



# CHRIST LUTHERAN

— NORTH ST. PAUL | HUGO —

*We exist to engage, empower and equip God's people to...*

*Know Jesus* + EDUCATION

*Live for Jesus* + MINISTRY

*Share Jesus* + MISSION

September 27, 2020

## About the service...

Today is **Education + Ministry + Mission Sunday**. This service calls to mind Jesus' mandate to make disciples of all nations, to nurture the saved and seek the lost. This service mirrors our three-part Mission Statement at Christ Lutheran: Education - *Know Jesus*; Ministry - *Live for Jesus*; and Mission - *Share Jesus*.


In what ways are you growing in your knowledge of Jesus? In what ways are you living for Jesus: at home, at work, in your congregation? In what ways are you sharing Jesus in your life? May this service uplift and inspire us individually and as a gathering of believers to carry out the blessed work he has given to us!

*God bless your worship!*

## ORDER OF SERVICE

### OPENING HYMN:


*O Christians Haste*  
CW #570:1,3



O Chris - tians, haste, your mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,  
Pro - claim to ev - 'ry peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion



To tell to all the world that God is light,  
That God, in whom they live and move, is love;




That he who made all na - tions is not will - ing  
Tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion



One soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.  
And died on earth that they might live a - bove.

#### *Refrain*



Pub - lish glad ti - dings, Ti - dings of peace,



Ti - dings of Je - sus, Re - demp - tion and re - lease.

## **INVOCATION and WORDS OF EDUCATION, MINISTRY & MISSION**

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

M: Go into all the world

**C: And preach the good news to all creation.**

M: Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.

**C: In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord.**

M: Sing to the Lord a new song,

**C: For he has done marvelous things.**

M: We will not hide them from our children;

**C: We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord.**

M: His right hand and his holy arm

**C: Have worked salvation for him.**

M: The Lord has made his salvation known

**C: And revealed his righteousness to the nations.**

M: All the ends of the earth

**C: Have seen the salvation of our God.**

M: Sing to the Lord, praise his name;

**C: Proclaim his salvation day after day.**

## **CONFESSION OF SINS**

M: Children of God, we join in confessing our sins.

**C:** Lord, we confess that we have heard the call to do your will, but have chosen not always to follow. We sin against You by being...

- *hesitant* to take advantage of every Christian education opportunity
- *reluctant* to fully support the church with our gifts and skills,
- *slow* to share our faith with others

We turn to our Savior Jesus Christ and pray: Have mercy on us according to your unfailing love. Cleanse us from our sins and take away our guilt.

## **WE HEAR WE ARE FORGIVEN**

**M:** Beloved children of God, we have been rescued from the wrath of God. Jesus has lived and died for us. He rose gloriously on the third day. God has had mercy on us and has restored us through the blood of Christ. We are forgiven all our sins! Through the gracious working of the Holy Spirit, each of us can joyfully confess,

**C:** “Jesus Christ is my Savior and Redeemer!” Amen.

## **PART I: EDUCATION + KNOW JESUS**

### **READING**

from John 17

*Jesus’ intercessory prayer on Maundy Thursday reveals how earnestly he desires his disciples then and in the future to know the true God through him and share heavenly glory with him.*

After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. <sup>2</sup>For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. <sup>3</sup>Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. <sup>6</sup>“I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. <sup>8</sup>For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, <sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. “Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. <sup>25</sup> “Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup> I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living 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

## SONG:

*You Are the Way; Through You Alone*  
CW #356:1,2,4



1 You are the way; through you a - lone Can  
2 You are the truth; your Word a - lone True  
3 You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant



we the Fa - ther find; In you, O Christ, has  
wis - dom can im - part. You on - ly can in -  
us that way to know, That truth to keep, that



God re - vealed His heart and will and mind.  
form the mind And pu - ri - fy the heart.  
life to win Whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

*Did you know? Current enrollment in our Lutheran Elementary School is 126 students, PreK-8th grade and over 70 in our Cornerstone Early Learning Center in Hugo. Growth Groups begin this week as does a new Bible study in North St. Paul on Monday evenings. Let each of us continue to “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,” (2 Peter 3:18), fulfilling the prayer of Jesus that we know him!*

