

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 16, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.

With One Voice, Holy Communion, Setting Five



ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prayer before worship:

Almighty God, you pour out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and supplication. Deliver us, as we come into your presence, from cold hearts and wandering thoughts, that with steady minds and burning zeal we may worship you in spirit and in truth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Pre-Service Music

"Priere A Notre Dame" (Leon Boellmann)

Ringing of the Bells

Welcome

Brief Order for Confession & Forgiveness

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel or be seated, as able

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Opening Hymn

“O Bless the Lord, My Soul” (LSB 814)



1 O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all with - in me join
2 O bless the Lord, my soul, Nor let His mer - cies lie
3 'Tis He for - gives thy sins; 'Tis He re - lieves thy pain;
4 He crowns thy life with love When ran - somed from the grave;



And aid my tongue to bless His name Whose fa - vors are di - vine.
For - got - ten in un - thank - ful - ness And with - out prais - es die!
'Tis He that heals thy sick - ness - es And makes thee young a - gain.
He that re - deemed my soul from hell Hath sov - 'reign pow'r to save.

- 5 He fills the poor with good;
He gives the suff'ers rest.
The Lord hath judgments for the proud
And justice for th'oppressed.
- 6 His wondrous works and ways
He made by Moses known,
But sent the world His truth and grace
By His belovèd Son.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748
Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76
Text and tune: Public domain

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.

Hymn of Praise



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



☐ Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



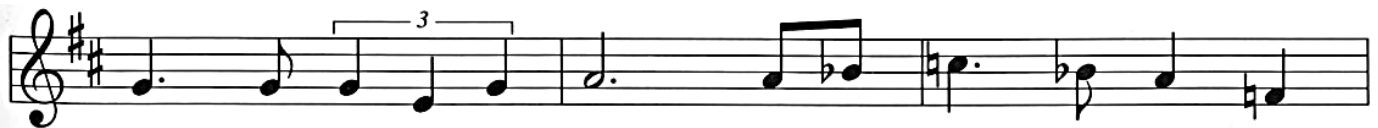
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



☐ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



☐ For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.



☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,



Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

O Lord, let Your merciful ears be attentive to the prayers of Your servants, and by Your Word and Spirit teach us how to pray that our petitions may be pleasing before You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please be seated

Children's Message

Psalm *(read responsively)*

Psalm 103

L Bless the Lord, O my soul, *
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!

C **Bless the Lord, O my soul, ***
and forget not all his benefits,

L who forgives all your iniquity, *
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit, *

C **who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**
who satisfies you with good*
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

L The Lord works righteousness*
and justice for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses, *
his acts to the people of Israel.

C **The Lord is merciful and gracious, ***
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

L He will not always chide, *
nor will he keep his anger forever.

He does not deal with us according to our sins, *
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

C For as high as the heavens are above the earth, *
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west, *
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

L As a father shows compassion to his children, *
so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.
For he knows our frame; *
he remembers that we are dust.

C As for man, his days are like grass; *
he flourishes like a flower of the field;
for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,
and its place knows it no more.

L But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting
on those who fear him, *
and his righteousness to children's children,
to those who keep his covenant*
and remember to do his commandments.

C The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, *
and his kingdom rules over all.

L Bless the LORD, O you his angels, *
you mighty ones who do his word,
obeying the voice of his word!

C Bless the LORD, all his hosts, *
his ministers, who do his will!

L Bless the LORD, all his works,
in all places of his dominion.*

C Bless the LORD, O my soul!

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Alleluia Verse



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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

G **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Holy Gospel

John 3:16-17

¹⁶For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

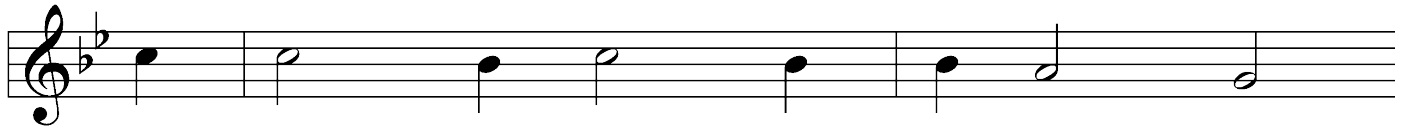
G **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

"The Lord's Benefit Package: God's Character"

Hymn of the Day

“O Love, How Deep” (LSB 544, verses 1, 3, 4, 5, 6)



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
3 For us bap - tized, for us He bore
4 For us He prayed; for us He taught;
5 For us by wick - ed - ness be - trayed,
6 For us He rose from death a - gain;



Be - yond all thought and fan - ta - sy,
His ho - ly fast and hun - gered sore;
For us His dai - ly works He wrought,
For us, in crown of thorns ar - rayed,
For us He went on high to reign;



That God, the Son of God, should take
For us temp - ta - tion sharp He knew;
By words and signs and ac - tions thus
He bore the shame - ful cross and death;
For us He sent His Spir - it here



Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!
For us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.
Still seek - ing not Him - self but us.
For us He gave His dy - ing breath.
To guide, to strength - en, and to cheer.

Text: attr. Thomas à Kempis, 1380–1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819–85, alt.
Tune: English, 15th cent.
Text: Public domain

Profession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

And born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 the People

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer. During the season after Pentecost each petition ends with the phrase: "Hear us, O God."

*Please respond by saying: "**Your mercy is great.**"*

The prayers end with the words:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

*Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying,
"Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the
bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).*

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

L Merciful God,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Preface

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through 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. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and



might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.**

Agnus Dei

C Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please be seated

Distribution of Holy Communion

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

Distribution Hymns

Summer Choir Anthem

"There is a Balm in Gilead"
(African American spiritual, arr. Thomas Pavlechko)

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul.*

*Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,
then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.*

*If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all."*

*If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all."*

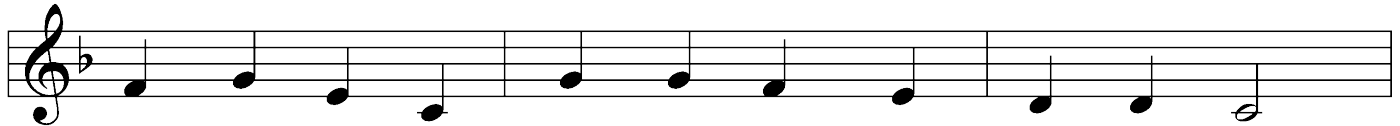
*Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend;
and if you lack for knowledge he'll ne'er refuse to lend.*

"Jesus Comes Today with Healing"

(LSB 620)



1 Je - sus comes to - day with heal - ing, Knock - ing at my
 2 Christ Him - self, the priest pre - sid - ing, Yet in bread and
 3 Un - der bread and wine, though low - ly, I re - ceive the
 4 God de - scends with heav'n - ly pow - er, Gives Him - self to



door, ap - peal - ing, Of - f'ring par - don, grace, and peace.
 wine a - bid - ing In this ho - ly sac - ra - ment,
 Sav - ior ho - ly, Blood and bod - y, giv'n for me,
 me this hour In this or - di - nar - y sign.



He Him - self makes prep - a - ra - tion, And I hear His
 Gives the bread of life, once bro - ken, And the cup, the
 Ver - y Lamb of God from heav - en, Who to bit - ter
 On my tongue His pledge re - ceiv - ing, I ac - cept His



in - vi - ta - tion: "Come and taste the bless - ed feast."
 pre - cious to - ken Of His sa - cred cov - e - nant.
 death was giv - en, Hung up - on the curs - ed tree.
 grace, be - liev - ing That I taste His love di - vine.

5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,
 Whose own feast of love I savor,
 Bidden by His gracious call.
 Wedding garments He provides me,
 With a robe of white He hides me,
 Fits me for the royal hall.

6 Now have I found consolation,
 Comfort in my tribulation,
 Balm to heal the troubled soul.
 God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
 Cleanses me from sin and error,
 Makes my wounded spirit whole.

Text: Heinrich Puchta, 1808-58; tr. David W. Rogner, 1960
 Tune: Johann Löhner, 1645-1705; adapt. Johann Balthasar König, 1691-1758
 Text: © David W. Rogner. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318
 Tune: Public domain

Dismissal

Post-Communion Canticle

"Thankful Hearts"

☐ Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God,
and lead us forth in joy with shouts
of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.
(Lent) A - men, a - men.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

☐ Let us pray:

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

☐ Amen.

Sending

Blessing

P Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Sending Hymn

"Bless the Lord, O My Soul" (WOV 798, sing 3 times)

Musical score for "Bless the Lord, O My Soul" in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system covers the first two lines of the hymn, and the second system covers the last two lines. Chord symbols are provided above the vocal line for each measure.

Chord symbols for the first system: D7, G, Bm7, C, C/Bb, A, A7/C#, D.

Chord symbols for the second system: D7/F#, G, C, G/D, D7, G.

Vocal line lyrics:
Bless the Lord, O my soul; bless the Lord, O my soul;
and all that is with - in me bless God's ho - ly name.

Postlude

"Offertoire" (Bruce Steane)



Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher	Pastor Rueter
Welcome & Children's Message	Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship
Lay Assistant	PJ Baunach
Communion Lay Assistant	Jennifer Hills
Organist/Pianist	David Leahey, Director of Music
Acolyte	Annabel Kremin
Usher	Benjamin May Michelle May
Altar Care	Maritza Guerra
AV Operator	Scott Budzien Mike Auld
Welcome Host	Christy Hoins

This weekend's **altar flowers** are given in honor of Pastor Jack Meehan's 35th year of ordination and installation at St. John's Lutheran Church.



To view the current edition of our electronic weekly newsletter, *Midweek Update*, scan this QR Code



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