

**August 2, 2026 Service of the Word
Christ Lutheran Church, Regina, SK**

Welcome & Announcements

A moment of reflection

Call to Worship¹

Rejoice, Jesus is in our midst.

Feed us, Jesus, and fill us with hope.

Be glad, Jesus has bread and fish to spare.

**Free us, Jesus, from the pursuit of food
that does not satisfy.**

Sing for joy, people of God;

God gathers up the pieces of our lives,
that nothing may be lost.

Thanks be to God!

Gathering Hymn: ELW 715 Christ, Be Our Light

1. **Longing for light,
 we wait in darkness.
 Longing for truth,
 we turn to you.
 Make us your own,
 your holy people,
 light for the world to see.**

Refrain: **Christ, be our light!**

Shine in our hearts.

Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

**Shine in your church
 gathered today.**

¹ Adapted from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009*, © 2008 Abingdon Press. Posted on the **Ministry Matters** website. <http://www.ministrymatters.com/> as cited in <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/07/call-to-worship-john-6.html>

2. Longing for peace,
our world is troubled.
Longing for hope,
many despair.
Your word alone
has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Refrain:

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church
gathered today.

3. Longing for food,
many are hungry.
Longing for water,
many still thirst.
Make us your bread,
broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Refrain:

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church
gathered today.

4. Longing for shelter,
many are homeless.
Longing for warmth,

many are cold.
Make us your building,
sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

Refrain:

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church
gathered today.

5. Many the gifts,
many the people,
many the hearts that
yearn to belong.
Let us be servants
to one another,
making your kingdom come.

Refrain:

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church
gathered today.

Confession & Forgiveness from *ELW* Service of the Word pp. 211-212

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of ✙ Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise: ELW 858 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

- 1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,
the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him,
for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear**

now to his temple draw near,
joining in glad adoration!

2. Praise to the Lord,
who o'er all things is
wondrously reigning
and, as on wings of an eagle,
uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen
all that is needful has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?
3. Praise to the Lord,
who will prosper your work
and defend you;
surely his goodness and mercy
shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew
what the Almighty can do
if with his love he befriend you.
4. Praise to the Lord!
Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath,
come now with praises before him!
Let the amen
sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!

Prayer of the Day²

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Glorious God, **your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Isaiah 55: 1-5

In this reading from Isaiah,³ God invites Israel to a great feast at which both food and drink are free. God also promises to make an everlasting covenant with all peoples, with promises that previously had been limited to Israel. As David was a witness to the nations, these nations shall now acknowledge the ways in which God has glorified Israel.

A reading from Isaiah, chapter 55, verses 1-5.⁴

All of you who are thirsty, come to the water!

Whoever has no money, come, buy food and eat!

Without money, at no cost, buy wine and milk!

² Why spend money for what isn't food,
and your earnings for what doesn't satisfy?

Listen carefully to me and eat what is good;
enjoy the richest of feasts.

³ Listen and come to me;
listen, and you will live.

I will make an everlasting covenant with you,
my faithful loyalty to David.

⁴ Look, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a prince and commander of peoples.

² From *Sundays and Seasons* © Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis, MN

³ Introduction to the Isaiah reading is from *Sundays and Seasons* © Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis, MN

⁴ Isaiah reading in Common English Bible translation from biblegateway.com

⁵ Look, you will call a nation you don't know,
a nation you don't know will run to you
because of the LORD your God,
the holy one of Israel, who has glorified you.

Here ends the reading.

Inspire our understanding, Spirit of God.

Note about the use of "Grandfather" in this translation.

Psalm 145: 8-9, 14-21⁵

A sacred song of praise by Much Loved One (David).

⁸ Grandfather is kind, merciful, and slow to anger. His greatness is shown by his love, which remains faithful and true.

⁹ **Grandfather is good to all. His kindness covers all of creation like a warm blanket.**

¹⁴ Grandfather takes hold of all who fall and lifts all who are bent low.

¹⁵ **All created things look to you, and you feed them at the right time.**

¹⁶ You open your hand, and every living thing is filled to the full.

¹⁷ **Grandfather always does what is right and is kind in all his ways.**

¹⁸ Grandfather stands close to all who call out to him, all who call out to him in truth.

¹⁹ **He fulfills the longings of all who look up to him. He hears their cries and comes to set them free and make them whole.**

²⁰ Grandfather's medicine shield protects all who love him, but he will bring all evildoers to a bad end.

²¹ **With my mouth, I will sing honor songs to Grandfather. Every created thing will bless his holy name for all days to come.**

⁵ Reproduced from *First Nations Version Psalms and Proverbs: An Indigenous Bible Translation*. Copyright © 2025 by Rain Ministries, Inc. Used by permission of InterVarsity Press. All rights reserved worldwide. www.ivpress.com.

Gospel Acclamation from *ELW* Service of the Word p. 216

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Matthew 14:13-21⁶

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ When Jesus heard about John, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. When the crowds learned this, they followed him on foot from the cities. ¹⁴ When Jesus arrived and saw a large crowd, he had compassion for them and healed those who were sick. ¹⁵ That evening his disciples came and said to him, "This is an isolated place and it's getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

¹⁶ But Jesus said to them, "There's no need to send them away. You give them something to eat."

¹⁷ They replied, "We have nothing here except five loaves of bread and two fish."

¹⁸ He said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹ He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves of bread and the two fish, looked up to heaven, blessed them and broke the loaves apart and gave them to his disciples. Then the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ Everyone ate until they were full, and they filled twelve baskets with the leftovers. ²¹ About five thousand men plus women and children had eaten.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Message

Sermon

⁶ Gospel reading in Common English Bible translation from biblegateway.com

Hymn of the Day: ELW 763 My Life Flows On in Endless Song

1. **My life flows on in endless song;
above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet,
though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.**

Refrain:

**No storm can shake
my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord
of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?**

2. **Through all the tumult
and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing?**

Refrain:

**No storm can shake
my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord
of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?**

3. **What though my joys
and comforts die?
The Lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness
gather round?
Songs in the night he giveth.**

Refrain:

No storm can shake
my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord
of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

4. The peace of Christ
makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine
since I am his!
How can I keep from singing?

Refrain:

No storm can shake
my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord
of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

Apostles' Creed

We confess our faith together, using the words of the Apostles' Creed:
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of Intercession⁷

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. Each prayer petition will end with "Merciful God," and the congregation is invited to respond, "receive our prayer."

A brief silence.

For your church in every place, that it satisfies those who hunger for your word. Bless the ministry of readers, translators, Bible study leaders, and writers, that God's word is broken open and shared with all. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For your wondrous creation and all the bounty it provides, that your creatures are fed and nourished. Bless the work of farmers, farmworkers, those who fish, and all whose labor brings your abundance to our tables. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For your children in every nation, that they learn to love justice and live in harmony. As this week we remember the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, keep us mindful of the horrors of war; draw our hearts instead toward your reign of love, hope, and peace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For all who cry out with great sorrow and unceasing anguish, that they are comforted. Feed all who struggle with food insecurity; have mercy on all who are suffering in body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For this congregation, that it bears faithful witness to the abundance and joy of life in you. Bless all your faithful people gathered here, that they may become blessings for this community. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

With thanksgiving for the faithful who now rest in your mercy, that their witness continues to inspire the church. This week we pray for the family and

⁷ *Sundays and Seasons* © Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis, MN

friends of Yvonne Redant. By the example of the saints, may we trust your promises in life and in death. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering⁸ *Offering plate is placed on the altar.*

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favour and give you peace. Amen.

Sending Song ELW 670 Build us up, Lord

- 1. Build us up, Lord, build us up;
set in us a strong foundation.
Lead us to do your holy will;**

⁸ *Sundays and Seasons* © Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis, MN

form and shape your new creation.
Build us up, Lord, build us up;
as we guide and teach each other,
help us to share your love with the world:
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother.

Refrain:

Growing in Christ,
we plant seeds for the kingdom;
we follow in faith what's begun!
Lord, set in our hearts
the pow'r of your word
to spread the news of your Son!

2. Build us up, Lord, build us up;
let our lives reflect your glory.
Cast away all our doubts and fears;
help us tell the world your story.
Build us up, Lord, build us up;
help us bear good fruit for you,
Lord, give us vision and keep us sure.
Grant us faith that's steadfast and true.

Refrain:

Growing in Christ,
we plant seeds for the kingdom;
we follow in faith what's begun!
Lord, set in our hearts
the pow'r of your word
to spread the news of your Son!

Commission & Dismissal

Go in peace, inspired by Christ to love and serve. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: Kayla Stadnick