CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH





Rev. George Fields, Pastor Sr. Sara Fields, Deaconess Divine Service Each Week with Holy Communion: 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages: 9:00 a.m. 4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 – (601) 366-2055 www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST + August 15, 2021 +

"He Abides in Me, and I in Him"



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today, and pray God's richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

All members and our guests are asked to complete the worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew. Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex. We are so glad to have you worshiping with us today!

> LARGE PRINT worship folders are available at the usher stand at the back of the nave.

WELCOME:

"If the poison of pride is swelling up in you, turn to the Eucharist; and that Bread, Which is your God humbling and disguising Himself, will teach you humility. If the fever of selfish greed rages in you, feed on this Bread; and you will learn generosity. If the cold wind of coveting withers you, hasten to the Bread of Angels; and charity will come to blossom in your heart. If you feel the itch of intemperance, nourish yourself with the Flesh and Blood of Christ, Who practiced heroic self-control during His earthly life; and you will become temperate. If you are lazy and sluggish about spiritual things, strengthen yourself with this heavenly Food; and you will grow fervent. Lastly, if you feel scorched by the fever of impurity, go to the banquet of the Angels; and the spotless Flesh of Christ will make you pure and chaste."

-St. Cyril of Alexandria

THE LORD'S SUPPER

In preparation for reception of the Lord's Supper (*Holy Communion*), it is important that we review and understand what the Bible teaches regarding this sacrament:

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion¹, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins², and strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal³. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

Do I believe that I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sins?

Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?

Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?

Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?

According to Christ's Word in the Holy Scriptures, and in confession with the true Christian faith, at Christ Lutheran we observe the practice of closed communion. We believe that all who commune must confess the same holy faith, as Holy Scripture teaches. Since one's church affiliation indicates an individual's confession of faith, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the above teaching **and** are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod commune. If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold a different confession of faith⁴, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

¹Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

²Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

³1 Corinthians 11:28-32

⁴1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

DIVINE SERVICE III

PRESERVICE MUSIC

The congregation may use this time for prayer and meditation.

OPENING HYMN

Christ, the Word of God Incarnate (Tune #578)

1 Christ, the Word of God incarnate, Lord and Son of Abraham; Christ, the radiance of the Father. Perfect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You shine unvanquished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our path with Your own presence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.

2 Christ, the living bread from heaven, Food for body, food for soul; Christ, the manna daily given, Nourish, strengthen, make us whole. Feed us with the food of heaven, Foretaste of the feast to be: Quench our thirst with living water Springing up eternally.

3 Christ, the shoot that springs triumphant From the stump of Jesse's tree; Christ, true vine, You nurture branches To bear fruit abundantly. Graft us into You, O Savior; Prune our hearts so we remain Fruitful branches in Your vineyard Till eternal life we gain.

4 Christ, our good and faithful shepherd, Watching all Your lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheepfold, Never-failing vigil keep.

When we stray, Good Shepherd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home;

Lamb of God, our shepherd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice alone.

5 Christ, the way that leads unfailing To the Father's home on high, Christ, the truth that frees the captive, Christ, the life that cannot die.

Mediator to the Father, Sacrifice and great High Priest: Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions, There to share Your wedding feast.

 $\Delta 6$ Christ, the Alpha and Omega, Christ, the firstborn from the dead, Christ, the life and resurrection. Christ, the Church's glorious head: Praise and thanks and adoration And unending worship be To the Father and the Spirit And to You eternally.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- **C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD



The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.*

His praise endures for- | ever!

