

8/27/2023

A 75TH ANNIVERSARY HYMN (Sung to the melody: "Immortal, Invisible" - Tune: ST. DENIO)

Creator, Designer, the only wise God, You made us and formed us: Your work we applaud. Lord Jesus, Messiah, the Father's own Son, We praise You, adore You for all that You've done.

O Heavenly Spirit, now dwelling within, Revealing, reminding, convicting of sin: Come, teach us of Jesus, our anchoring place, And help us to share of His love and His grace.

To past generations, you offered Your hand; They saw, and they followed Your loving command. May we also follow, declaring Your praise, Advancing Your kingdom through all of our days.

Dear Father, Lord Jesus, great Spirit Divine, You've shown You are faithful; the cross is Your sign. We long, Lord, to follow the good work You've planned, Let it be complete in each woman and man.

Written by Rick Lindholtz, Byron, IL For Christ Memorial Lutheran Church St. Louis, MO in celebration of 75 years in ministry (August 2023).

- Music Ministry



8/28/2023

Prayer of Thanksgiving

To our Heavenly Father Who watches over us, we simply say Thank You.

Thank You for this beautiful creation that we call our earth home.

Thank You for the people You surround us with as part of Your master plan,

be it family, friends, or those that we are here to serve via the multitude of

opportunities that You put before us EVERY SINGLE DAY.

Thank You for giving us Your absolute love, mercy and forgiveness without

exception that we may in turn share with others as Your extension in this world.

And thank You dear Lord for being our God, our Savior, and our Redeemer

that has promised us everlasting life in Heaven with You.

In Your name we pray this...AMEN!"

- A Community Group



8/29/2023

Dear Heavenly Father,

You have spoken clearly in your word that you want us to be bold and kind in sharing the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ. Open our eyes to see ways to share with those who have fallen away or have never heard The Good News. Give us courage and joy in building solid relationships with these friends, co-workers, and family members so that we can engage in appropriate levels of spiritual conversations, making the most of every opportunity. We thank you for the work of the Holy Spirit in these conversations and for inviting us to join in the journey. In your Son's name. Amen

- Colossians 4 Group

Dear Heavenly Father,

You have asked us to love our neighbor as ourselves. You demonstrated this time after time not only with your Jewish followers but with those who were Gentiles and people from different backgrounds. Lord, please open our eyes to see all people as your children. Help us see the needs of others in a broad sense, including those who do not look like us physically or who display different customs. Help us to learn to walk with our neighbors so we can act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you. In your Son's name. Amen

- Christian Advocates for Racial Equity



8/30/2023

Dear Heavenly Father,

We see that you have sent the Nations to our Doorstep. Please help us see the need and opportunity to connect with some of the thousands of university students who are studying in our area. They are eager to learn about us as we are about them. Some are lonely. Many are totally absorbed in study with few outlets. We pray that Christians in our area will welcome and get to know these "foreigners in our midst" so that you will be glorified, and they will accept your offering of salvation as they return to their homes. In your Son's name.

Amen

- International Student Ministries



8/31/2023

"I will listen to what God the LORD says;

he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants-

but let them not turn to folly.

Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,

that his glory may dwell in our land."

Psalm 85:8-9

Lord, help us to seek you daily. Remove distractions that threaten our time with you. Help us listen to you intently and apply your word to our own lives. Give us wisdom to see what we need to change to be more like you, and faithfulness to do your will because we love you, even when it's hard, counter-cultural, and not what we want.

- Empty Nesters Group



9/1/2023

Father, we are deeply thankful to be part of Your loving family from "every nation, tribe, people and language" (Revelations 7:9). "In [You] Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others" (Romans 12:5). As we belong to each other and You, we humbly ask that You work in our hearts and guide how we speak up "for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy" (Proverbs 31:8-9). Please, Father, guide our congregation, leaders, and Christian Advocates for Racial Equity members that we may know how to best "carry each other's burdens, and in this way, fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2). Amen.