## **PART II MINISTRY + LIVE FOR JESUS**

### **READING AND DEVOTION**

Judges 6:7-32

*Pastor Wessel*

*The Angel of the LORD (the LORD God in person!) calls an unsuspecting Gideon to serve in and deliver His people during a difficult period in Israel’s history.*

When the Israelites cried out to the LORD because of Midian, <sup>8</sup> he sent them a prophet, who said, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: I brought you up out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. <sup>9</sup> I rescued you from the hand of the Egyptians. And I delivered you from the hand of all your oppressors; I drove them out before you and gave you their land. <sup>10</sup> I said to you, ‘I am the LORD your God; do not worship the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you live.’ But you have not listened to me.” <sup>11</sup> The angel of the LORD came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezerite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. <sup>12</sup> When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, “The LORD is with you, mighty warrior.” <sup>13</sup> “Pardon me, my lord,” Gideon replied, “but if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our ancestors told us about when they said, ‘Did not the LORD bring us up out of Egypt?’ But now the LORD has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian.” <sup>14</sup> The LORD turned to him and said, “Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian’s hand. Am I not sending you?” <sup>15</sup> “Pardon me, my lord,” Gideon replied, “but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family.” <sup>16</sup> The LORD answered, “I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites, leaving none alive.” <sup>17</sup> Gideon replied, “If now I have found favor in your eyes, give me a sign that it is really you talking to me. <sup>18</sup> Please do not go away until I come back and bring my offering and set it before you.” And the LORD said, “I will wait until you return.” <sup>19</sup> Gideon went inside, prepared a young goat, and from an ephah of flour he made bread without yeast. Putting the meat in a basket and its broth in a pot, he brought them out and offered them to him under the oak. <sup>20</sup> The angel of God said to him, “Take the meat and the unleavened bread, place them on this rock, and pour out the broth.” And Gideon did so. <sup>21</sup> Then the angel of the LORD touched the meat and the unleavened bread with the tip of the staff that was in his hand. Fire flared from the rock, consuming the meat and the bread. And the angel of the Lord disappeared. <sup>22</sup> When Gideon realized that it was the angel of the LORD, he exclaimed, “Alas, Sovereign LORD! I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face!” <sup>23</sup> But the LORD said to him, “Peace! Do not be afraid. You are not going to die.” <sup>24</sup> So Gideon built an altar to the LORD there and called it The LORD Is Peace. To this day it stands in Ophrah of the Abiezerites. <sup>25</sup> That same night the LORD said to him, “Take the second bull from your father’s herd, the one seven years old. Tear down your father’s altar to

Baal and cut down the Asherah pole beside it. <sup>26</sup> Then build a proper kind of altar to the LORD your God on the top of this height. Using the wood of the Asherah pole that you cut down, offer the second bull as a burnt offering.” <sup>27</sup> So Gideon took ten of his servants and did as the LORD told him. But because he was afraid of his family and the townspeople, he did it at night rather than in the daytime. <sup>28</sup> In the morning when the people of the town got up, there was Baal’s altar, demolished, with the Asherah pole beside it cut down and the second bull sacrificed on the newly built altar! <sup>29</sup> They asked each other, “Who did this?” When they carefully investigated, they were told, “Gideon son of Joash did it.” <sup>30</sup> The people of the town demanded of Joash, “Bring out your son. He must die, because he has broken down Baal’s altar and cut down the Asherah pole beside it.” <sup>31</sup> But Joash replied to the hostile crowd around him, “Are you going to plead Baal’s cause? Are you trying to save him? Whoever fights for him shall be put to death by morning! If Baal really is a god, he can defend himself when someone breaks down his altar.” <sup>32</sup> So because Gideon broke down Baal’s altar, they gave him the name Jerub-Baal that day, saying, “Let Baal contend with him.”

**SONG:** Grades 2-8 NSP (recorded)

*I Want to Walk As A Child of the Light*

*The congregation is invited to join in singing the refrain.*

- 1 I want to walk as a child of the light; I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world; The star of my life is Jesus.

