

CHRIST OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

37 Warner Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07305

The Reverend Kimberly Vaughn, Pastor

Church: 201-433-1836 Pastor: 201-433-2889

Church email: contact.redeemerlutheranjc@gmail.com

Pastor's email: pastor@christouredeemer.net

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tuesdays: 1:00 - 5:30

Wednesdays: 1:00 - 7:30

Thursdays: 1:00 - 8:30

Fridays: 9:00 - 2:00

Saturdays: As needed

Sundays: 7:30 - 11:30

Worship Service – 9:30 AM Sundays (In-person & Online)

Zoom Meeting ID: 881 4746 6449; Password: 348873

Phone: 1-646-558-8656

August 25, 2024

14th Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are delighted that you are worshipping today at Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. May your experience with God here be a blessing!

ACCESS FOR ALL: While we stand often during the service, please assume a posture of reverence which you are able or comfortable. An accessible restroom is located in the Parish Hall through the kitchen. If you'd like Communion brought to your seat, our Pastor will gladly assist you. Young worshippers may visit our COR-KIDS Playspace in the rear of the sanctuary. Activity bulletins are available for children.

How do I find worship music?

ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (the red book in your pew)

AAH - African American Heritage (the beige book in your pew)

Find us online at:

Website: <https://www.christouredeemerjc.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ChristOurRedeemerJerseyCity>

Instagram: www.instagram.com/cor.jc

Have questions? Interested in baptism or membership? Please speak with our ***Pastor Kimberly Vaughn*** after service Or, call 201.433.1836.

P-Pastor C-Congregation

Prelude

Welcome

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

Please stand as you are comfortable.

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.

Gathering Hymn:

We Have Come Into This House (AAH 174)

Apostolic 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.

Kyrie

ELW p. 147 (in front of book)

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

A: For peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord have mercy.

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen

Hymn of Praise

ELW p. 149 (in front of book)

A: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God, Alleluia! Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation. Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever, Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Salutation

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Front page of the Celebrate Insert

P: 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.

C: Amen.

WORD

Lessons in *Celebrate* Insert

First Reading	Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
Psalmody	Psalm 34:15-22
Second Reading	Ephesians 6:10-20
Gospel	John 6:56-69

First Reading:

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

In the Near East, covenant means “agreement” or “alliance.” It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.

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.”

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm:

Psalm 34:15-22

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous. (Ps. 34:15)

¹⁵The eyes of the Lord are up- | on 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 spir- | its are crushed. R**

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. R**

Second Reading:

Ephesians 6:10-20

Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.

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.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(In honor of God's Good News to us in Jesus, we stand or assume a posture of reverence to receive the reading of the Gospel.)

Gospel Acclamation

ELW p. 151 (in front of book)

**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 6:56-69

The "hard saying" that offends Jesus' disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: "To whom shall we go?"

[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.

(Please be seated.)

Children’s Time

The Rev. Kimberly A. Vaughn

(Children are welcome to come forward for a special message.)

Sermon

The Rev. Kimberly A. Vaughn

Please stand as you are comfortable.

Hymn of the Day

Wonderful Words of Life (AAH 322)

The Apostles’ Creed

P: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles’ Creed.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayers of Intercession

Back page of the *Celebrate* Insert

P: Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

P: Creator God, we and all creation are sustained by your Word. We pray for all who remind us of our interconnectedness with all living things. Prosper the work of conservation organizations, ELCA advocacy, and local climate justice advocates. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: God of wisdom, as our nation navigates another election cycle, guide our leaders to act justly for the sake of the world. Bring about fruitful conversation among your people and bring about change where you see fit. Sustain all who serve on juries in their deliberations. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: God of restoration, bring healing and wholeness to all who cry to you. Where pain is sharp, bring a sense of comfort and relief. Where grief runs deep, bring your tender mercy. Care for those on our hearts (*especially*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: God of new life, protect students and teachers for a new school year. Bring an end to school shootings and cycles of violence. Move us to do all that is necessary to ensure a safe future for our children. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: God of every generation, we remember with thanksgiving all who have completed their baptismal journeys (*especially*). Strengthen us in our baptismal callings to serve you faithfully until our journey's end. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping.

C: Amen.

MEAL

Greeting of Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(We share a sign of Christ's peace—a wave, handshake, smile, hug—however you are comfortable!)

Please be seated.

Offering & Offertory Music

(In response to hearing God's Word, we respond with joy in our offering.)

Please stand as you are comfortable.

Let The Vineyards

ELW 184

C: Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all, unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offertory 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. **Amen.**

The 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 him thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW p. 153 (in front of book)

C: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Let us pray as Jesus taught...

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

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

Please be seated.

Lamb of God

ELW p. 154 (in front of book)

C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn:

Have Thine Own Way, Lord (AAH 449)

Distribution of Communion

(Please bring the communion back to your seat to eat and drink. Someone will collect the cups afterwards.)

Please stand as able.

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

Post-Communion Canticle:

God is So Good

*GOD IS SO GOOD, GOD IS SO GOOD, GOD IS SO GOOD, HE'S SO GOOD TO ME.
HE CARES FOR ME, HE CARES FOR ME, HE CARES FOR ME, HE'S SO GOOD TO ME.
HE'S ALL I NEED, HE'S ALL I NEED, HE'S ALL I NEED, HE'S SO GOOD TO ME.*

P: 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.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

Announcements

(Please see the last page.)

SENDING

Thanksgiving at the Conclusion of a Call

The Rev. Maristela Freiberg

Please stand as you are comfortable.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

Revive Us Again (AAH 569)

Closing Anthem

Jesus Remember Me

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: And in the ministry of Pastor Kimberly Vaughn, with hope in God’s abundant grace in years to come, I announce that The Rev. Kimberly Vaughn’s service as Pastor in this congregation is now concluded.

Please Remember Our Sick and Shut-Ins:

James Gumbs	Jersey City, NJ	646-940-3464
Joe Heard, Sr.	Linden, NJ	201-725-5231
Jonathan Strong Sr.	Jersey City, NJ	551-580-5759
Juanita Larkins	North Plainfield, NJ	201-798-3460
Kate Fauder	Jersey City, NJ	201-333-5752
Kathy Connally	Jersey City, NJ	201-451-9057
Louise Givens	Jersey City, NJ	201-432-1486
Maggie Graves	Jersey City, NJ	201-434-2251
Rabone Goolsarran	Jersey City, NJ	201-432-8215
Sylvia Bishran	Jersey City, NJ	609-325-6481
Vernon Goolsarran	Jersey City, NJ	201-432-8215
Yvonne Grant	Jersey City, NJ	973-444-2266
Sylvena Davis	Jersey City, NJ	201-279-2002
Anna Yvonne Brooks	Jersey City, NJ	201-238-3034

Worship Participants

Ministers	The People of Christ Our Redeemer
Pastor	Reverend Kimberly Vaughn
Pianist	Kim Norton
Lector:	TBD
Counters:	Selena Carter and Jameka Carter
Usher:	Corey Brooks and TBD

Thank you to those who assisted in today’s worship.

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Our Parish Calendar

August Birthdays:

Rajnauth Persaud	4 th	Patricia Persaud	20 th
Sylvia Crosley	7 th	Gary Carter Jr.	23 rd
Joe Heard Sr.	10 th	Yvonne Brooks	30 th
Jameka Carter	12 th		
Ayden Persaud	15 th		

August Baptism Anniversaries:

Worship Assistants for 9/1/2024

Lector:	Toni Mabry
Counters:	Jameka Carter and Selena Carter
Usher:	Connie Hazel

Worship Assistants for 9/8/2024

Lector:	Corey Brooks
Counters:	Jameka Carter and Selena Carter
Usher:	Connie Hazel

Worship Assistants for 9/15/2024

Lector:	Joy Griggs
Counters:	Jameka Carter and Selena Carter
Usher:	Connie Hazel

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Congregational:

- **FAREWELL FOR PASTOR VAUGHN:** Please join us after worship today as we wish Pastor Vaughn farewell.
- **BACKPACK GIVEAWAY: THANK YOU** to everyone who donated, supported and volunteered to make our annual backpack giveaway a success! We appreciate you!
- **COUNCIL MEETING:** Church council meets Wednesday, September 11th at 5:30 p.m. Please mark your calendars.

- HOLIDAY AND SUMMER SAFETY: As temperatures continue to soar, please practice safety at all times, and hydrate!
- BIBLE STUDY: Bible study is on hiatus for the remainder of July and August. Look for future plans in the Fall.
- HOLY BAPTISM/FIRST COMMUNION: If you have questions about receiving the Sacraments of Holy Baptism or First Communion, please contact the church office.
- LOOSE CHANGE: Got any spare change? Drop it in the jar after worship—all monies go towards the building fund.
- Please see above for the list of upcoming worship assistants. We are in need of worship assistants for upcoming months.

NJ Synod and Community:

- GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS is Sunday, September 8th.

***126th YEAR OF WITNESS AND SERVICE TO CHRIST
THROUGH GOD'S WORD,
THE LIGHT AND THE TRUTH,
WE INVITE ALL TO GROW IN CHRIST***

† Connected to Christ † Connected to Each Other † Connected to Community



Day of Giving

Sunday, September 8th
1pm-4pm

Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
37 Warner Ave, Jersey City, NJ
Tel: 201 433 1836
www.RedeemerLutheranJC.com

Join us in our church parking lot as we celebrate a day of giving. Rain or shine. There will be free food and clothes giveaway, music, and lots of fun! Come eat and meet members of your community.

Connected to Christ  Connected to Each Other  Connected to Community