

~ *The Reverend Philip C. Spohn* ~

As you enter the worship space, feel free to go to the altar and light a candle representing your life and the light you are to the world. May you shine brightly throughout the week.

♪ **Summer Music Series 2025 Choir, Song Leaders, Praise Singers and Band** ♪

Order of Worship

Organ Prelude:

How Great Thou Art

Bonnie Banks-Beers

Swedish Folk Tune

adapt. Stuart K. Hine

No matter who you are or where you are on your journey, **you are welcome here!**

Welcome & Announcements

We are gathered and ready and aware of God's presence.

Chime~

Silence~

Prayer~

Opening Song:

Come, Now Is the Time to Worship

Come now is the time to worship
Come now is the time to give your heart
Come just as you are to worship
Come just as you are before your God...

One day every tongue will confess you are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains
For those who gladly choose you now...

Time for All Ages

Josh Gulotta

First Reading: Isaiah 58:9b-14

Tiffany Wilten

God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.

^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

- ¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.
- ¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.
- ¹³ If you refrain from trampling the sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs;
- ¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the LORD,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 103:1-8

- ¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
- ² **Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—**
- ³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;
- ⁴ **who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**
- ⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
- ⁶ **O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**
- ⁷ You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.
- ⁸ **LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Gospel Acclamation: *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!*

Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-jah! Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-jah! Halle, Halle, Halle-lu-jah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Gospel Reading: Luke 13:10-17

Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding “sabbath work” to include setting people free from bondage.

¹⁰ Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. ¹¹ And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹² When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” ¹³ When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴ But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.” ¹⁵ But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶ And ¹⁷ When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

Help us God, as we seek to interpret what this means for our lives.

Message

Silence for Reflection: 4'33" (*1st Movement*)

John Cage

Reception of Tithes & Offerings

Message Song: *Change My Heart, O God*

Change my heart O God
Make it ever true
Change my heart O God
May I be like you...

You are the potter
I am the clay
Mold me and make me
This is what I pray...

Prayers of the Church

Tim Brown

After each petition: Make us repairers of the breach,
and restorers of streets to live on.

Steven Portnoy, Kim Osmonson, Dawn Phillips, Nancy Klinedinst, Lexi Doddy, Chuck Coe,
Heather Stahler, Leona, Tammy Harding, Mark Rambo, Deanna Benner, Michele Daage,
Tim Willard, Bill Bergstresser, Bonnie Oszeyczik, Paige Sharrer, Bill Tone,
Keith Schaedel, Janis, Gary Brandt, Bob Uttard, Tiffany Weddle, Kyle

*Condolences to the Family & Friends of Carole L. Ackerman,
to those of Anthony T. Herstich, Jr., and to those of Christine S. Moyer*

Finally, and together: **Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus, whom we love and follow. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Closing Hymn: *Lead Me, Guide Me*

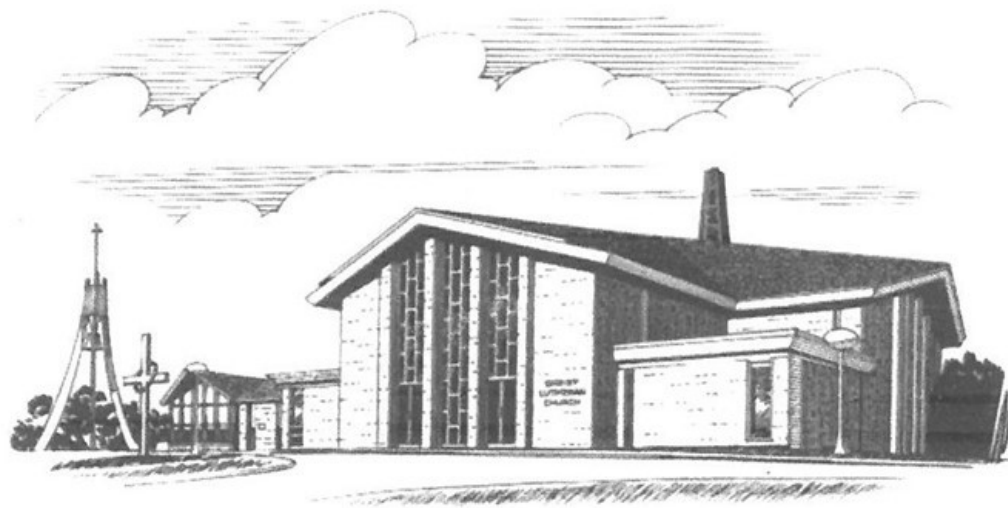
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Benediction

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Organ Postlude: *He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought*

Joseph H. Gilmore
and William B. Bradbury



Faith Statement

The people of Christ Lutheran Church of Hellertown invite you to experience Christianity as a way of life, not a set of creeds and doctrines demanding total agreement. We invite you to join us as we seek to discover the relevance of Jesus' teachings for our time. We look to scripture, faith, experience and reason to inform our journey. We affirm that all people are created in the divine image, and that God is active in many people, including those who do not profess the Christian faith. We acknowledge and respect people of other faiths who understand that God is working in them and through them to bring about peace, justice, love, and reconciliation among God's people. We take the Bible seriously, not literally. We strive to transform our lives to live the teachings of Jesus and, above all, to love unconditionally. We welcome all persons into our midst, without regard to race, age, gender, sexual orientation, or abilities.