

# Christ Lutheran Church

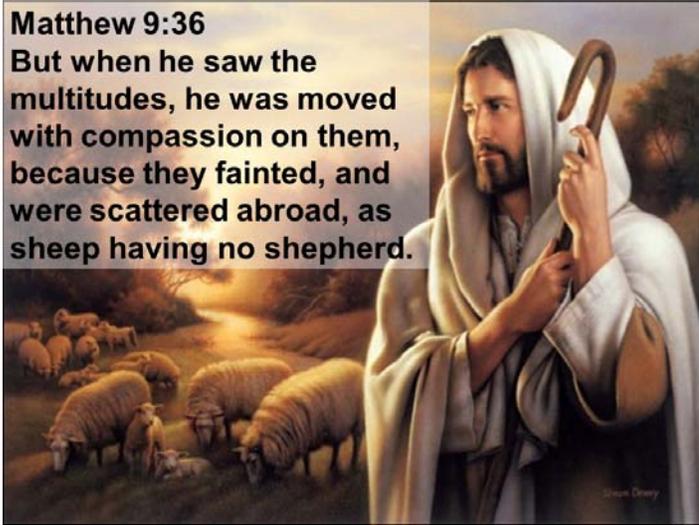
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July 2020

## Matthew 9:36

**But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.**



*“When [Jesus] saw the crowds, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were troubled and downcast, like sheep without a shepherd.”  
Matthew 9:36*

Do these adjectives describe you? In one way or another, we have all felt a little troubled and downcast. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus shows us one of His strongest traits: His compassion.

The compassion of Jesus here in this account moved Him to do something about the hurt that was so prevalent – He sent His 12 disciples with power and authority, He sent them carrying His Word, His life-changing message of salvation through faith in Him as the Son of God and Savior of the world.

This message is unlike anything the world can provide, and in a way we can say it is exclusively inclusive. We’re told that in one sense, Christianity is the most exclusive religion in the world in that there is only one single way to be saved. Jesus Himself says in John chapter 14: *“I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father, except through me.”* Salvation is found in no one else. It’s only Jesus. It isn’t giving enough money, doing enough good, trying hard enough. It’s only Jesus. It’s only belief

that He is the Son of God, that through His perfect life and sacrificial death on the cross our sins are forgiven and we get to enter through that narrow gate that leads to eternal life.

But in another sense, we can also say that Christianity is the most inclusive religion in the world. Because while there is one way to heaven, that way is open for all. It’s not dependent on anything we are or anything we do – it depends on Jesus.

God’s Word, the Bible clearly teaches that all are perfectly equal – we each deserve exactly the same treatment. Because of sin, we are all equally deserving of hell. And that hard-to-stomach truth is not dependent on the color of your skin or what country your ancestors were born in. But just as we are all equal in deserving damnation, we are also equal in how valuable we are in the eyes of our God. When you look at someone who is different than you remember that God loves them in exactly the same way He loves you, a love so deep that it moved Him to send His one and only Son to suffer hell in their place, so that narrow path to eternal life could be open to them as well, just as it has been opened to you.

This is the powerful message that changes hearts and we are blessed to be able to share it! Pray that the Lord would send out workers into His harvest field, pray for the workers already there, and continue to look for opportunities to talk about your compassionate, loving Savior with your friends and neighbors. During difficult times that cause us to be troubled and downcast, our Savior brings us the joy of our salvation and reminds us that while in this world, we will have trouble – but that we can take heart because He has overcome the world, and through faith has made His victory ours!

*(From our Evangelical Lutheran Synod's Board for Home Missions)*

# July 2020

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b><i>“If you abide in My word... you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”</i></b>  <b><i>(John 8:31-32)</i></b></p>			1	2	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>
<p><b>5</b> <i>Pentecost 5</i></p> <p><b>Radio Program</b> 8:30 AM (KAGO 1150 AM)</p> <p><b>Worship with Communion</b> 9:30 AM</p>	6	7	8	9	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><i>Happy Birthday Micah Smith</i></p>	11
<p><b>12</b> <i>Pentecost 6</i></p> <p><b>Radio Program</b> 8:30 AM (KAGO 1150 AM)</p> <p><b>Worship</b> 9:30 AM</p>	13	<p><b>14</b></p> <p><i>Happy Birthday Isaac Smith</i></p>	15	<p><b>16</b></p> <p><i>Happy Birthday William Jay</i></p>	17	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><i>Happy Birthday Kara Bednar</i></p>
<p><b>19</b> <i>Pentecost 7</i></p> <p><b>Radio Program</b> 8:30 AM (KAGO 1150 AM)</p> <p><b>Worship with Communion</b> 9:30 AM</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p><i>Happy Birthday Pastor Smith</i></p>	21	22	23	24	25
<p><b>26</b> <i>Pentecost 8</i></p> <p><b>Radio Program</b> 8:30 AM (KAGO 1150 AM)</p> <p><b>Worship</b> 9:30 AM</p> <p><i>Happy Birthday Randy Bednar Happy Birthday Richard Howard</i></p>	27	28	29	30	31	

