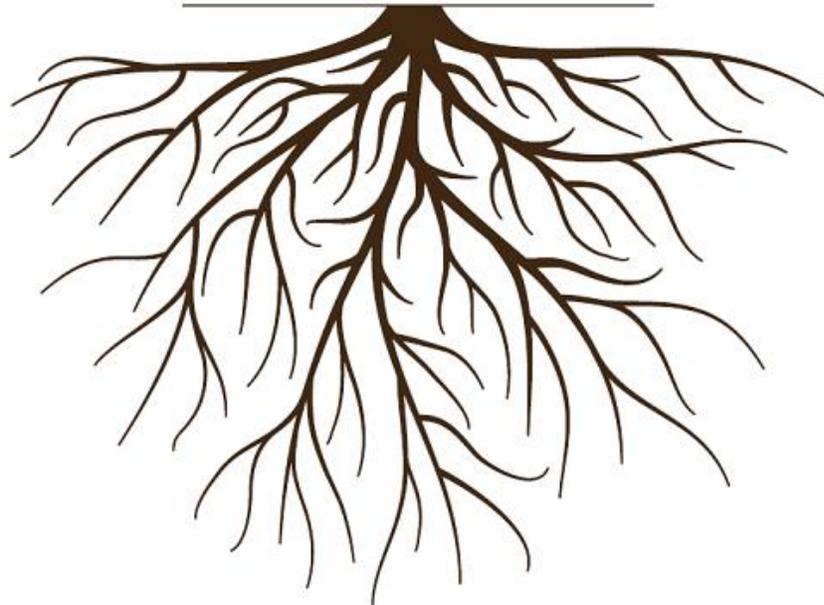


*Rooted in Christ
Celebrating the Future*



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
1871-2021

Christ Lutheran Church – Columbus, Nebraska
Outdoor Worship Service
 150th Anniversary Celebration of the Past
 100th Anniversary of the laying of the Church Cornerstone
 July 5, 2020 - 10:00 AM

Please turn your radio to FM 105.3

Welcome to Christ Lutheran and our Outdoor Worship Service. We are happy to have you joining us today as we give praise to our Triune God and are fed by Him through His Word. As you worship with us this morning, please note the following:

- Unless you are assisting with the worship service, please remain in your vehicle at all times. The church buildings are currently closed to the public. This is for the safety of all those worshipping with us today and to encourage the practice of social distancing.
- If you do not feel well, have a fever of 100.4 or higher in the past 24 hours, been around anyone with COVID-19 symptoms in the last 72 hours, been to an area declared COVID-19 contaminated and under HHS COVID-19 containment direction in the last 72 hours, or been out of the country within the last 2 weeks, please return home and rest. Pastor Witt’s message will be posted on Christ Lutheran’s Facebook page and website later today.

Thank you for observing these guidelines for our worship today. Let us now join together in praising our gracious Heavenly Father as we are fed by His Word this day!

Welcome

- P** This is the day the Lord has made!
- C** We will rejoice and be glad in it!

Opening Hymn

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less

LSB 575

1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus'
 2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on
 3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup - port me
 4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I

blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my
 His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and
 in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly
 then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -

own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!

Refrain

On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text and Tune: Public domain

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

- P** Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
C let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- P** Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
C let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Confession and Absolution

- 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.
O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Psalmody

Psalm 71:1–3, 22–24

- P** In you, O LORD, do I take refuge;
C let me never be put to shame!
- P** In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
C incline your ear to me, and save me!
- P** Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come;
C you have given the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.
- P** I will also praise you with the harp for your faithfulness, O my God;
C I will sing praises to you with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel.
- P** My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to you; my soul also, which you have redeemed.
C And my tongue will talk of your righteous help all the day long,

