



The 19th Sunday after Pentecost, Lectionary 27

4 October, 2026

Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Gathering

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread and find strength to walk as disciples. Today the church remembers St. Francis of Assisi, who was born into a wealthy family and left all behind to serve God. Francis is known for his care and compassion for animals. Once, when preaching, Francis commanded the birds to be quiet and they flocked around him to listen. Various stories have circulated of his befriending a rabbit and taming a wolf by removing the thorn that plagued him.

We welcome you, whether you are joining us in-house or by social media. Our prayer is that worship today will be a blessing as we sing and pray and hear God's Word together. We welcome you to the Lord's Table this morning. Christ Church is a family of faith deeply rooted in our upper Bucks communities, supporting one another in faith, working together to serve God.

*Our worship order is contained in this booklet. The people's parts are indicated by **bold** type. The red hardback hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, is our main worship resource for hymns and song. You can find hymns in the second half of the book and are numbered at the top of each hymn. We will celebrate Holy Communion today – all are welcome, and directions are included after the invitation to the Table. If you have trouble coming forward, or need gluten free bread and wine, there are element cups near the door for you to use. Occasionally, worship may veer from the printed bulletin – just follow the Spirit!*

Changes and additions to the prayer list are published every Sunday in the announcements. Please share your prayer concern with Pastor, or Cindy Carper, if you would like it included on the prayer list. Please take this weekly resource home with you – use it to take notes, jot down reminders, pray, remember dates. You can call (215.766.8730) or email (christpipersville@gmail.com) for prayer needs. In an emergency, please call the parsonage at 267-362-8129.

WELCOME AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS / THE PRELUDE

Please stand in body or spirit.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence for reflection

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW #729, THE CHURCH OF CHRIST



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
 4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
 be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
 out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

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GREETING

The grace of the risen Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God,
 and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE ELW P.148



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *Silence. The Prayer of the Day is offered as we join in our hearts.* God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Word

THE FIRST LESSON is from Isaiah, the 5th chapter. (Isa. 5:1-7)

¹Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it?

When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.

I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry! The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 80 is read responsively.

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁸**You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.**

⁹You cleared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.

¹⁰**The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**

¹¹You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river.

¹²**Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**

¹³The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

¹⁴**Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;**

¹⁵behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted. **Amen.**

THE SECOND READING is from Philippians, the 3rd chapter. (Phil.3:4-14)

[Paul writes:] ^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW #174



THE HOLY GOSPEL according to Matthew, the 21st chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.** (Mth 21:33-46)

[Jesus said to the people:] ³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet..” The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

*The Alleluia Repeats. Following, please be seated.
The children are dismissed to learning time.*

TEACHING THE WORD (SERMON)

THE HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #712, LORD WHOSE LOVE



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crating to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984
Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
Text © Oxford University Press

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need,
and all of God’s creation.

*A brief silence. We offer our prayers for the church, our community, neighbors and nation. Each petition concludes: ‘...in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**’. A time to offer our own petitions aloud or in silence follows the invitation ‘...for what else shall we pray’. The prayers conclude:*

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Meal

THE PEACE

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

We greet one another in peace saying, “Peace be with you” or similar words.

Feel free to step out of your pew! Following the peace, please be seated.

OFFERTORY, AS WE GATHER OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS / ANTHEM

We offer our love, obedience and lives in thanksgiving as a response to God’s gifts and mercies.

In-House the offering is collected. If you are worshipping remotely, tithes and offerings may be gathered and given by mail, given online at christpipersville.org or using the QR code.



OFFERTORY RESPONSE CREATE IN ME ELW P. 186 (HILLERT)

Please stand in body or spirit.

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Creating God: **The fields and forest, sea and sky are the work of your hands
and we are blessed by their bounty. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,
and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right and a joyful thing to give you thanks O God...

Pastor offers the Eucharistic prayer; we join in our hearts. The prayer concludes:

...as Jesus taught us:

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.

AGNUS DEI: O LAMB OF GOD

1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter - nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

These are the gifts of God for the people of God - come to the Table,
 for all is now ready. **We shall come with joy, alleluia, amen!**

Please be seated.

