

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 20, 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

“Prelude and Fugue in G Minor” (J. S. Bach)

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

"Bind Us Together" (WOV 748)

Refrain
F

Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that

Dm Gm

*C*⁷ F F

can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,

Dm Gm C F

bind us to - geth - er, Lord; bind us to - geth - er in love.

F *C*⁷ F F *C*⁷ F

1 There . . is on - ly one God. There . . is on - ly one King.
2 You are the fam-'ly of God. You are the prom-ise di - vine.

Refrain
F *C*⁷ F F *C*⁷ F B^b/C

There . . is on - ly one Bod-y; that . . is why we can sing:
You are God's cho-sen de - sire, you are the glo-rious new wine.

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



C 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.



I 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.



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



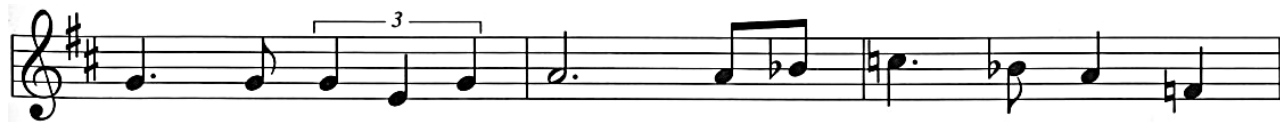
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



II 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,



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 of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Children's Message: Blessing of the Backpacks

First Reading

Ruth 3

*Please join in reading aloud the **highlighted portion** of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.*

¹Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, should I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you? ²Is not Boaz our relative, with whose young women you were? See, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. ³Wash therefore and anoint yourself, and put on your cloak and go down to the threshing floor, but do not make yourself known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking. ⁴But when he lies down, observe the place where he lies. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down, and he will tell you what to do." ⁵**And she replied, "All that you say I will do."**

⁶So she went down to the threshing floor and did just as her mother-in-law had commanded her. ⁷And when Boaz had eaten and drunk, and his heart was merry, he went to lie down at the end of the heap of grain. Then she came softly and uncovered his feet and lay down. ⁸At midnight the man was startled and turned over, and behold, a woman lay at his feet! ⁹He said, "Who are you?" And she answered, "I am Ruth, your servant. Spread your wings over your servant, for you are a redeemer." ¹⁰And he said, "May you be blessed by the LORD, my daughter. You have made this last kindness greater than the first in that you have not gone after young men, whether poor or rich. ¹¹And now, my daughter, do not fear. I will do for you all that you ask, for all my fellow townsmen know that you are a worthy woman. ¹²And now it is true that I am a redeemer. Yet there is a redeemer nearer than I. ¹³Remain tonight, and in the morning, if he will redeem you, good; let him do it. But if he is not willing to redeem you, then, as the LORD lives, I will redeem you. Lie down until the morning."

¹⁴So she lay at his feet until the morning, but arose before one could recognize another. And he said, "Let it not be known that the woman came to the threshing floor." ¹⁵And he said, "Bring the garment you are wearing and hold it out." So she held it, and he measured out six measures of barley and put it on her. Then she went into the city. ¹⁶And when she came to her mother-in-law, she said, "How did you fare, my daughter?" Then she told her all that the man had done for her, ¹⁷saying, "These six measures of barley he gave to me, for he said to me, 'You must not go back empty-handed to your mother-in-law.'" ¹⁸She replied, "Wait, my daughter, until you learn how the matter turns out, for the man will not rest but will settle the matter today."

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

Alleluia Verse

C 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. Matthew, the seventh chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 7: 7-8

⁷"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

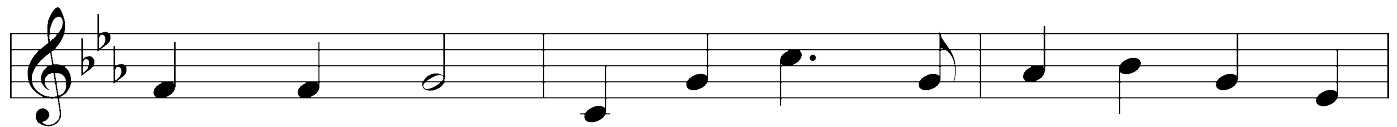
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

“We Are Called to Stand Together” (LSB 828)



1 We are called to stand to - geth - er With the saints of
 2 Those whom Je - sus called a - pos - tles Jour - neyed with Him
 3 Through the in - ter - ven - ing a - ges Round the world the
 4 Now in man - y tongues and cul - tures Songs of cel - e -
 5 To each com - ing gen - er - a - tion Tell the truth, per -



a - ges past, With the pa - tri - archs and proph - ets
 side by side, Heard His teach - ing, felt His pow - er,
 Gos - pel spread: Faith - ful her - alds took the mes - sage,
 bra - tion ring; Mil - lions who con - fess our Sav - ior
 suade, ex - plain, Till the time when time is end - ed,



In the faith they once held fast; Prom - is - es and
 Saw the way He lived and died; Then the news of
 Guid - ed where the Spir - it led; So the bod - y
 Hon - or Him as Lord and King And, for cour - age,
 Till the Sav - ior comes a - gain— Till the saints are



hopes they trea - sured Now we find ful - filled at last!
 res - ur - rec - tion They de - liv - ered far and wide.
 grew in stat - ure, Serv - ing Christ, the liv - ing head.
 grace and guid - ance Ev - 'ry day their prayers they bring.
 all u - nit - ed Un - der Christ's e - ter - nal reign!