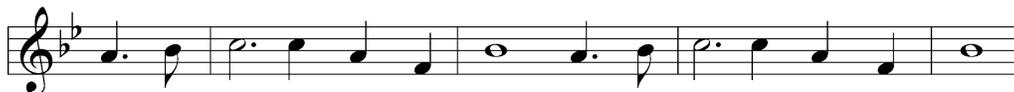
Hymn of Response

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

LSB 761



- 1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill Thy Law's de-mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; Sim - ply to Thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eye - lids close in death,



- Let the wa - ter and the blood, From Thy riv - en side which flowed,
Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to Thee for dress; Help - less, look to Thee for grace;
When I soar to worlds un-known, See Thee on Thy judg - ment throne,



Be of sin the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.
Foul, I to the foun-tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

Text and Tune: Public domain

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 28:10-22

¹⁰Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep.

¹²And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! ¹³And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. ¹⁴Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. ¹⁵Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it." ¹⁷And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

¹⁸So early in the morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹He called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first. ²⁰Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, ²¹so that I come again to my father's house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God, ²²and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that you give me I will give a full tenth to you."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Ephesians 2:11-21

¹¹ Remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands - ¹²remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ¹⁷And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 7:24-29

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventh chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] ²⁴“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. ²⁶And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. ²⁷And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

²⁸And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, ²⁹for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

- C** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

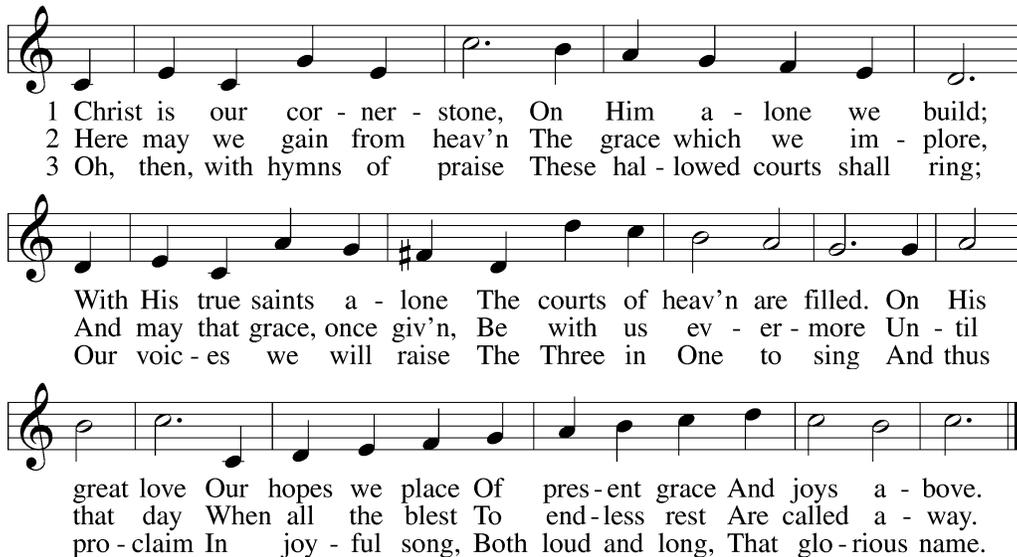
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Hymn

Christ Is Our Cornerstone

LSB 912



1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, On Him a - lone we build;
 2 Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we im - plore,
 3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hal - lowed courts shall ring;

With His true saints a - lone The courts of heav'n are filled. On His
 And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us ev - er - more Un - til
 Our voic - es we will raise The Three in One to sing And thus

great love Our hopes we place Of pres - ent grace And joys a - bove.
 that day When all the blest To end - less rest Are called a - way.
 pro - claim In joy - ful song, Both loud and long, That glo - rious name.