- Becca Misuraca (On behalf of Christian Advocates for Racial Equity)

Heavenly Father,

Your word tells us that at the Transfiguration you spoke saying This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him. When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise and have no fear. We are often fearful, Lord, but your Word comforts us and heals us. Your word shows us that you are always there. You always stand beside us whether it is in good times or in bad. We thank you, Lord, that you have done all of this for us!

In your name, Lord, Amen.



9/2/2023

Heavenly Father,

We thank you for Salem Lutheran Church. We thank you for their heart for the Gospel and their heart for the Great Commission. We thank you that they planted a new congregation in Affton that became Christ Memorial Lutheran Church.

We also thank you for the great faith of the founding members of our church. They did not count the cost in the establishment of our church.

You have truly blessed our congregation and continue to bless us as we move forward. You have given us a heart for mission, and we give you thanks for your many gifts to us.

In your name,

Amen

Good Fridays Group



9/3/2023

We praise you Lord for all that continues to be revealed to us by your will. Let us rejoice and be glad for all the many blessings and mercies you pour out upon us.

When we are faced with hardships and challenges you lift us up and help us to still celebrate and rejoice in the incredible love you surround us with.

Thank you for the witness of the many groups and activities we have here at Christ Memorial. In each, your love is celebrated and so we grow.

You have loved us so much and now you send us to communicate the awesome power of your love.

Bless us as we celebrate our 75 years.

In your name,

Amen

Good Fridays Group



9/4/2023

Dear Lord God, Heavenly Father,

You are so good to us! Thank you for loving us even when we are not good and for making a way for us to follow you through the Holy Spirit. We have experienced love, because You loved us first. We are thankful for the strength and comfort you give us during our difficult times. You have provided us with Your Word so that we not only know that we are loved, but we are also sent to the world. Thank you for our pastors and the outreach we have at this church so others will know of You and the salvation we have through Your son, Jesus Christ, who died for us and rose again from the grave so that we may spend eternity with You in heaven. In Jesus' name, we praise you and give you thanks.

Psalm 100: Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth! Worship the Lord with gladness, come before Him with joy. Acknowledge that the Lord is good! He made us and we are His. We are His people, the sheep of His pasture. Enter His gates with thanksgiving; go into His courts with praise. Give thanks for Him and praise His name. For the Lord is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and His faithfulness continues to each generation. Amen

- Study and Serve Group



9/5/2023

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18 Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Heavenly Father,

Teach us to think of you first in all circumstances. When things go well remind us to pray with thanksgiving acknowledging your good gifts. Teach us to replace pride in our accomplishments with gratitude for undeserved grace. When things are not so well and we are annoyed, afraid, indecisive, angry, grieving, hurting, tired, hungry, hopeless, or desperate; teach us also to pray with genuine gratitude. Let this gratitude become the default on challenging days and guide us to recognize your will at work in all people, places, and circumstances. Teach us to pray according to your will. In Jesus' name, we pray with thankful hearts.

Amen

Mixed Medley Group



9/6/2023

Gracious God,

We come before you today with grateful hearts, seeking your wisdom and guidance to become better neighbors. You have called us to love our neighbors as ourselves, but we know that we often fall short of this calling.

We ask for your grace and strength to be the kind of neighbor that reflects the love of Christ in our community. Help us to be attentive and caring; genuinely listening to the joys and struggles of those who live around us. Send your Spirit to be with us as we assist and encourage our neighbors, using our lives and actions as a testament of your love and grace.

In Christ's Name,

Amen.

Good Fridays Group



9/7/2023

Dear Heavenly Father,

Please be with your people, help us to minister to the people around us, in our neighborhoods and throughout the world. Help us to see the needs of others, spiritual and physical. Thank you for the gifts that you have given to us over these last 75 years and for keeping us close to you. We pray in Your name, Amen.

