

September 25, 2022  
16th Sunday after Pentecost



I COUNT EVERYTHING AS LOSS BECAUSE  
OF THE SURPASSING WORTH OF KNOWING

*Christ Jesus*  
*my Lord.*



LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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## ✠ Opening Prayer ✠

Hymn: TLH #408

“Jesus Christ, My Pride and Glory”

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

**C** *♩* Amen.

**P** Pastor

### **Confession of Our Sins**

**C** Congregation

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*We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.*

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**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**C** *♩* **Who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

**C** *♩* **And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

**P** O Almighty God, our Maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** **O most merciful God, who has given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

### **Absolution from Our God**

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*“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9)*

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**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given us His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He gives the power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

**C** *♩* Amen.

## The Introit

Ps. 119:28-32

*A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.*

- P** Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works.
- C** **My soul melts away for sorrow; strengthen me according to your word!**
- P** Put false ways far from me and graciously teach me your law!
- C** **I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I set your just decrees before me.**
- P** I cling to your testimonies, O Lord; let me not be put to shame!
- C** **I will run in the way of your commandments when you enlarge my heart!**
- P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
- C** **As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## The Gloria Patri

TLH #250:1

*Latin for "Glory be to the Father."*

- C** ♪ **Holy God, we praise thy name;  
Lord of all, we bow before Thee.  
All on earth Thy scepter claim,  
All in heaven above adore Thee.  
Infinite Thy vast domain,  
Everlasting is Thy reign.**

## Collect Prayer of the Day

*A prayer to God that collects together the thoughts and theme of the day.*

- P** O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** ♪ **Amen.**

## Genesis 12:1-8

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup> And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who

bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." <sup>4</sup> So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. <sup>5</sup> And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, <sup>6</sup> Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. <sup>7</sup> Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. <sup>8</sup> From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD.

### Philippians 3:4b-11

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>

circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup> as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. <sup>7</sup> But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup> Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith-- <sup>10</sup> that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.



**I BELIEVE...**

**in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was  
conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and  
buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again  
from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the  
right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall  
come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the Holy Christian Church, the  
Communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the  
resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Hymn: TLH #175***"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"***Matthew 10:32-42**

So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, <sup>33</sup> but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven. <sup>34</sup> "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup> For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. <sup>36</sup> And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. <sup>37</sup> Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. <sup>38</sup> And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup> Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>40</sup> "Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. <sup>41</sup> The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. <sup>42</sup> And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold

water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."

## Peace Through Pain

I. Jesus will divide. II. Jesus will offend. III. Jesus will save.

### The Offertory

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*In this prayer we offer our hearts, asking God for the best gift, the Holy Spirit.*

**C** *♩* **Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me Cast me not away from Thy presence; And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; And uphold me with thy free spirit. Amen.**

✠ **The Offering of Thankful Hearts** ✠

**Hymn: TLH #410**

*"Jesus, Lead Thou On"*

✠ **The General Prayer & The Lord's Prayer** ✠

### The Benediction

*Numbers 6:24-26*

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*The blessing given by God for His people.*

**P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

**C** *♩* **Amen, amen, a – men.**

**Hymn: TLH #54**

*"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"*

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**Trip to Israel** - A CLC group trip to Israel is set for January 10-19, 2023 with a possible three day extension to Jordan for those who are interested. October 1st is the deadline for registering for the trip and guaranteeing that you will be able to fly to Israel and back with the rest of our group. While you can still register after October 1st, there is a good chance that you would have to travel on the overseas flights separately from the others registered for the trip. We currently have 24 people registered for the trip from several CLC congregations across the country. If you have any questions or would like more information about this special trip, please contact Nathanael Mayhew (404-729-4602; [ndmayhew@gmail.com](mailto:ndmayhew@gmail.com)).

**Pastor out of town** – Pastor will be out of town together with Missionary Ohlmann until Friday. They will be attending the Southeast Pastoral Conference in Washington, D.C. If you need to reach pastor for any reason, you can always call, text, or email him.

**Saint Called Home** – Our beloved brother-in-Christ Chris Fletcher was called to his eternal rest on Tuesday morning. *“Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.”* (Psalm 116:15) A memorial service was held here at church yesterday morning. Please remember Cindy in your prayers.

**Obituary:** Christopher Joseph Fletcher, age 62 of New Douglas, IL, formerly of St. Louis, MO, born November 6, 1959 in Kirkwood, MO, passed away on Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at Anderson Hospital in Maryville, IL. Chris was born and raised in the St. Louis area. He was the second youngest of four children born to William and Marilyn Fletcher.

Chris married Cynthia Hosto on April 23, 2001. The Lord blessed the couple with twenty-one years of marriage. They spent many of their years of marriage as active members of Faith Lutheran Church where Chris also served at different times as an Elder and as the Treasurer. Chris also worked as a computer programmer in the auto insurance industry for over 20 years. He enjoyed shooting hand guns and spending time with Cindy and his dog, Sammy.

Chris was preceded in death by his parents, William and Marilyn (nee Schwartz) Fletcher. He is survived by his wife Cindy; two step-sons, Matt and Jake Howard; two step-grandchildren, Emma Howard and Caitlin (Brett) Lesiski; two brothers, Jim (Patty) Fletcher and Bill (Jenny) Fletcher; a sister, Anne (Gary) Grosse; and numerous nieces and nephews.

<b><u>September 18<sup>th</sup> Offerings:</u></b>	\$ 1,006.50
Weekly Offerings needed for budget	\$ 1,607.69
General Fund Balance	\$21,008.43
Faith-Blue Springs Balance	\$28,597.80
<b>Total Cash All Funds</b>	<b>\$64,942.07</b>

## Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; Sept. 26 – Oct.1, '22

**Mon Luke 16:19-31** Jesus teaches vividly that a person's wealth, or lack of it, does not determine his relationship to God. The poorest of people who has God as his helper (meaning of the name *Lazarus*) has much joy ahead of him. The richest of people who is deaf to the word and promise of God will never have more than he has in this life. Thank God for His enriching, life-giving Word ("Moses and the Prophets" vv. 29,31)!

**Tues Amos 6:1-3** Trusting in power was not something new in Jesus' day. In Old Testament times the prophet Amos pronounced woe on those who trusted in their positions of power, thought they could put off the day of judgment, and use violence to secure themselves. Jesus had to repeat such woes, though He came to end them.

**Wed Amos 6:4-7** Also in Amos' time were those who used their riches only to serve themselves, invented musical instruments – which David had invented to praise God – only for their own pleasure. They anointed themselves with the richest oil rather than grieving for the ruin of Israel, through whom the Savior would come.

**Thurs Hebrews 13:1-6** Let us show our love to Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant (12:24), by loving one another, especially those who are suffering and ill-treated; and by honoring God's institution of marriage. Let us look to Him for all good things and confidently say "The Lord is my helper!" (cf. Monday's reading)

**Fri 1 Timothy 6:11-16** Paul urges Timothy to flee the love of money (v10), and pursue Godly virtues, which will still be practiced in the life to come, at the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords. To Him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen!

**Sat Psalm 146** Hallelujah = Praise the LORD! The help that earthly power can give is like the flowers, only lasting for a time. But he whose helper is the God of Jacob is blessed indeed! The LORD's power and faithfulness are forever, giving food to the hungry, lifting up those who are bowed down, watching over travelers, upholding the widow and the fatherless! Hallelujah!