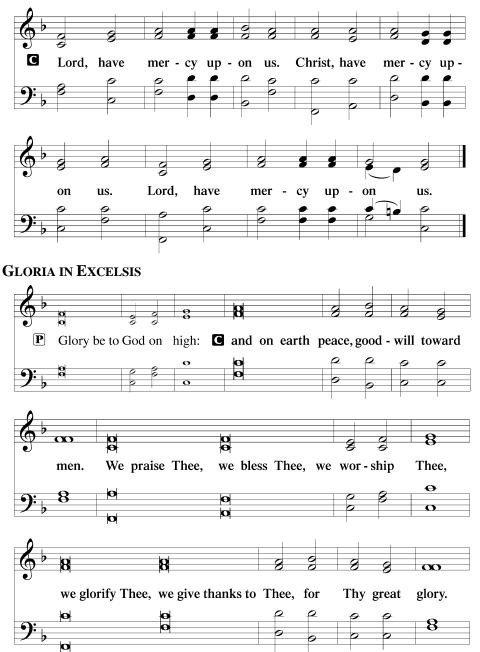
Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,* in the company of the upright, in the congre- gation. Great are the works of the LORD,* studied by all who de- | light in them. Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,* and his righteousness endures for- | ever. He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;* the LORD is gracious and | merciful. He provides food for those who | fear him;* he remembers his covenant for- | ever. He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.* Holy and awesome | is his name! Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. Amen.

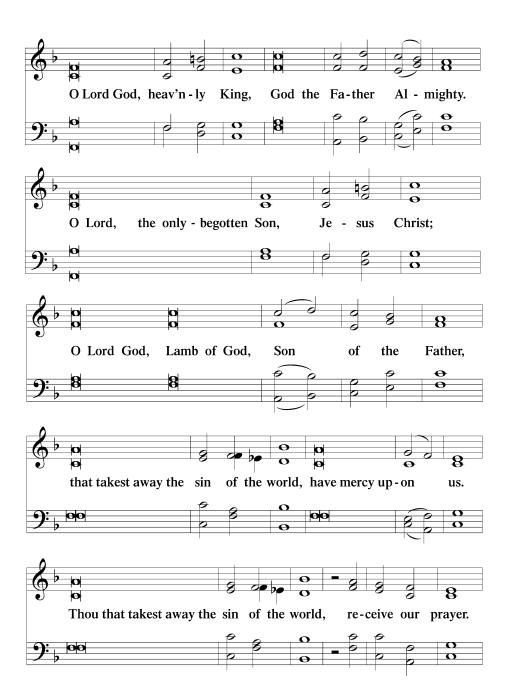
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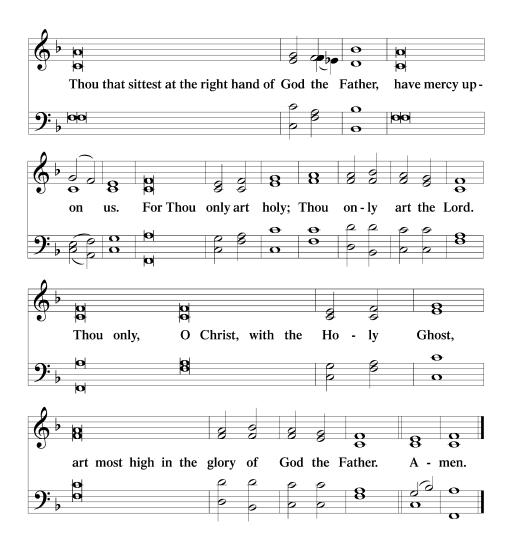
His praise endures for- | ever!

KYRIE

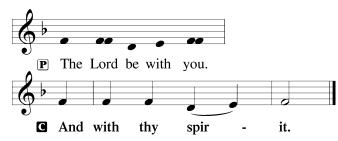
The congregation is invited to sing in parts:







SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY





Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow His steps in the way that leads to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please be seated

OLD TESTAMENT READING Wisdom has built her house;

Proverbs 9:1-10

she has hewn her seven pillars. She has slaughtered her beasts; she has mixed her wine; she has also set her table. She has sent out her young women to call from the highest places in the town, "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!" To him who lacks sense she says, "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Leave your simple ways, and live, and walk in the way of insight." Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse, and he who reproves a wicked man incurs injury. Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you; reprove a wise man, and he will love you. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight. A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL



Fear the LORD, | you his saints,* for those who fear him lack | nothing! Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,* but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

EPISTLE READING

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not associate with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Please stand



Ephesians 5:6-21

HOLY GOSPEL

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.