- Christ Memorial Productions



9/8/2023

Dear Heavenly Father,

We praise you for always giving our church everything it needs to teach more people about you! We confess that we do not always want to be sent to witness about you to others. We ask for 75 more years of our church and for it to grow to help others in our community. Thank you for the 75 years of Christ Memorial Lutheran Church. Thank you for a church that teaches us about your love and mercy.

Amen

- Connection Kids



9/9/2023

Dear God,

We praise you for your forgiveness and for making us! We confess that sometimes we lie. We ask for your continued forgiveness, care, love, peace, and grace. We ask for world peace and no more wars. We are thankful for our family, neighbors, friends, and church.

Amen

Connection Kids

Dear God,

We praise you for churches like Christ Memorial. We confess that we have done many bad things in the past. Help us to be better. We ask for your forgiveness. Thank you for giving us life. Thank you for our families.

Amen

Connection Kids



9/10/2023

Dear God,

We praise you for everything you have done. We confess that we are dirty and unclean and that we are sinners. We ask for forgiveness and blessings for ourselves, our families, and our friends. We thank you for love, hope, strength, and family.

Amen

- Connection Kids

Dear Jesus,

We praise you for dying on the cross and for loving us. We confess that we sometimes tell lies. We ask for love, world peace, and to make new friends. Thank you for our world, our houses, and Christ Memorial's 75th Birthday!

Amen

Connection Kids



9/11/2023

Gracious and Eternal God,

We come to You with hearts full of hope and gratitude for the blessings You have bestowed upon us in the past. We acknowledge that Your faithfulness has guided us through every challenge and triumph, shaping the story of our Lutheran community.

Yet, O Lord, we are mindful of the uncertainties that lie ahead in the vast expanse of the future. In the midst of an ever-changing world, we seek Your divine wisdom and guidance. Grant us the courage to face the unknown with unwavering faith, trusting in Your providence and steadfast love.

As we step into the uncharted waters of tomorrow, may Your grace illuminate our path, dispelling all darkness and doubt. In times of uncertainty, help us to remember that You are the rock upon which we build our foundation.

Amen.



9/12/2023

Heavenly Father,

We praise you for giving us this church where we worship you and learn about you. We haven't always been our best at worshiping and learning. Please forgive us. Thank you for our pastors and teachers. Also thank you for our parents who bring us to you because they love us because of you. Please allow our church to continue sending us into the world to help others and help the church to grow.

In Jesus Name

Amen.

- Connection Kids



9/13/2023

I give thanks to God for the opportunity to serve our church. I thank him for the courage that he gives people which allows them to step up and lead an organization to share the good news of Jesus Christ. I thank God for the groups in our church that educate children; as these children are our future leaders.

I am so Thankful to You for the Bible Study at church, lead by Aaron Adams, that I attend and participate in on Sunday mornings. I love being with other believers, spending time together hearing Your word and learning more about YOU, the Lover of our Souls!

I also give you heartfelt thanks for my Small Group Bible Study Family. I love them all and We all Love You Jesus and love studying Your word together, getting to know more about You and sharing the love you have for us by loving each other as you have commanded us to do!

Amen

Not Your Regular Movie Night Group



9/14/2023

Dear Lord, thank you that I have been blessed to be part of the communion ministry. I love preparing the bread and the wine so that others can participate in your body and blood. I am thankful for this ministry and all the ministries in our church that bring us together as the body of Christ under the church roof we call Christ Memorial Lutheran Church.

Amen

- Not Your Regular Movie Night Group



9/15/2023

Lord, we thank you for our Sunday morning Children's Connections classes. Thank you for each child that is brought to learn more about you and your love for them. Thank you, Jesus, for the parents that bring their children to Connections because they know the value of the Bible lessons, your word. Thank you for the Children's Connections teachers that invest their time and energy to teach the little ones your important message of Jesus' love and sacrifice for them.