Sermon

“Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.” (Colossians 2:6-7)

Anthem

"Great Is The Lord"

Adult Choir (from CD)

Rededication of Church Cornerstone

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** No one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid,
C **which is Jesus Christ.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, You have built Your Church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone. Continue to send Your messengers to preserve Your people in true peace that, by the preaching of Your Word, Your Church may be kept free from all harm and danger; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

L ¹I love you, O LORD, my strength. ²The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. ³I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies...³⁰This God - his way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him. ³¹For who is God, but the LORD? And who is a rock, except our God? - ³²the God who equipped me with strength and made my way blameless. ³³He made my feet like the feet of a deer and set me secure on the heights. ⁴⁶The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation! (*Psalms 18:1-3,30-33,46*)

L ¹So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. ²Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation - ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in Scripture: "Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." (*1 Peter 2:1-6*)

P The cornerstone of this house of worship for Christ Lutheran Church was laid one hundred years ago on July 4, 1920. Jesus has remained the true cornerstone of this church and congregation as His Word has been faithfully proclaimed and Sacraments rightly administered in this place.

Today, we rededicate the cornerstone of this house of worship of Christ Lutheran Church in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P May the only true and living God be worshiped, the Gospel be proclaimed, the Sacraments be administered, and all who worship here build and live their lives upon Jesus, who is the Cornerstone of our faith and the Rock of our salvation.

C Amen.

P Let us pray. O Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, You alone are the firm foundation and chief cornerstone of Your Church, the Beginning and the End, the Alpha and the Omega. Continue to be the beginning, continuance, and completion of this house of worship, that it may serve the glory and praise of Your holy name. Hear us, O Lord, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

P In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For reasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

- P** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those special need of God’s care (Names). That the Lord would give them strength, peace, and comfort, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:
C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Amen.**
- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
C **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.**

Benediction

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**
- 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.**

Closing Hymn

The Church’s One Foundation

LSB 644



1 The Church’s one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - ’ry na - tion, Yet one o’er all the earth;
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.
 Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
 By schisms rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more



From heav’n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
 Yet saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up, “How long?”
 Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
 And to one hope she press - es With ev - ’ry grace en - dued.
 And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.
 And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.

- 5 Yet she on earth has union, With God, the Three in One,
 And mystic sweet communion, With those whose rest is won.
 O blessed heav’nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace
 That we, like saints before us, May see You face to face.

Text and Tune: Public domain

Announcements

Christ Lutheran plans to resume worship in the church building next Sunday, July 12, with some restrictions for the safety of those who worship and to promote social distancing.

We will continue to broadcast the Sunday services over the FM transmitter (FM 105.3) for those who would like to attend worship but feel more comfortable remaining in their vehicles in the parking lot. On Sundays where the Lord's Supper is celebrated, Communion will be provided for those who listen to the worship service from the parking lot.

Hymn for Our Nation

God Bless our Native Land

LSB 965



1 God bless our na - tive land; Firm may she ev - er stand
2 So shall our prayers a - rise To God a - bove the skies;

Through storm and night. When the wild tem - pests rave, Rul - er of
On Him we wait. Thou who art ev - er nigh, Guard - ing with

wind and wave, Do Thou our coun - try save By Thy great might.
watch - ful eye, To Thee a - loud we cry: God save the state!

Text and Tune: Public domain

Historical Perspective

Christ Lutheran's first church was a wooden structure without a basement built in 1877 at a cost of \$1,200. As congregational life flourished, the membership increased and it became urgent to build a larger house of worship. Due to World War 1, the project was deferred until the close of the war. On February 26, 1919, Christ Lutheran appointed 6 members to serve on the building committee. On January 7, 1920, a contractor was hired. Records show that congregational members went to Columbus with their teams of horses and wagons and their trucks with solid rubber tires, to haul the necessary materials to the building site. The cornerstone was laid on July 4, 1920. The Omaha Tribune reported that the cost of the new church was nearly \$80,000. The new house of worship was dedicated on September 18, 1921, three weeks after the congregation celebrated its Diamond Jubilee. Two thousand people attended the dedication and 360 automobiles were in the parking lot.

One hundred years and one day later, we celebrate the rededication of our cornerstone.