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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.

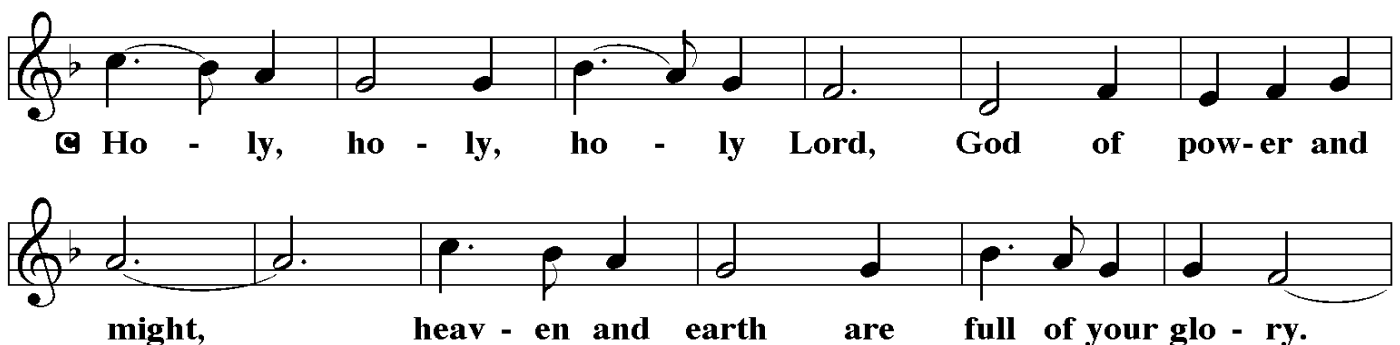
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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.

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

"Nearer, My God, to Thee"
(Sarah F. Adams)

*Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me,
still all my song shall be,
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!*

*Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down,
darkness be over me, my rest a stone;
yet in my dreams I'd be
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!*

*Now on joyful wing cleaving the sky,
sun, moon, and stars forgot, upward I fly,
still all my song shall be,
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!*

"There is a Balm in Gilead"

(LSB 749)

Refrain



There is a balm in Gil-e-ad To make the wound-ed whole;

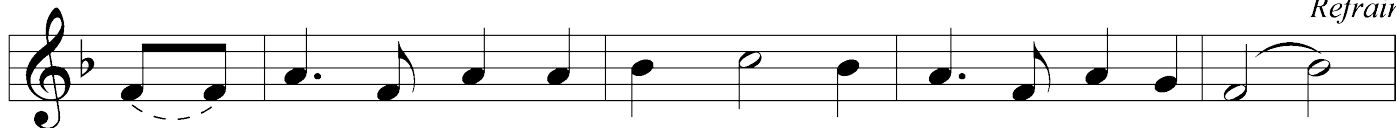


There is a balm in Gil-e-ad To heal the sin-sick soul.



- 1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged And think my work's in vain,
- 2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, If you can - not pray like Paul,
- 3 Don't ev - er feel dis - cour - aged, For Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain



But then the Ho - ly Spir - it Re - vives my soul a - gain.
You can tell the love of Je - sus And say He died for all.
And if you lack for knowl - edge, He'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text and tune: African American spiritual
Text and 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

L 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.

C 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

"Dona Nobis Pacem" (sung twice) (WOV 774)

Canon



Do-na no-bis pa - cem, pa-cem. Do - na no - bis pa - cem.



Do - na no - bis pa-cem. Do-na no-bis pa - cem.



Do - na no - bis pa-cem. Do-na no-bis pa - cem.

Postlude

"March from 'Scipio'" (G. F. Handel/Rawsthorne)



Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher	Rev. Gary Rueter
Welcome & Children's Message	Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship
Lay Assistant	Barbara Pate
Communion Lay Assistant	Angie Stiens
Organist/Pianist	David Leahey, Director of Music
Acolyte	Gavin Stiens
Crucifer	Giulianna Vazquez
Ushers	Benjamin May Michelle May
Altar Care	Cathy Long
AV Operator	Greg Auld Pete Pettigrew
Welcome Host	Denise Canter
Nursery	Jodie Pleisch Jan Swicord

This weekend's **altar flowers**
are given by donations to the Flower Fund.



To view the current edition of our electronic weekly newsletter, *Midweek Update*,
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Acknowledgments

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