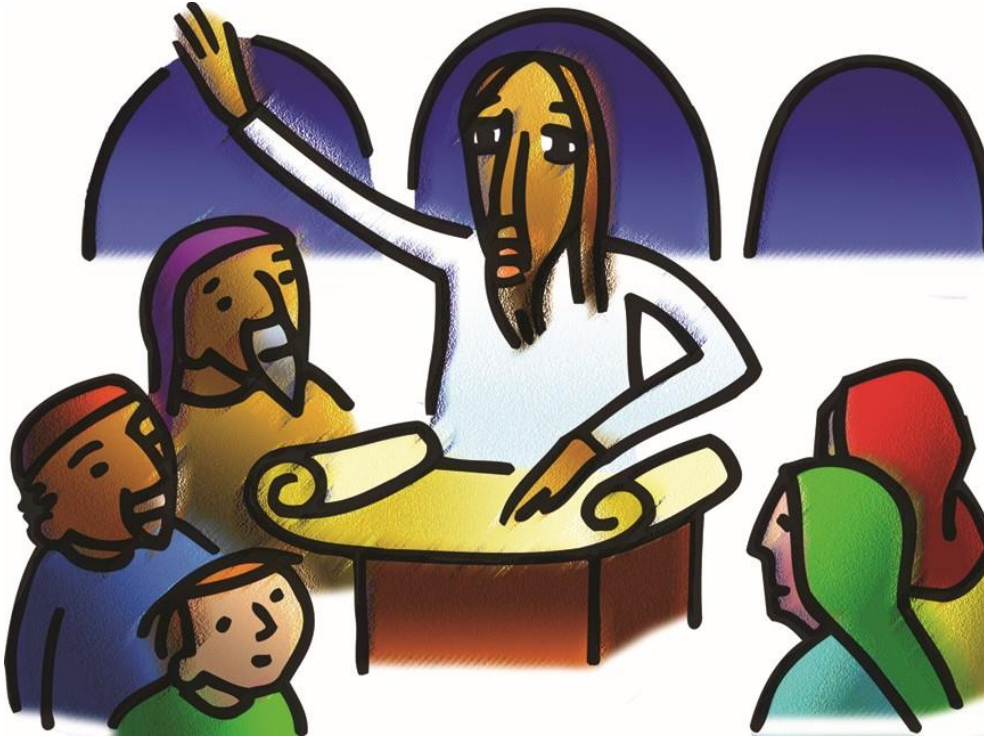


Welcome to
WEST CLERMONT LUTHERAN CHURCH
Member of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
August 25, 2024



Worship 9:30am
Pastor Micheal Erickson

West Clermont Lutheran Church
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Facebook Live @ West Clermont
<https://www.facebook.com/100011482533370>

14th Sunday after Pentecost

August 25, 2024

INTRODUCTION

In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

GATHERING

PRELUDE:

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

WCLC MISSION STATEMENT: *As children of God, called to love God and one another, we proclaim the Word of God through study, prayer, worship, and discipleship. We serve those in need within our congregation, our community, and our world as an expression of God's love for us. LOVE, PROCLAIM, SERVE!*

GATHER HYMN: "Lead On O' King Eternal" **ELW 805**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: **Amen.**

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: God, our provider,

C: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

P: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✠ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

KYRIE

ELW Pg. 120

CANTICLE OF PRAISE: *"This is the feast..."* **ELW Pg. 122**

PRAYER OF THE DAY: Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

NOISY CAN OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC:

"Rebel Heart" by Lauren Daigle

CCLI #7117254

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sufQX7NSX2k>

WORD

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

¹Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. ^{2a}And Joshua said to all the people, ¹⁴“Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. ¹⁵Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

¹⁶Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; ¹⁷for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; ¹⁸and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Psalm: 34:15-22 (Responsively)

¹⁵The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous,
and God’s ears are open to their cry.

¹⁶**The face of the LORD is against those who do evil,
to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.**

¹⁷The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them
and delivers them from all their troubles.

¹⁸**The LORD is near to the brokenhearted
and saves those whose spirits are crushed.**

¹⁹Many are the troubles of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers them from every one.

²⁰**God will keep safe all their bones;
not one of them shall be broken.**

²¹Evil will bring death to the wicked
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

²²**O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants, and those
who put their trust in you will not be punished.**

Second Reading: Ephesians 6:10-20

¹⁰Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

R: *The Word of the Lord.*

C: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Pg. 124

Gospel: John 6:56-69

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] ⁵⁶“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” ⁶¹But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. ⁶⁵And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

⁶⁶Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

P: *The gospel of the Lord.*

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Mike Erickson

HYMN OF THE DAY: “*Blessed Assurance*” **ELW 638**

NICENE CREED:

**We believe in one God, the Father,
the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,**

of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin
Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and
glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of
sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Merciful God, C: receive our prayer.

WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

C: Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy

ELW Pg.130

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

***LORD’S PRAYER**

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

COMMUNION:

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: Jesus, Bread of life, we
have received from your table more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to
love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.
Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and
journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING MUSIC: “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer” ELW 618

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Love. Proclaim. Serve.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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Prayer List

Requested: Jeanette (Davisson) Cain, Don Erickson, Jake Noggle, Karen Guyer, Lynzee Henrikson-Makowski, Karen Kohls, Ardell Fortune, Julie Albertson, Danice Cummings, Larry Kohls, Karen Kerner, Terry Cummings, Sarah Updegraff-Murray, Ashlyn Busta.

Assisted Living, Nursing Homes & Shut-Ins: Millard Nelson, Betty Erickson, Gail Herman, Bud Siebrecht, Karen Follett, Judy Nelson.

In the Military: Jeff Kleppe, Nathan Guyer, Kennedy White.

Sunday, August 11, 2024

Loose: \$3.00

Noisy Can: \$20.33

Total General Fund: \$2,503.33

Building Fund: \$230.00 (Roof: \$180.00 / Regular: \$50.00)

Attendance: 40

Regular: \$2,480.00

Sunday, August 18, 2024

Noisy Can: \$21.75

Regular: \$840.00

In Honor of Mark & Denise Nelson 45th Anniversary: \$500.00


Total General Fund: \$1,382.75

Attendance: 40

Loose: \$21.00

| | | |
|-----------|--------|--------------------------|
| Wed. 8/28 | 2-4pm | Senior Game Day |
| Sun. 9/1 | 9:30am | Worship Service @ church |
| | | Holy Communion |
| | 4pm | Sunday Mtg. |



 **Noisy Can Offering** for 3rd Quarter (July-Sept.) will go to Sarah Updegraff-Murray, daughter of Sue Updegraff. Sarah fell this past winter and broke her neck. She has a made great progress, but the road to recovery is long.



Pictorial Directory Registration is now open. Our dates of photography are **Tues., Oct. 1st and Wed., Oct. 2nd** from 2-8:30pm each day. Just for participating you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a church directory. You will view your images right away and have the chance to purchase family portraits for your own memories and to give as gifts. You can make an appointment in person, after church, on communion Sundays in August, or by clicking the link at the end of this announcement. Link is open Monday-Friday. **Link:** www.ucdir.com. Click on “photography appointment scheduling login” on right. Church Code: **ia313** Password: **photos**



Montauk Organ Series @ the Union Sunday School kicks off **TODAY @ 2pm**. A theatrical performance by community members about the controversial presidential race between Hayes and Tilden in 1876. There will be comedy and music to enjoy! A light reception will follow the performance at the Opera House.



Compassionate Companions is the devotional in the May/June edition of the ELCA Gather Magazine used for Circle Meeting. It is a beautiful article that focuses on how congregations can play a role in mental health for all. Several copies have been placed in the downstairs entry for anyone who would like to read the devotional.



Direct Deposit Offering is available for your weekly/monthly offering. Simply contact the office for account and routing information. It's fast and easy!



Senior Game Day is on August 28th, from 2-4pm. Come join us for some snacks and fun! All are welcome!



Luther League Ice Cream Social @ St. Paul Lutheran in Monona is **TODAY** from 4:30-7pm. Dine in and carry out. Serving: sloppy joes, ham sandwiches, cheesy potatoes, baked beans, chips, assorted salads and dessert with ice cream. Free will donation!

IowaStateFair

CONGRATULATIONS to *Chris & Lois Miller* who were the recipients of the **Century Farm Award** and the **Heritage Farm Award** at the 2024 Iowa State Fair. The Century Farm Award represents a 100 years of family farm ownership and the Heritage Farm Award represents 150 years of family farm ownership. **CONGRATULATIONS** also goes out to *Bob & June Swenson* and *Mike & Rose Schutte*. Both couples received the Century Farm Award.



Madonna Stumme is moving at the end of August to be near her daughter Sarah and her family. Madonna will still have the same phone number if you'd like to keep in touch. The church office has her new address if you'd like to send her a note.