I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not as the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take offense at this? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is of no avail. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe." (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."

After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. So Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



OFFICE HYMN

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

SERMON

To Whom Shall We Go?

Please stand

NICENE CREED **C** I believe in one God, (Rom 10:10; Deut 6:4) the Father Almighty, (Mt 6:9; Ex 6:3) maker of heaven and earth (Gen 1:1: Jn 1:1) and of all things visible and invisible. (Col 1:16) And in one Lord Jesus Christ, (Rom 10:9) the only-begotten Son of God, (Jn 3:16; Mt 16:16) begotten of His Father before all worlds, (Jn 1:2) God of God, Light of Light, (Jn 17:22; Jn 8:12; Jn 1:1) very God of very God, (Col 2:9) begotten, not made, (Jn 1:2) being of one substance with the Father, (Jn 10:30) by whom all things were made; (Heb 1:2; Jn 1:3) who for us men and for our salvation (1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23) came down from heaven (Jn 6:41: Lk 15:20) and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary (Lk 1:34-35) and was made man; (Jn 1:14) and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. (Mk 15:25; Jn 19:16-18) He suffered and was buried. (Jn 19:1-3: Lk 23:53) And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures (1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6) and ascended into heaven (Acts 1:9) and sits at the right hand of the Father. (Acts 7:55) And He will come again with glory (Mt 26:64) to judge both the living and the dead, (Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12) whose kingdom will have no end. (2 Pt 1:11) And I believe in the Holy Spirit, (Jn 14:26; Gen 1:2; Acts 2:38) the Lord and giver of life, (Gen 1:2; Jn 3:6) who proceeds from the Father and the Son, (Jn 15:26) who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, (Mt 3:16-17) who spoke by the prophets. (Eze 11:5) And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, (1 Pt 2:5; Eph 2:19-22) I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, (Eph 4:5) and I look for the resurrection of the dead (1 Cor 15:35-49; 1 Thess 4:13-18) and the life + of the world to come. (Mk 10:29-30; Mt 10:40-42)

Amen. (Ps 106:48)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

For comfort, health and recovery: Kathy Abbott, Joshua Bamberg, Lisa Bourgoyne, Philip Burkhalter, Mary Cornelius, Roger Fuhrer, Sabrina Goodlett, Elmira Roever, Eloise Springer, Francis Springer, Maria Springer, Cynthia Widlitze;

For those who are ill or distressed: Stan Acey, Jenalee Adams, Layne Bagley, Rose Bagley, Shirley Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Mimi Bradley, Richard Bradley, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Tina Burke, Wayne Burke, Paula Burkhalter, Bobby Carroll, Arthur Collins, James E. Cookston, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Michele Rae Fowler, Randy Fowler, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Paul Hansen, Tim Hansen, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, Beth Jarratt, Elaine Johnson, Joslyn Jones, Steve Kennedy, Arlene Kleinschmidt, John Koster, Sandra Landers, Katelyn Lawing, Peggy Lucky, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Jerry McMahan, Edlia Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Lindberg Moore, Don Ochs, Mildred Odom, Deborah-Annette Ried, Elmira Roever, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Johnnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Sherri Smith, Deborah Springer, Leonard Watson, Dana Weaver, Cynthia Widlitze, Carol Wright, Jimmy Wright, Marshall Wright, Barbara Zeigler;

For college and graduate students: Sara Fields, Jonathan Kettler, Roselynn Nelson, Will Nelson;

For military servants and their families: Gabriel Escude, James (Glen) Hansford, Holden Hathcock, Christopher Martin, William Nelson, Steven Tatum, John Weidner Jr.;

For foreign missionaries: especially those serving in Spain;

This week's prayer family: The Held Family and their loved ones.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Please stand

OFFERTORY

The congregation is invited to sing in parts:

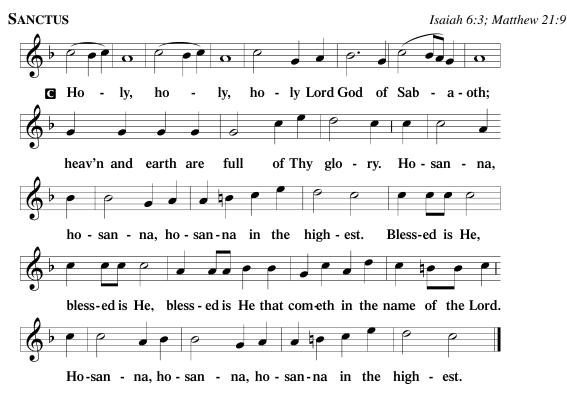


SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT



 It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

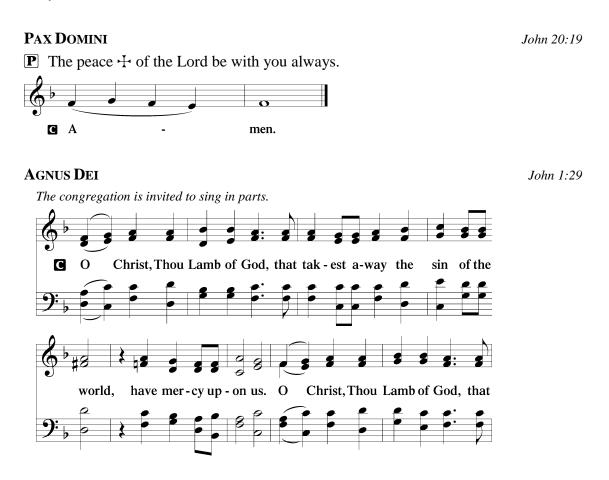
Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver \frac{1}{2} us from evil.



THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."





Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to the pastor are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to the pastor, but would like to receive the Lord's blessing, you may still come to the rail and kneel, crossing one arm over the other in the shape of an 'X'. This symbolizes that one is marked by the cross and Triune name of Almighty God.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS	
Wide Open Stand the Gates	#639
At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing	#633

Please stand following distribution of communion

NUNC DIMITTIS





POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

P The Lord be with you.
And with thy spir - it.
P Bless we the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

#686

Acknowledgments

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Serving Today: Celebrant: Rev. George Fields Acolyte: Miles Agent Interpreter: Cathy Brown

Elder: Eric Held Organist: Sister Sara Fields Cantor: Keith Martin

Altar Flowers: This morning's altar flowers are given for the glory of God by the Hansfords in celebration of Glen and Krista's twentieth wedding anniversary.

New LifeLight Sunday School Starting! We just began a new LifeLight study on Jeremiah/Lamentations, and you are invited to join us! The class meets during the Sunday School hour in the back of the sanctuary. Come study and meditate and learn from Jeremiah's dark prophecies of God's sure judgment alongside his prophesies of the dazzling light of the promised return and the new covenant in Christ Jesus, our Savior. 22

GLS Teacher Needed: The school of our sister congregation, Good Shepherd, is looking for a teacher for their 3-4 year old class. If you are interested or know someone who may be, please contact Carolyn Sawyer for details (csawdoremi@aol.com).

Readings for next Sunday, August 22nd, the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Introit Ps. 26:1-7; Psalm 14; Isaiah 29:11-19; Ephesians 5:22-33; Mark 7:1-13.

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: August 16 – August 22

Thursday	9:30 a.m. LifeLight: Galatians, Philippians, Colossians
Friday	6:30 a.m. Bible & Breaky
Sunday	9:00 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
-	10:30 a.m. Divine Service – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



YOUR LIFELINE TO THE LUTHERAN WORLDVIEW...You can listen to in-depth teachings on interesting subjects like:

Christianity & Wokeness, The Persecution of Finnish Lutheran Leaders, Defending the Christian Faith Like the Early Church, Fighting Critical Race Theory, and more...

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