Amen

- Not Your Regular Movie Night Group



9/16/2023

Thank you for the Fitness Center at Christ Memorial. Thank you for the fellowship we enjoy there. Thank you for the opportunity reach out to the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to promote a healthy lifestyle.

Thank you for the church library we have at Christ Memorial. Thank you for the books, DVDs and CDs that are available to our members and to the community. Thank you for the preschool library which has been provided to our child care center families. Thanks to our church leaders for supporting these church assets.

As noted in 1 Chronicles 16:34: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His faithful love endures forever.

Amen

Not Your Regular Movie Night Group



9/17/2023

Lord Jesus Christ,

Your Church is one just as you are one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. Yet your church in the world, the church militant, is constantly beset by strife, both from without and within. Such has been the case since the fall into sin, and the history of your church, Christ Memorial, has been no different. Yet through strife, you have refined us like a refiner's fire, that our resolve to follow you wherever you may lead has been fortified.

You led us down Tesson Ferry into a future we knew not. It has turned out to be a future filled with blessings. You restored us in unity of mission. At this 75th anniversary, we pray that you nurture that spirit of unity, that we may be found worthy to extend the Kingdom into our St. Louis region. Guide us by your Holy Spirit to see the future that you see, of your Kingdom coming. We are at your disposal. In your Holy Name, we ask it.

Amen.

Good Fridays Group



9/18/2023

Abba Father,

We thank you this day for the blessing of family; our earthly family, parents, spouse, siblings, children, and grandchildren. Thank you also for our church family, pastors, leaders, and community groups. Most of all, we thank you for adopting us as sons and daughters into your family of believers through the waters of holy baptism.

We pray all these things in the name of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

- Music Ministry

"This is my Father's world" we sing, Heavenly Father, "and to my listening ears, all nature sings, and 'round me rings, the music of the spheres." It is a beautiful yet broken world because of our willful disobedience. At times we may think you have removed yourself from it and left us to our own devices. But such is not the case. You are a God who has come near in Jesus, and you, Lord Jesus, have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. "This is my Father's world, oh, let me ne'er forget, that thought the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet." We pray constrain evil in the world and thwart the intentions of evil men. Let the Good News of Jesus flourish that many may be called to repentance and faith. Thy will be done! In the Name of Jesus. Amen

- Good Fridays Group



9/19/2023

Now we ask, Lord, give to us Your vision, Let us make a difference in this world. With Your Spirit here to guide, You are always by our side, Even to the end of all the age.

Music Ministry

God Of Grace And Glory

God of grace and glory In these days increase our faith Give us strength to trust You boldly Living only by Your grace Christ our Shepherd lead us And in love our hearts renew Bread of Life now come and feed us Make us more and more like You Make us more and more like You

Words and Music by Steve Fry © 1991 Deep Fryed Music; Curb Word Music CCLI License #215375

Music Ministry



9/20/2023

Lord Jesus,

We are your bride. You clothe us in your righteousness as a bride beautifully adorned for her beloved. We are loved by you more than we can possibly imagine. Help us to treasure that reality when we are beset by the cares of this world. Sustain us in our tribulations for they are many. Encourage us in hope and purpose, always with an eye on our inheritance with the children of light. And embolden us in our witness as we have opportunity to your presence and grace in our lives. Help us to redeem the time given to us by living each day to the praise of your glory. We love you, Jesus.

Good Fridays Group



9/21/2023

Lord God, Heavenly Father,

Long ago in the garden, you said "It is not good for the man to be alone." So it is that you placed us in family. The family of our birth. The family of our marriage. The adopted family by friendship. The family of faith. These relationships are precious as they give purpose and meaning to our lives. May we always remember Jesus' words "Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother." All enduring relationships begin there, by doing God's will which is to believe in his One and only Son. Love that we learn in relationship with you spills over into all other relationships in life. These give joy and shatter the darkness of loneliness. Help us to treasure all family relationships that you give us, and use us to extend your call and invitation to be your brother or sister. In the name of Jesus, our Brother.

