelter, Becky Porter
Greeter:	Margie Kilgus
Usher:	Brian Hardesty
Nursery:	Cheryl Kussow
Hospitality:	Jen McKinzie, Bob Behrend
Financial Assistants:	Anne Behrend, Linda Callecod
Altar Guild:	Gretchen Jeffers, Connie Ashenfelter, Connie Steinhart, Margie Kilgus
AV Assistant:	Bob Behrend

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Carli Ingram

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Anne Behrend

Finance Administrator
billing@clczionsville.org

Connie Steinhart

Financial Secretary
giving@clczionsville.org

Please scan if you would like to give an electronic offering.