We believe Jesus Christ is truly present in the forms of bread and wine. You are welcome-this is the Lord's Table and He invites you! If you have taken an elements cup and prefer to commune where you are seated, please commune at any time after the invitation. The elements are offered with the words: "The Body of Christ given for you" and "The Blood of Christ shed for you". The recipient may respond "Amen".

Those online are communed, then the musicians. The congregation follows by the organ side, then the pulpit side. Please come forward by the center aisle and receive the Host from Pastor. Then move towards the side aisle to receive the Wine by intinction, dipping the Host into the cup, and returning to the pew by the side aisle. Take your time - be in prayer, sing, pray as you come to the Table.

The hymn during communion is ACS 981, All Who are Thirsty.

Leader All
 All who are thirst - y, come to the wa-ters. All who are hun - gry,
 come here and eat. All who are thirst - y, come to the wa-ters.
 All who are thirst - y,
 There's e - nough for all.

Text: Brian Wentzel, b. 1979
 Music: ALL WHO ARE THIRSTY, Brian Wentzel
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When all have communed, the Table is cleared. Please stand at Pastor's invitation.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. *a brief silence*

**We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us
through the healing power of this gift of life.**

**In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift,
in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated for Mission & Ministry Announcements.

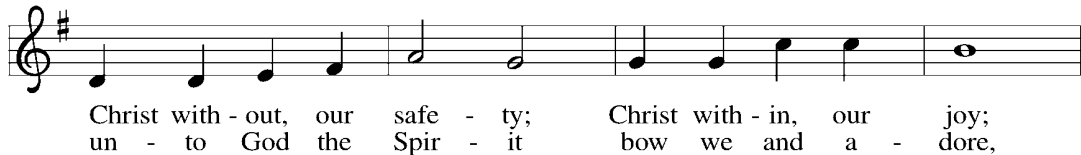
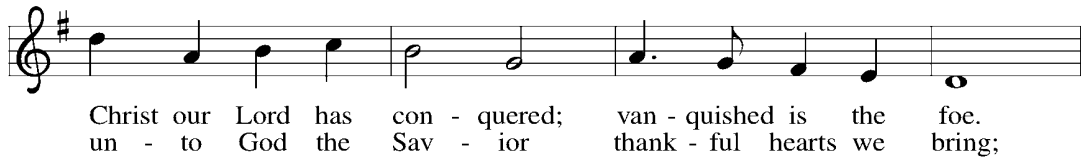
Sending

Please stand in body or spirit at Pastor's invitation.

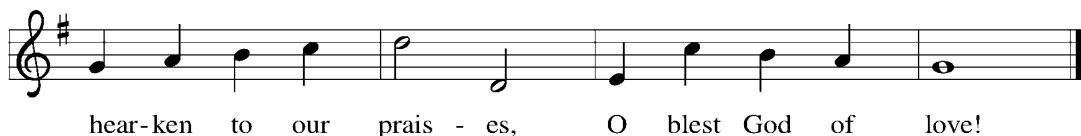
THE BENEDICTION

The Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

OUR SENDING SONG is hymn ELW #537, ON OUR WAY REJOICING



Refrain



Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.
Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE POSTLUDE

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

353 E. Dark Hollow Rd, Pipersville PA 18947
215. 766. 8730 office 267. 362. 8129 parsonage

The Rev. Marie L. Caron, pastor
the people of Christ Church, ministers
Mrs. Cindy Carper, Secretary
Mrs. Kimberly Campbell, Council President

WORSHIP ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CREDITS:

The ordo is the traditional liturgy of Holy Communion. ELW is Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

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THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIVE-STREAMED WORSHIP can be seen on Facebook Live and Zoom. Watch your email for links to the live-streamed service and the recorded service to be posted to YouTube and our website (www.christpipersville.org).

THE OCTOBER WEB SITE is sponsored by Kim and Jim Campbell in loving honor of our sons, Andrew and Nicholas.

THE OCTOBER BULLETINS are sponsored by Susan Bechtold in memory of Henry and Randy Bechtold.

GREETERS: Steve & Cindy Brutsche and DJ Lysinger

LECTOR: Kim Campbell

FELLOWSHIP:

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS – The prayer list is printed in today's announcements, the newsletter and is posted on the bulletin board. Please contact the church office, 215-766-8730 or e-mail, with any prayer needs. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month unless a new request is made.

SUNDAY SCHOOL classes meet today and are held the 1st and 2nd Sundays of the month through May. Teachers are still needed throughout the year. See the sign-up sheet on the Sunday School bulletin board at the top of the stairs. Lessons are provided in advance and you can sign up for one or more Sundays. Share your faith with our youth!

GREETERS: We need volunteers to welcome everyone to worship on Sunday mornings and distribute bulletins. There's a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to select a week that's convenient for you.

FELLOWSHIP PERIOD hosts are needed. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

UPCOMING BOOK, BAKE & SOUP SALE is scheduled for October 16, 17, 23 & 24 in the parish hall. Donations of baked goods and soup will be needed, especially for October 16th & 17th. Volunteers will also be needed to staff the kitchen. See the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for volunteers to staff the kitchen as well as for donations of soup and baked goods. Contact Kathy Brown (267-370-2765) with any questions or to volunteer to help during the sale. You may place your book donations at the back of the parish hall prior to October 10th. Please try to have your books sorted by type (children's, fiction, trade paperbacks, etc.) to help the library volunteers in the set-up process. There are also soup containers available under the coat rack if you want to use them for your soup donations. Thank you.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA: Sponsors are needed for our participation in the National Wreaths Across

America Day on December 19th to place wreaths on the graves of veterans at our Lower Tinicum Union Cemetery. Wreaths are \$17 each. Please see Steve Gruver to be a sponsor. All donations need to be in by Nov. 15th. There will be a short ceremony at the cemetery on December 19th at 2 p.m.

The Week of October 4th at a Glance

Sun. 10/04 The 19th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship, Sunday School
10:30AM Fellowship Period
Happy 68th Anniversary, Paul & Ruth Gruver!

Mon. 10/05 2:00PM Worship & Music Committee
7:30PM Property Committee

Tues. 10/06 Happy Birthday, Kim Campbell!
Happy Anniversary, Cory & Karen Trauger!

Wed. 10/07 11:00AM Ensemble Rehearsal
Happy Anniversary, Jeff & Sandra Cron!

Thur. 10/08 7:00AM Morning Prayer, 9:00AM Bible Study

Fri. 10/09 Office Closed, Pastor's Day Off
Happy Birthday, Skyler Cole!

Sat. 10/10 Parish Hall Reserved
Happy Birthday, Josh Kelly!

Sun. 10/11 The 20th Sunday after Pentecost
9:30AM In-Person and Live-Streamed Worship, Sunday School
10:30AM Fellowship Period
Happy Birthday, Jacob Leister!
Parish Hall Reserved

CIRCLE OF PRAYER

In October 2026, let us pray for...

Joseph Apgar (AF), Tait Blethen (AF), Jim Campbell (H,R), Pr. Caron & Family (Pr/C), Pr. Bill Coleman (Pr/C), David Cook (H,St), Cory Cox (AF), ELCA Bishop Yehiel Curry (Pr/C), Debbie Ann (H,R), Pr. Ginny Goodwin (Pr/C), Paul Gruver (H,St,P,NH), Sonja Hadland (NH), Mark Kallenbach (H,St), Bev Maddux (H,R), Bishop Bryan Penman (Pr/C), Emma Roberson (H,R), Bunnie S (P), Bailey Sanford (pregnancy), Thomas Schumacher (AF), Thomas Shiiba (AF), Stephen Spadaccino (AF), and Rich Weidner (AF).

Those who mourn:

The family and friends of Patricia McGroary (esp. grandchildren Jen & Jeremy Carr & family), Harry Bohlman, the Rev. Dr. Patricia Davenport, Roy Clement (esp. wife Joanne, son Mike Clement, Nick, & Pastor Caron) and Jackie Menagh.

AF: Armed Forces, H: Healing, P: Peace/Patience, R: Recovery, St: Strength, M: Mourning, W: Wisdom T: Thanksgiving, NH: Nursing Home, HB: Home Bound, Pr/C: Pastors/Church Professionals
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Please consider visiting, writing or calling these people who need the support of this faith community. If you know of others for whom you would like the congregation to pray, please notify the church office, 215-766-8730. Let us pray also for anyone besides the ones listed above, who may have some special need or desire.