

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Lonnie Svitak today
9/5 Dan Meyer
9/7 Dean Hoffart
9/7 Blake Moen

Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, Sept. 10

THIS WEEK

Monday HAPPY LABOR DAY
7pm Bible study (Facebook)
Wednesday
6/6:30 meal/study
Thursday
9am PieceMakers quilting
Saturday
Last Man Down 11am-2pm
Next Sunday RALLY DAY
9:00 Sunday school
10 Worship, Blessing of the Backpacks, special meeting
11 Potluck

Today's worship servants

Pastor Cindy Cone
Charlie Skoglund assisting
Organist: Marsha Burke
Dean & Doris Hoffart, greeters
Steve & Julie Freese, ushers
Linda Sheppard, lector
Communion: Bob L., Mary W.
Lonnie & Judy Sparks, coffee
Offerings: Nell and Louise
Eucharistic ministry: Svitaks
Altar Guild: Linda Sheppard,
Susie Lutz, communion bread
Member Care: Doris Hoffart

IN OUR PRAYERS

Bereavement

Condolences to the family of
Fern Zechmann, who passed
away Tuesday.

Ongoing prayer support

Nevin and Tara Peters

Health and healing

Gary Benson
Megan Bewernitz
Craig Doescher
Joe Grosserode
Dwight Oberle
Dennis Reich
Richard and Sandy Thorin

Mia Volquardsen

Skilled care

Cherlyn Hillrichs
Mona Jean Roberts
Roger Young

Pack Away Hunger Saturday,
Oct. 14, at **2:00 p.m.** for those
who signed up.

Please sign up in the church
office to sponsor altar flowers.

SERMON QUESTIONS

Mission of the church _____

Community vs. facility?

Christ the Servant Lutheran Church September 3, 2023 — 14th Sunday after Pentecost

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, let us sing to our Creator;
make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

**We come into God's presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise with songs of praise!**

Come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before God, our Maker!

This is our God, and we are God's people.

We are like sheep, with God as our shepherd.

O the depth of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
Who can begin to know the mind of God?

**How unsearchable are God's judgments;
how inscrutable are God's ways!**

LBW #377 "Lift High the Cross"

INVOCATION

O God, all things come from you, and you are in all things. Yet you are not confined to what we can see or imagine. You are beyond our highest and deepest thoughts of you. The tallest mountains and deepest seas are as nothing before you. The vast reaches of time and space are your design. Sovereign Ruler, how dare we harden our hearts against you? Speak to us here to remind us of your glory and of our need for you. Amen

CALL TO CONFESSION

Like the Hebrews of old, we find ourselves in the Wilderness of Sin --dry and empty, discouraged and angry, doubting and demanding. We wander in and out of the desert, sometimes staying so long that we are hollow corpses. Wherever we, personally, are today, we know that some of us need desperately to find a way out of the wilderness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Abiding and Eternal God, we confess our desperation. We need water, but our own wells are dry. We are fearful of coming to the living waters, lest they be a mirage. We are afraid to drink deeply from your hand, lest more be asked of us than we are ready to give. We are content so often to go through the motions of religion rather than confess a faith that may be challenged. God, help us. Amen

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

God, whatever name we use, is among us. There is a creative, loving Power in the universe on whom we can depend. God smiles on us, even when we test and demand proof. And all around us are the miracles of every day, speaking of a Reality that is so much more than we can know or think. O that today we would listen to the voice of God--the God who refreshes and renews and forgives!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Unknowable God, whom we have glimpsed in Jesus of Nazareth, we await your voice. Speak to us through the Bible, in our inmost thoughts, in our quiet conversations, through those who teach and preach, through all who humbly serve. Bring us to a confession of faith strong enough to sustain your servant church in a needy world. Amen

LESSONS Ephesians 1:1-10
 Psalm 133 (responsive)

GOSPEL Luke 3:21-22

MESSAGE Pastor Cindy Cone

LBW #90 "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

APOSTLES' CREED

THE PRAYERS/THE PEACE

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Our offerings are an expression of our faith, O God. They tell of our thankfulness; they speak of blessings received and cheerfully shared. What a privilege is ours, what riches we possess, to be able to give with joy for the work of your church! We worship you with these tokens and the rededication of our lives and work to your will. Amen

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

God sends us out to bind and to set free.

We have a faith to share in our everyday world.

The Christ we have met here shows us the way.

May our actions reflect the faith we confess.

God bids us drink deeply of life's possibilities;
the fountain of God's love never runs dry.

In the heights and depths we will praise God.

We are, like Peter, rocks from the rock of salvation.

God entrusts to our use the riches of this planet.

We are given knowledge and wisdom to use them well.

Everything comes from God and belongs to God.

To God be the glory forever and ever. Amen

Amen

Amen

LBW #76 "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL