November 15, 2026 Service of the Word
Christ Lutheran Church, Regina, SK

Welcome & Announcements
A moment of reflection

Call to Worship

Modified from Psalm 90[1]

Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.
Teach us,
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Gathering Hymn ACS 976 Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom v. 1 & 2

1. Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,
she who danced, when earth was new.
Follow closely what she teaches,
for her words are right and true.
Wisdom clears the path to justice,
showing us what love must do.

2. Listen to the voice of Wisdom,
crying in the market-place.
Hear the Word made
flesh among us,
full of glory, truth and grace.
When the word takes root and ripens,
peace and righteousness embrace.

[1] Modified from Psalm 90, NRSVUE translation, from *Sundays and Seasons* © Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis, MN

Confession & Forgiveness[2]

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Have mercy, O God.
Against you, you alone, we have sinned.
In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin
and take away our guilt.
Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit.
Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit
and restore your joy within us. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for us. As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for us. As far as east is from west, so far God removes our sin from us, renewing our lives through Jesus Christ. Blessed be God whose mercy and love for us overflow.
Blessed be God forever.

We remind one another that in God's overflowing mercy and love, we need not fear, as we sing together, "Don't Be Afraid."

Hymn of Praise ACS 1027 Don't Be Afraid - *Sung twice through*

Don't be afraid, My love is stronger,
My love is stronger than your fear.
Don't be afraid, My love is stronger
And I have promised,
Promised to be always near.

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[2] From ELCA. "Holy Communion Setting 12: Confession and Forgiveness." In *All Creation Sings: Evangelical Lutheran Worship Supplement*. Augsburg Fortress, 2020. 29-30.

Sacrament of Baptism (for Adults & Infants together)

Let us celebrate God's gift of grace
given to us in the sacrament of baptism.
In baptism God promises to love us, forgive us, and always be with us.
By water and the Spirit we are called, claimed, and commissioned:
we are called God's own, welcomed as children of God;
and joined to Christ's ministry of love, peace, and justice.

In the Book of Titus we read;
[God] saved us not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. (Titus 3:5 NRSV)

In the Gospel of Mark we read Jesus' words;
Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it. And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them. (Mark 10:14b-16 NRSV)

The minister addresses those candidates who are able to answer for themselves:

On the strength of God's gracious love for us,
and in communion with the Christian church,
will you be a faithful member of this congregation,
share in its worship and ministry
through your prayers and gifts, your study and service,
and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

R ***I will, with God's help.***

The child is presented for baptism by sponsors and parents:

Who is it that you present for Baptism?

R ***We present Pacy James Hepting to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.***

The minister addresses the Sponsors and Parents:

You have brought Pacy to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.
On the strength of God's gracious love for us,
and in communion with the Christian church,
will you, by your words and actions,
encourage and walk with her in the way of Jesus?
Do you promise to pray for her, and teach her to pray?
Do you promise to nurture her within the
community of the Christian Church?

R ***We will, with God as our helper.***

The minister addresses the congregation:

People of God, do you promise to support Pacy and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

We do.

The minister addresses baptismal group:

I ask you to reject sin, acknowledge your faith in Christ Jesus,
and profess the faith of the Christian Church.
Trusting in God's love and mercy, do you reject evil,
and all its many forms, and all its empty promises.?

R ***I do.***

Trusting in Christ Jesus' grace and love, do you accept his presence in your life as the one who draws you to God?

R ***I do.***

With all God's people throughout time and space,
let us together profess our faith in the triune God.
Do you believe in God?

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (while water is poured into the font).

Gracious and Holy God, we thank you for the gift of life,
and within it, the gift of water.
Now may your Spirit be upon us and what we do
that this water may be a sign for all of new life in Christ.
To you be given praise and honour and worship
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

The minister addresses the infant child(ren).

For you, little child, God made the world out of nothing.
For you, God called Israel out of Egypt and
brought Israel back from Exile.
For you, Pacy, Christ came into the world to teach the children.
For you, Christ died on the cross and rose again.
For you, little child God sent the Holy Spirit
to give you strength to live as you ought.
For you, Christ will come again and take us to God.
Pacy, you know nothing of this.
But we promise to tell you the story
until you make it your own.

The minister baptizes each candidate.

Pacy James Hepting / Gloria Ann Jones / Brian Wesley Jones,
I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Blessing

May God - who has given you new life through water, word and Spirit – guide you, inspire you and work within you, all the days of your life. Amen.

Marking with the Sign of the Cross

Pacy / Gloria / Brian,
child of God this day you have been marked with the sign of the cross.
Joined with Jesus you are a child of God, now and forever.

A lighted Candle is given to each of the Baptized.

Let the light of Christ, which God has placed in your heart,
shine through your words and actions from this day forward.

A prayer for newly baptized and their families:

We pray for the newly baptized:

Gracious God, we thank you that you make us new persons in Jesus Christ through grace alone. We pray for Pacy, Gloria and Brian. Bless and strengthen them daily with the gift of your Holy Spirit. Keep them always in your love. Guide them as they grow in faith. Protect them in all the dangers and temptations of life, and bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

We pray for the parents:

Loving Creator, look with kindness on Cassie and Lucas. Let them always rejoice in the gift you have given them. Grant them the presence of your Holy Spirit, that they may bring up Pacy to know you, love you, and serve you faithfully, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

The congregation stands and welcomes the baptized:

Brothers, sisters, siblings in Christ, we now receive Pacy, Gloria and Brian into Christ's church. I ask you to nurture and love them and to encourage them to be Christ's faithful disciples.
With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into our family of faith.
We promise to love, encourage, and support you
and to help you know and follow Christ.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

The assembly greets one another with a word of peace.

Prayer of the Day[3]

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.
Loving God, **you are gracious and merciful, slow to anger, rich in love.**
Receive our prayers as you have promised and uphold us by your Spirit,
until all things, mended by your mercy, are made whole and well in
you, through Jesus Christ, our healer and our hope. Amen.

Scripture Readings[4]

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Hush before the Lord God, for the day of the Lord is near!
The Lord has established a sacrifice;
he has made holy those he has summoned.
12 At that time, I will search Jerusalem with lamps;
I will punish the men growing fat on the sediment in their wine,
those saying to themselves, The Lord won't do good or evil.

[3] From ELCA. "Service of Word and Prayer." In *All Creation Sings: Evangelical Lutheran Worship Supplement*. Augsburg Fortress, 2020. 42-45.
[4] Scripture readings in Common English Bible translation from biblegateway.com

13 Their wealth will be looted and their houses destroyed.
They will rebuild houses, but not live in them;
they will plant vineyards, but not drink the wine.
14 The great day of the Lord is near; it is near and coming very quickly.
The sound of the day of the Lord is bitter. A warrior screams there.
15 That day is a day of fury,
a day of distress and anxiety,
a day of desolation and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloominess,
a day of clouds and deep darkness,
16 a day for blowing the trumpet and alarm against their invincible cities
and against their high towers.
17 I will make humanity suffer; they will walk like the blind
because they sinned against the Lord.
Their blood will be poured out like dust
and their intestines like manure.
18 Moreover, their silver and their gold won't be able to deliver them
on the day of the Lord's fury.
His jealousy will devour the entire land with fire;
he will make an end, a truly horrible one,
for all the inhabitants of the land.

Here ends the reading.
Inspire our understanding, Spirit of God.

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 25:14-30
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

“The kingdom of heaven is like a man who was leaving on a trip. He called his servants and handed his possessions over to them. [15] To one he gave five valuable coins, and to another he gave two, and to another he gave one. He gave to each servant according to that servant’s ability. Then he left on his journey.

[16] “After the man left, the servant who had five valuable coins took them and went to work doing business with them. He gained five more. [17] In the same way, the one who had two valuable coins gained two more. [18] But the servant who had received the one valuable coin dug a hole in the ground and buried his master’s money.

[19] “Now after a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. [20] The one who had received five valuable coins came forward with five additional coins. He said, ‘Master, you gave me five valuable coins. Look, I’ve gained five more.’

[21] “His master replied, ‘Excellent! You are a good and faithful servant! You’ve been faithful over a little. I’ll put you in charge of much. Come, celebrate with me.’

[22] “The second servant also came forward and said, ‘Master, you gave me two valuable coins. Look, I’ve gained two more.’

[23] “His master replied, ‘Well done! You are a good and faithful servant. You’ve been faithful over a little. I’ll put you in charge of much. Come, celebrate with me.’

[24] “Now the one who had received one valuable coin came and said, ‘Master, I knew that you are a hard man. You harvest grain where you haven’t sown. You gather crops where you haven’t spread seed. [25] So I was afraid. And I hid my valuable coin in the ground. Here, you have what’s yours.’

[26] “His master replied, ‘You evil and lazy servant! You knew that I harvest grain where I haven’t sown and that I gather crops where I haven’t spread

seed? [27] In that case, you should have turned my money over to the bankers so that when I returned, you could give me what belonged to me with interest. [28] Therefore, take from him the valuable coin and give it to the one who has ten coins. [29] Those who have much will receive more, and they will have more than they need. But as for those who don't have much, even the little bit they have will be taken away from them. [30] Now take the worthless servant and throw him out into the farthest darkness.'
"People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth.

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Beth Kelln

Hymn of the Day ELW 723 Canticle of the Turning v. 1, 3, 4

1. **My soul cries out with a joyful shout**
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain:
My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.

3. **From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r,**
not a stone will be left on stone.

Let the king beware for your justice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. *(Refrain)*

4. **Though the nations rage from age to age,**
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. *(Refrain)*

Prayers of Intercession[5]

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation. Each prayer petition will end with "God, in your mercy," and the congregation is invited to respond, "hear our prayer."

You build up the church as a community of faithful witnesses throughout the generations. Enliven the worship, outreach, and service work of our congregations and ministries with the hope of your good news. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

As the nights grow longer in the northern hemisphere, make us mindful of the earth's need for rest. Provide for fallow fields and hibernating animals; show us how to curb human impact on vulnerable lands and species. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

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[5] *Sundays and Seasons* © Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis, MN

Rescue all nations and peoples from violence, displacement, or famine. Disrupt complacency among national and local leaders. Recommit our communities to transforming the systems that divide and oppress into those that empower and unite. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In your embrace, we find refuge from all trials and troubles. Care for families who are separated or estranged, accompany all undergoing medical procedures or mental health treatment, and reassure any who are ill or despairing, especially (*names*). God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless all who serve in congregational leadership: council members, finance committees, volunteer coordinators, and property teams. Encourage healthy stewardship of time, talents, and resources for the mission of the gospel. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The faithful of every age trust in the hope of your saving grace. In thanksgiving for the ways our ancestors have journeyed before us, we remember all who have entered eternal life in you. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved, 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.

Offering[6]

Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.
Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us,
until hungry no more, all the world is fed,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Dedication of the Prairie Spirit display

Pastor Dennis will explain the history of Prairie Spirit and its place in the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church. During this explanation some pictures will be shown on the screen. Members of Prairie Spirit in attendance are introduced.

Prayer of Dedication

Let us pray:
We give you thanks, O God, creator of the universe, for you have enriched our lives with every good and perfect gift; you have commanded us to show your splendour to our children; and you have invited us to praise you with lives of love, justice, and joy.

Send your blessing on this Prairie Spirit Memorial Display, which we dedicate today; may it remind all who see it of this group's important place in the history of Christ Lutheran Church, and may it inspire further forms of music ministry in the years to come.

For all that Prairie Spirit was, and all the ministry it carried out through the years, we give you thanks, O God, source of all good gifts, including music. Amen.

Sending Song "On the Wings of a Dove"

1. **When Noah had drifted; on the sea many days,**
   He searched for land; in various ways.
   Trouble, he had some; but he wasn't forgotten.
   He sent down his love; on the wings of a Dove

[6] *Sundays and Seasons* © Augsburg Fortress, Minneapolis, MN

Chorus: **On the wings of a snow white dove**
He sends His pure, sweet Love
A sign from above, on the wings of a dove.

2. **When troubles surround us; when evils come,**
The body grows weak; and the spirit grows numb.
When these things beset us; He doesn't forget us,
He sends down His love; on the wings of a dove. *(Chorus)*

3. **When Jesus went down; to the river to pray,**
He was baptized by John; in the Jordan that day.
When these things were done; God blessed His Son,
He sent down His Love; on the wings of a dove. *(Chorus)*

Blessing[7]

God, the Source of glory,
God, the Word of life,
God, the Spirit of truth
☩ bless you all, now and forever.
Amen.

Commission & Dismissal

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

Postlude: Joshua Hendricksen

[7] From ELCA. "Holy Communion Setting 12: Confession and Forgiveness." In *All Creation Sings: Evangelical Lutheran Worship Supplement*. Augsburg Fortress, 2020. 29-30.