### **Refrain**

**In him there is no darkness at all; The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

- 2 I want to see the brightness of God; I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path And show me the way to the Father. **Refrain**
- 3 I’m looking for the coming of Christ; I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race, We shall know the joy of Jesus. **Refrain**

**Did you know?** *Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, our pastoral training school, has its largest enrollment on campus in 10 years at 106 students on campus and 28 vicars off campus. Continue to pray for pastor, teacher, early childhood and staff ministry candidates to serve in the public ministry.*

*Here at Christ Lutheran, remember that God has gifted you in some way and calls you to use your gifts for the benefit of the entire body! Thank you to everyone who has or is currently serving in some way. Though many groups are not meeting in person at this time, many online ministries are going on and more are being activated this week, such as Growth Groups and KIX (Kids In Christ) Sunday School. Be sure to check the announcement folder for ways that you can become involved.*

## PART III MISSION + SHARE JESUS

### READING

2 Kings 5:1-8

*A young girl shares her faith in the true God with the very enemies of her nation that had taken her captive. Her simple witness set in motion a miraculous healing for an important official; but more importantly, brought a soul that was lost into God's eternal kingdom. Share Jesus!*

Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy. <sup>2</sup>Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. <sup>3</sup>She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." <sup>4</sup>Naaman went to his master and told him what the girl from Israel had said. <sup>5</sup>"By all means, go," the king of Aram replied. "I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman left, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold and ten sets of clothing. <sup>6</sup>The letter that he took to the king of Israel read: "With this letter I am sending my servant Naaman to you so that you may cure him of his leprosy." <sup>7</sup>As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!" <sup>8</sup>When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message: "Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel."

**SONG:** PK-1 (NSP) *This Little Light of Mine*

*Did you know? 10% of our thank offerings supports ministry and mission work outside our congregation. 70% goes to WELS as our Congregational Mission Offering (CMO); 28% goes to St. Croix Lutheran Academy in West St. Paul, which is an extension of our Christian Education here; and 2% to LIMA, the Lutheran Institutional Ministry Association (Chaplaincy). Through August our gifts for these ministries have totaled \$61,806. Thank s be to God for granting us the grace of giving!*

*Mission work isn't confined to those we call and send out near and far in Jesus' name Where is your personal mission field? It is all around you as you share the gospel to neighbors, family members, friends and associates. God grant us his grace to strengthen our resolve and seize opportunities to share his saving word with everybody!*



## **PRAYERS**

**M:** O Lord our God, your Word summons us to discipleship. You have distributed spiritual gifts to us, your people, to use them in your service. Give us grace to relinquish control of our lives, so that we may serve you only, faithfully fulfilling our part in your plan for the world.

Merciful Father your kindness caused the light of the gospel to shine among us. Use us now as instruments of your love to reach out with the message of salvation to all people. Bless those who labor in the mission fields near and far and grant success to their witness that many more may be freed from sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C:** Amen.

*Intercessions may be added here.*

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**C: 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.**

## **BENEDICTION**

**M:** Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

**C:** Amen.

# HYMN

*Lift High the Cross*  
CW #579

## *Refrain*



Lift high the cross; the love of Christ pro - claim Till



all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod, Our  
2 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign, The  
3 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be: Praise



king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com - bine.  
to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

*Thank offerings to God for education, ministry and mission will be received as you leave today.*

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**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SERVED FOR OUR WORSHIP SERVICES!**

**Hugo** Anthems: "This Little Light of Mine," CLS PreK-1; Barb Polzin, director; Rachel Harper, accompanist and "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light," CLS, 2-8; Ann Ponath, director; Rachel Harper, accompanist; Scott Hoffmann, recording

Song Leader: Emilee Friebe (Saturday and Sunday)

Piano: Hannah Neumann (Saturday); Stephanie Lindloff (Sunday)

**NSP** Anthems: "This Little Light of Mine," CLS PreK-1; Barb Polzin, director; Rachel Harper, accompanist and "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light," CLS, 2-8; Ann Ponath, director; Rachel Harper, accompanist; Scott Hoffmann, recording

Song Leader: Marcia Schuyler, clarinet (Sunday and Monday)

Piano: Ann Ponath (Sunday and Monday)



**CHRIST LUTHERAN**  
— NORTH ST. PAUL | HUGO —

**MISSION:**

**KNOW JESUS, LIVE FOR JESUS, SHARE JESUS**

**VISION:**

**DISCIPLES OF CHRIST LIVE THEIR FAITH  
WITH PASSION AND PURPOSE**