Amen

Good Fridays Group



9/22/2023

Dear Heavenly Father,

We come before you to ask your favor upon Christ Memorial Lutheran Church and all your people who gather here. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us so that we will have clear guidance in the ministry to which you have called us. Establish the work of our hands in order to bring you glory. Direct your people in the path of your commands, that we may delight in you and have great joy in serving you. Lord, continue to instill in us the need for your mercy and grace and the desire to seek you. Grant us peace, good health, and guard our hearts and minds to remain steadfast in the truth of your Word. In Jesus' name, we pray,

Amen.



9/23/2023

Abba, Father,

I praise you, Lord, that I have been forgiven and redeemed. Now, out of an abundance of Your grace, help me to do. In Jesus' name. Amen.

- Elders

Heavenly Father,

On this joyous occasion of Christ Memorial's 75th anniversary, we lift our voices in gratitude and praise. You have faithfully guided and sustained us through the years, shaping us into a community of love and service. We thank you for the countless lives loved and sent, for the fellowship shared, and for the unwavering hope in Christ.

As we celebrate, may our hearts overflow with thanksgiving for your faithfulness. "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name." (Psalm 100:4)

Bless us to continue shining your light in the world.

In Jesus's name, Amen



9/24/2023

Lord of the Harvest,

We acknowledge you as the Giver of all good things. Often, we view your gifts w/ a naive heart. Believing the blessings from you are somehow our own doing, we lose sight of our mission here on earth. As your people, worse yet, we get swept away in the wave of societal pressures that blinds us to the true mission of mercy.

Father, you have richly blessed this congregation of believers. May we raise up our time, talents, and financial well-being as a confirmation that you are the one true way. Remind us that with these treasures comes a holy duty to thank, praise, and share the gospel with others. By your hands alone are we blessed when we come in and when we go out.

All this we ask in Jesus's Name,

Amen



9/25/2023

Heavenly Father,

For 75 years you have graciously poured out your mercy and salvation through the ministry of this church. You've shown us that physical buildings and brick walls are just that – man made structures. But with your Holy Spirit as our guide, we can remain nimble transforming facilities of all types to your glory. As we labor to bring the Gospel to our community bless our pastors, teachers and church workers. Provide them good health, clear minds, and peaceful homes.

Gracious Lord, you have taught us we must work with time and not against it. Use the fertile fields of Christ Memorial to raise up and harvest the next generation of Christian leaders. May this season of thanksgiving embolden our efforts to double down on evangelistic outreach, denominational loyalty, and small group participation. All of this so more may be loved and sent for the next 75 years.

In your name we pray, Amen



9/26/2023

Almighty God, continue to give us the gift of your peace and understanding.

Through the faith of our congregation, we are justified to receive the cleansing of our sin through Jesus, the Christ our Lord.

Continue to grant us your peace as we do good deeds in your great name. Guide our leaders and members so that we may spread the Good News to future generations who walk through our doors. Be with us as we bring your message to the neighbors of our community and bring them closer to You. Amen



9/27/2023

Heavenly Father, thank You that we are made a creation in Christ. He is our Sabbath rest. Thank You that we are not bound by the rules of the Law, but have recognized that the Law was a tool You used to point sinners to Jesus Christ.

In Christ, we find true rest as we abide in Him. May we worship You in spirit and truth every day of the week, and as we worship You together and enjoy Christian fellowship in our Church. This I ask in Jesus' name, Amen.



9/28/2023

Loving Lord,

Forgive me for the times that I have allowed the wicked ways of the ungodly to disturb my rest in You. Keep me from anxious thoughts, and may I learn to be still in Your presence, to rest in Your love, and to wait patiently for You to act, knowing that You work all things together for my benefit and for Your glory. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

- Elders

Heavenly Father,

By Your grace we have been saved through faith, and this is not from ourselves, it is your gift to us, not by works so that no one can boast.

