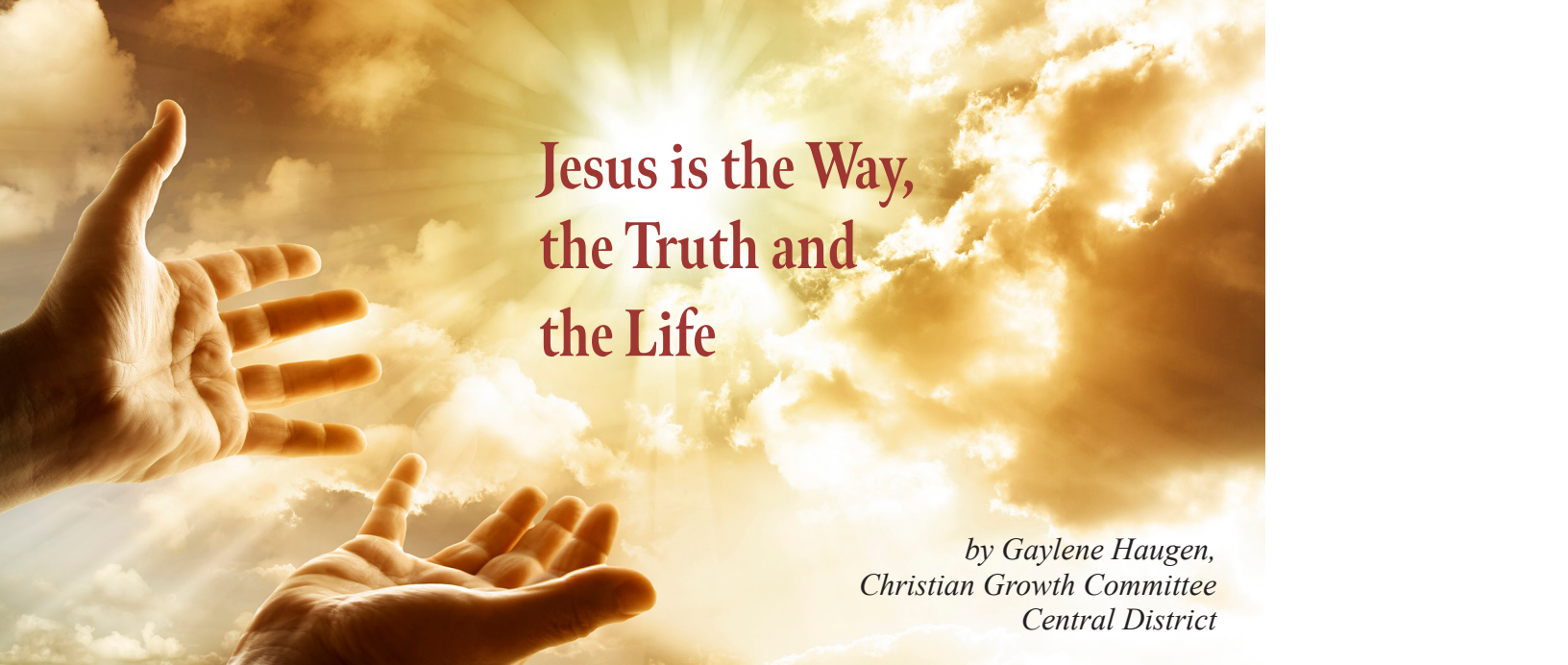




Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life

by Gaylene Haugen,
Christian Growth Committee
Central District



As teachers and students return to school and we harvest our gardens and fields, we are reminded of the change in the seasons from summer to fall. May we also be reminded of the different *seasons* of life we have experienced. As God's chosen people, we too must face many ups and downs in our life. Just as God provides the different seasons to sustain our earthly life, we pray that through His grace our faith will grow as we continue to hear God's Word, receive His sacraments and bring our prayers to Him. We can be encouraged by Reverend Dudley-Smith's text in his hymn of prayer, "Christ Be My Leader" (LSB 861).

In the first verse, we ask Christ to be our leader, as He is the Light of the world. Once we have received the gift of faith through the Holy Spirit, we are able to know that Christ is the Way! In John 8:12 we hear; *Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

In the second verse, we ask Christ to be our teacher. From youth to old age, in good times and in bad, by the power of the Holy Spirit we put our trust in Christ. We can live confidently in this assurance during our pilgrimage in this sinful world. Christ is the truth! In John 1:14 we hear; *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen*

His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

In the third verse, we ask Christ to be our Saviour. In this verse we acknowledge that Christ is life. Our salvation has been won through His cross. The victory over sin, death and the devil is ours right now. In John 14:6 we hear; *Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*

Let us pray;

Christ be my Saviour
in calm as in strife;
Death cannot hold me,
for You are [He is] the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting
nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation:
with Jesus I reign. Amen.
(LSB 861 verse 3).