

~ *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.

Guest Musician, Milo Morris, Hymn Leader

Order of Worship

*Congregational Hymn Sing Service
Anniversary Sunday*

Congregational Prelude (from HOPE, ASSURANCE section in hymnal)

“Come, We That Love the Lord” (ELW #625)

We’re Marching to Zion

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 Hymn (from PRAISE, THANKSGIVING section in hymnal)

“Lift Every Voice and Sing” (ELW #841)

Time for All Ages

Josh Gulotta

Responsive Reading: Psalm 112

Anne Baum

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD
and have great delight in God’s commandments!

² **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³ Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴ **Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶ **For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

⁸ **Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire up on their enemies.**

⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away;
the desires of the wicked will perish.**

Old Testament Reading: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.

¹ Let mutual love continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;
I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to imitate God's gracious hospitality to those in need.

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

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

Message

Reception of Tithes & Offerings

Hymn of the Day (from COMMITMENT, DISCIPLESHIP section in hymnal)

“O Master, Let Me Walk with You” (ELW#818)

Prayers of the Church

Cheryl Glasker

After each petition: Teach us to deal generously with others,
and conduct our affairs with justice.

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

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 (from TRUST, GUIDANCE section in hymnal)

“What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine” (ELW #774)
Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

Benediction

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

Congregational Postlude (from SENDING section in hymnal)

“God Be with You Till We Meet Again” (ELW#536)

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.



Milo Morris Bass-Baritone

With a voice described as "warm" by the Reading Chronicle (England), Milo Morris is a solid and versatile performer. At home in the basso buffo repertoire as well as demanding, dramatic bel canto and verismo roles, Milo brings a wide variety of performance experience to the stage including numerous opera, operetta, musical theatre, dance, and television credits. Milo's roles have included Porgy in Porgy & Bess in Living Arts' touring production in the UK, Il Re in Aida with New Rochelle Opera, and the Sergeant of Police in Pirates of Penzance at the International Gilbert & Sullivan Festival in Buxton, England which earned Milo a nomination for Best Character Actor.

Originally from Boston, Milo has been a crowd-pleaser for audiences throughout the US and UK bringing roles to life for companies such as OperaDelaware, New York Gilbert & Sullivan Players, and Opera Memphis. Milo's portrayal of Dr. Dulcamara for Delaware Valley Opera Co. was praised by the Chestnut Hill Local saying that, "he sang with the kind of visceral immediacy that makes opera so special when it works." BBC Radio also praised Milo's interpretation of Porgy, describing his performance as "convincingly strong and forceful". Among his favorite operatic roles are Dr. Bartolo in Le nozze di Figaro, Banquo in Macbeth, and Sarastro in Die Zauberflöte. Milo has also appeared as a guest artist in operas and recitals at the University of Maine at Farmington, Philadelphia Biblical University, and Rowan University.

Milo was educated at the Boston Conservatory, University of the Arts, and Temple University and is a member of The American Guild of Musical Artists.