Therefore, as it is written, let those who boast, boast in the Lord.

We are Your chosen people, oh Lord. We acknowledge and accept as fact that we are holy and dearly loved. In response, help us to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.



9/29/2023

Merciful Father,

I have learned the hard way that nothing good lives in me, that is in my sinful nature. I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out on my own. In You, I have all the power I need! You have given me the Holy Spirit who have taken up residence in this weak jar of clay to show that this power is from God and not from me.

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Him the law of the Spirit of life has set me free from the law of sin and death.

Help me to accept this truth, Amen!



9/30/2023

Almighty God,

Your Word in Isaiah (9:2) says, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined." We pray that the eyes of our hearts will be enlightened, that we may know the hope to which You have called us, the riches of Your glorious inheritance in the saints, and Your immeasurably great power toward those who believe. Lord Jesus Christ, comfort our hearts and establish them today in every good deed and word. Amen.

- Elders

Heavenly Father,

We are Your chosen people, Your royal priesthood. Through your Holy Spirit let us openly declare Your praises. As Your own people, let us pursue love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Above all Lord, help us to love You will all our heart and with all our soul and with all our might, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Amen.



10/1/2023

Lord God,

Make this church your hands and feet. May we seek to serve you and follow you in all that we do, and to be your mighty witnesses to this world. Change us, transform us Lord that we might be win souls in your name. May we always be more concerned with the going than with the church building. May your Holy Spirit be our strength, and may our church body look like those in heaven. Make us an organism and not an organization. Help us to be your hands and feet, and to not be afraid of getting them dirty in the process. Your will be done with all this. For your glory and in Jesus name, Amen

- Elders

Dear Jesus,

I give thanks and praise that you died on the cross to forgive my sins. Forgive me when I do something wrong. Thank you for summer vacations and pets.

Connections Kids



10/2/2023

The LORD lives! Blessed be my rock! Let the God of my salvation be exalted! (Ps 18: 46)

Thank you, God, for blessing Christ Memorial for the past 75 years. You have blessed us to grow from a few families to a large congregation with a vibrant ministry. Women's Guild is excited to be a part of this ministry! We have been surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses (Hebrews 12: 1) that have given us examples of how to follow Jesus and base our lives and work on Him as we support our own church ministries, as well as other local, national, and international ministries. We are loved and sent. Continue to bless our Guild and our church for many more years. Blessed be the LORD forever and ever! Anen and Amen, (Ps 89: 52)

Women's Guild



10/3/2023

Oh Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth. (Psalm 8:1) You knit me together in my mother's womb and I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. (Psalm 139: 13 – 14) You promised that neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8: 39) Bless us to stay close to you so that we may become leaders at Christ Memorial in the future. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Parents and Tots Connections Class



10/4/2023

Dear Lord God Heavenly Father

We thank You for all the blessings your given Christ Memorial these past 75 years. We especially thankful for our pastors at our church through the years. Thank you for Pastor Karl Schweder, Pastor Walter Rossnagel, Pastor Greg Smith and Pastor Jeff Cloeter. Thank you Lord for leading them and guiding them so that we as Christ Memorial may know you as our personal Lord and Savior. We are also thankful for all of the staff at our church, the volunteers and lay people who the have devoted selflessly of their time, talents and treasures to our church. For all of these things dear Lord we honored, grateful and blessed.

We ask that you continue to bless our congregation that we may be Loved and Sent to share with others the true saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Amen



10/5/2023

Dear Lord,

You know our imperfections, our flaws and our problems. Help us to unite and put aside our squabbles. Remind us that we are to have the same mind as Christ and to seek the interest of others rather than our own. Give understanding and grace to all and bring us together in prayer and devotion to you. The church is to be one body and one bride. We pray these things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen