

***Christ Lutheran Church
Boyne City, MI***



**For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone,
declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live. (Ezekiel 18:32)**

***Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 27, 2026***

Welcome

Welcome to all – members, guests, and visitors – in the name of Jesus! Our Lord comes to us today in Word and Sacrament, bestowing upon us the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. It is truly a blessing to gather with other Christians and celebrate all the Gospel promises of our Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus. During the Offering, all worshipers are asked to please fill out the *Record of Fellowship* which is found in each of the pews.

Concerning the Lord's Supper

The Sacrament of the Altar is given in our churches to those baptized Christians who have been examined and absolved, and who publicly confess the faith of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as contained in the Small Catechism. Communicant members in good standing with a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod or of one of our sister churches are welcome to receive the Sacrament. Others are encouraged to speak with the pastor before or after service as we earnestly desire your future reception of this sacred meal.

Guests or visitors who are not receiving communion today are still invited to come forward for a blessing. Simply fold your arms across your chest to indicate this once you are at the rail. It is also fine to simply remain in the pew when your row is dismissed. Those who may need special accommodation in order to receive the elements of the meal, or who have mobility concerns are invited to speak with the pastor. Finally, although it is our custom to kneel together at the rail if this causes pain or discomfort you are encouraged to remain standing.

Children

Children are welcome in the sanctuary throughout the service. There is a nursery located across from the kitchen. Child activity bags can be found in the Cry Room, which is located at the back of the sanctuary.

Pastor: Chuck Hoffman

Church Office: (231) 582-9301

Church E-Mail: christlutheranboyne@gmail.com

Pastor's Phone: (231) 373-2449

Pastor's Email: pastor.clcboyne@gmail.com

Divine Service of Word and Sacrament (Setting Four – LSB, page 203)

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proper 21

Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

Matthew 21:23–27

The Cross of Christ Opens to Us the Way of Repentance to Life with God

The way of the Lord is righteous and just: “*The soul who sins shall die*” (Ezek. 18:4). However, because the Lord has “*no pleasure in the death of anyone*” (Ezek. 18:32), He calls sinners to repentance and faith in His gracious forgiveness of sins. The man who is thus turned away from his wickedness, who henceforth lives by the grace of God, “*shall surely live; he shall not die*” (Ezek. 18:28). This way of repentance has been opened for us by the cross of Christ. In the righteousness of faith and love, “*he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death*” (Phil. 2:8), and He was vindicated in His resurrection from the dead. Indeed, “*God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name*” (Phil. 2:9). He has given us this name in our Baptism into Christ, in whom we now “*shine as lights in the world*” (Phil. 2:15). He uses the authority that He has received from His Father (Matt. 21:23–27) to preach a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, by which even “*the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God*” (Matt. 21:31–32).

Morning Prayer on Sunday

Lord... I come before You in this morning hour and give You humble thanks because during this night You have been a fortress around me and mine. You have again renewed to me Your goodness and faithfulness... My God, let it be my delight today to hear Your Word, to be built up in You, to sing hymns of praise and thanks to Your glory, to pray fervently, and to make my heart an offering to You... Grant that I may ponder Your Word during the entire week, that I may live according to it and bring forth a crop of good fruits. Amen (Starck's Prayer Book: Revised Concordia Ed., pages 4-5)

Prelude *Sheep May Safely Graze* J.S. Bach, arr. E.J. Lorenz

549 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

LSB 549 sts. 1–4



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
2 Crown Him, ye mar-tyrs of our God, Who from His al - tar call;
3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,
4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da - vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car - nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car - nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–92, alt.
Tune: Oliver Holden, 1765–1844
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Psalm: Psalm 25:1-10; antiphon: v. 4

¹To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul.

²**O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies exult over me.**

³Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

⁴**Make me to know your ways, O LORD;
teach me your paths.**

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

⁶**Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.**

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

⁸**Good and upright is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.**

⁹He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way.

¹⁰**All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day: Proper 21 (Year A)

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²"What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? ³As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .

²⁵"Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

³⁰“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

C **He will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.
Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name!**

Epistle: Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18

¹If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . .

¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



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



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



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

Holy Gospel: Matthew 21:23-27

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

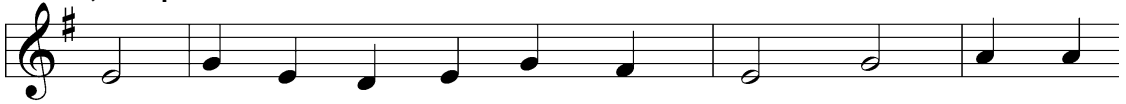
**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

LSB 655



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
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And bring to naught all He has done.
we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Sit

Offering Please sign the attendance book found in your pew. In addition to the plate, offerings may be placed in the offering box at any time.

Stand

Preface

LSB 208

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 Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san-na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

- G** **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.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Distribution

900 Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love

LSB 900



- 1 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,
2 Je - sus! Name de - creed of old, To the maid-en moth-er told,
3 Je - sus! Name of price-less worth To the fall - en of the earth
4 Je - sus! Name of mer - cy mild, Giv - en to the ho - ly Child



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
Kneel-ing in her low - ly cell, By the an - gel Ga - bri - el.
For the prom - ise that it gave, "Je - sus shall His peo-ple save."
When the cup of hu-man woe First He tast - ed here be - low.

- 5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n
Under all the mighty heav'n
Whereby those to sin enslaved
Burst their fetters and are saved.

- 6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
Human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we flee
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823-97, alt.

Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt.

Text and tune: Public domain

634 The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord

LSB 634 sts. 1–5, 8



1 The death of Je - sus Christ, our Lord, We cel - e -
 2 He blot - ted out with His own blood The judg - ment
 3 That this for - ev - er true shall be He gives a
 4 His Word pro - claims and we be - lieve That in this



brate with one ac - cord; It is our com - fort
 that a - gainst us stood; For us He full a -
 sol - emn guar - an - tee: In this His ho - ly
 Sup - per we re - ceive His ver - y bod - y,



in dis - tress, Our heart's sweet joy and hap - pi - ness.
 tone - ment made, And all our debt He ful - ly paid.
 Sup - per here We taste His love so sweet, so near.
 as He said, His ver - y blood for sin - ners shed.

5 We dare not ask how this can be,
 But simply hold the mystery
 And trust this word where life begins:
 "Given and shed for all your sins."

8 Help us sincerely to believe
 That we may worthily receive
 Your Supper and in You find rest.
 Amen! They who believe are blest.

Text (sts. 1–4, 8): Haquin Spiegel, 1645–1714; (sts. 1–4, 8): tr. Olof Olsson, 1841–1900, alt.; (st. 5): composite
 Tune: Sammlung alter und neuer . . . Melodien, 1742
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen to the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

922 Go, My Children, with My Blessing

LSB 922 sts. 1–4



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.
2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Clos - er to Me;
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free. Here My
I the Lord will smile up - on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you Mine for - ev - er.
heard My dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo - ry.
Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here His ten - der com - fort stilled you.
Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and Broth - er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing— You are My own.
Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Joy - ful and free.
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

Text: © 1983 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002441

Tune: Public domain

Postlude *Rigaudon* A. Campra, arr. D. Bish

Announcements

	Serving at 8:00am	Serving at 10:30am
Organist	Sue Wilson	
Elders	Jay Higgins	Tom Laetz
Ushers	Brad and Teresa Carlson	Ron Grulke Jerry Barger
Altar Guild	Grace Battista and Sandy Hill	

Adult New Member Class meets following late service today.

Confirmation Class meets today at 3:00 PM.

The **Choir** will meet at 7:00 PM on Wednesday.

On Thursday morning, **Bible Class** will meet at 10:00 AM.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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Christ Lutheran Church

1250 Boyne Ave.

Boyne City, MI

(231) 582-9301

www.clcboyne.org

Worship: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Sunday School & Adult Bible Study: 9:15 AM