

Christ the Rock Lutheran Church  
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**Ninth Sunday in Pentecost  
August 2, 2020**

**Christ the Rock's Mission:  
To grow in faith and boldly proclaim Christ crucified and risen  
to all people of the Four Corners.**

**SERIES THEME: Ministry Basics**

Sometimes it helps to go back to the basics. Clear our brains and focus on the essentials. In this series we switch from an emphasis on the life and actions of Jesus to the teachings of Jesus for the life of the church. In this series of teachings from the Gospel according to Matthew, Jesus opens the Scriptures to help us to take his teaching to heart. We realize what it means to be his disciples and concentrate on our calling to serve Him in loving response.



**SERVICE THEME: Help Until the Harvest**

“Vengeance is mine; I will repay.” These words of our God place the responsibility for judgment—especially the final judgment—solely into the hands of God himself. Of course, to the person without Christ that is a frightening notion, for none will escape the judgment of the Lord. But to God’s children, who still struggle daily with temptation and sin, these words are a sobering reminder of our evil nature but also an opportunity to remember that our good Savior has already borne that judgment for us.

# + DIVINE SERVICE +

## OPENING HYMN

“Sing a New Song to the Lord”  
*Christian Worship # 245*

1 Sing a new song to the Lord, He to whom  
2 Now to the ends of the earth. See, his sal -  
3 Sing a new song and re - jice! Pub - lish his  
4 Join with the hills and the sea Thun - ders of

won - ders be - long! Re - jice in his  
va - tion is shown, And still he re -  
prais - es a - broad! Let voic - es in  
praise to pro - lung! In judg - ment and

tri - umph and tell of his pow'r! Oh,  
mem - bers his mer - cy and truth, Un -  
cho - rus, with tram - pet and horn, Re -  
jus - tice he comes to the earth. Oh,

sing to the Lord a new song!  
chang - ing in love to his own.  
sound for the joy of the Lord!  
sing to the Lord a new song!

*PLEASE STAND*

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** *(spoken)* Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Grant us, Lord, the spirit to think and do what is right that we, who cannot do anything that is good without you, may by your help be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ, you Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## THE WORD

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

#### FIRST LESSON

**Joel 3:12-16**

*The Lord will judge all peoples and be a refuge for his own people*

<sup>12</sup> "Let the nations be roused;  
let them advance into the Valley of Jehoshaphat,  
for there I will sit  
to judge all the nations on every side.

<sup>13</sup> Swing the sickle,  
for the harvest is ripe.  
Come, trample the grapes,  
for the winepress is full  
and the vats overflow—  
so great is their wickedness!"

<sup>14</sup> Multitudes, multitudes  
in the valley of decision!  
For the day of the LORD is near  
in the valley of decision.

<sup>15</sup> The sun and moon will be darkened,  
and the stars no longer shine.

<sup>16</sup> The LORD will roar from Zion  
and thunder from Jerusalem;  
the earth and the heavens will tremble.  
But the LORD will be a refuge for his people,  
a stronghold for the people of Israel

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:26,27

*The Spirit intercedes for us*

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. **27** And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

*God's Kingdom is like wheat with weeds*

M: The Gospel according to Matthew, the Thirteenth Chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**24** Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. **25** But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. **26** When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

**27** "The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'

**28** "An enemy did this,' he replied.

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'

**29** "No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. **30** Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

**36** Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."



<sup>37</sup> He answered, “The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, <sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

<sup>40</sup> “As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. <sup>42</sup> They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## NICENE CREED

C: **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **HYMN**

## **“Your Kingdom, O God”**

*Christian Worship Supplement #755*

- 1. Your kingdom, O God, is my glorious treasure,  
My pearl of incomparable worth.  
Its value exceeds ev'ry standard of measure,  
Surpassing the wealth of the earth.  
Lord, give me your grace and the pow'r of the Spirit  
To value this treasure aright  
That, never allured by the world, I inherit  
Your kingdom of glory and light.**
- 2. Your kingdom, O God, is alive with the power  
Your Word and your Spirit bestow.  
Like yeast, they affect the whole measure of flour,  
Enabling your kingdom to grow.  
Empower me, Lord, as I live your commission,  
Though humble my service may be,  
And bring ev'ry planting to perfect fruition,  
A mustard seed grown to a tree.**
- 3. Your kingdom, O God, is a field for the growing  
Of seeds that your mercy has sown,  
But still in our midst is the enemy sowing  
The weeds that imperil your own.  
Sustain me, O Lord, till your day of returning  
And harvest me homeward at last,  
To shine in the homeland that quiets all yearning,  
Where sorrow and danger are past.**

## **SERMON**

**Romans 8:26,27**

*“Praying”*

## **OFFERING**

*Please visit [ChristTheRockLutheran.com](http://ChristTheRockLutheran.com) and click on “Online Giving” to give an offering.*

## LORD'S PRAYER

**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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

## BLESSING

**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

**C:** Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

### "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*Christian Worship #334*



The image shows three staves of musical notation for the hymn "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow". The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise him, all  
crea-tures here be - low; Praise him a - bove, ye heav'n -  
ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!