

✠ Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost ✠

August 16, 2026

8:15 & 10:45 AM



*Gathering People to Christ,
Building Believers in Christ,
Serving the World as Christ*



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The Rev. Dr. Eric Tritten, Senior Pastor, x28

Bob Brantsch, Director of Christian Education, x27

Sue Anderson, Director of Music Ministry

Laura Boicey & Ryann Jagger, Co-Youth Directors

Megan Polak, Preschool Director, x18

Becka Koudelka, Office Administrator, x26

Esther Williamson, Deaconess

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION . . .

The word “Sacrament” means that God is at work here. A Sacrament is an act of God, not just a pious ritual of the Church. What God does here is present us with the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, “in, with, and under” the bread and wine. It is more than just a reminder or a symbol of Christ. It is Christ. And so the proper approach is one of repentance for sin, and trust in God’s promise. “He is truly worthy who has faith in the words: Given and shed for you,” as Dr. Luther often said. We ask those who have never communed with us to please speak with the pastor before doing so. Everyone is welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

Welcome: In today’s Gospel, our Lord Jesus moved beyond His ministry initially among the Jews now to the Gentile woman of Canaan. The miracle greater than the healing of her daughter was her great faith in Jesus addressing Him, saying, “Lord, help me” (Matthew 15:25). Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord said He would bring “foreigners” to His “house of prayer for all peoples” (Isaiah 56:6–7). Here He gives “many blessings even though we are undeserving” (Prayer of the Day). The early church learned how the Gentiles are grafted into Israel, making the Christian Church the fulfillment of the true Israel, God’s people! The outreach of the Gospel of Christ continues through His church, calling all people “that He may have mercy on all” (Romans 11:32). Because of God’s effective call, you can have steadfast confidence in His loving kindness and mercy.

Assisted Listening Devices: are available for those who have trouble hearing the service. Please see an usher to use one.

Communication Cards: Please fill out the bright yellow communication cards located by the bulletins as you enter. If you are a visitor or your address has changed, please include that in the space provided. Prayer requests for next week may be written on the back.

Communion Procedure: Then, ushers will release one side at a time from the middle. The

pulpit side will fill in the front starting at the side closest to the street and fill in all the way to the other wall. The lectern side does the same in reverse—start from the wall closest to the lectern and fill in the entire way across to the other wall. Grape juice is in the outer ring and is lighter in color than the wine. The wine is darker in color. After communing, return to your seat via the side aisle. The entire congregation will be dismissed after all have communed. There are baskets for the used communion cups hanging on the outside edge of the first pew. If you are unable to come forward to receive communion, alert an usher and the Pastor will bring communion to you.

Cushions are available for those who may need them; ask an usher for assistance.

Nursery Welcomes Your Child: The church nursery is available during both Sunday worship services and Sunday school for preschool age children and younger. The nursery is staffed with a professional Nanny. It is located to the right as you enter the building, just past the coat room.

Prayer Requests: Please use the pink sheets to request prayers to be read during the service. Place in the offering plate.

Quiet Room: The Luther Room (located at the end of the hall to the left as you enter the building) is available for use as a “quiet room.” It is equipped with comfortable chairs and a TV that shows the service.

Members and Visitors: Please take a moment to fill out the bright yellow Guest & Member Communication Cards and place it in the offering plate during the Offering time. Thank You.

Prelude

"My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker"

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

arr. Kevin Hildebrand

arr. Sam Eatherton

Hymn

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

LSB 901 sts. 1–3, 5

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Memory Verse

Psalm 100:5

C 5 For the Lord is _____; His steadfast love _____ forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 103:10

P Today, though we are undeserving, we come to the Lord saying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David.” Let us seek the Lord here while He may be found to grant us healing, help, and forgiveness.

C Lord Jesus Christ, Son of David, Son of God, we are severely oppressed by sin in all our thoughts, words, and actions. We have sinned against You by our own fault. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, O Lord, and grant us forgiveness, help, and salvation. Amen.

P Almighty God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and of all who believe in the name of His only begotten Son, is the God of mercy and for His sake forgives us all our sins. Therefore, 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. In that mercy He gives power to become the children of God and promises His Holy Spirit. All who believe and are baptized shall be saved.

C Amen.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6–8

¹Thus says the LORD: "Keep justice, and do righteousness, for soon My salvation will come, and My deliverance be revealed. . . .

⁶"And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to Him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be His servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast My covenant— ⁷these I will

bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; for My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples." ⁸The Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares, "I will gather yet others to Him besides those already gathered."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle: Romans 11:1–2a, 13–15, 28–32

¹I ask, then, has God rejected His people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew. . . .

¹³Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry ¹⁴in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. ¹⁵For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? . . .

²⁸As regards the gospel, they are enemies of God for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. ²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. ³²For God has consigned all to disobedience, that He may have mercy on all.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Men's Chorus**"Holy and Mighty"****by Pepper Choplin****Holy Gospel: Matthew 15:21–28**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” ²³But He did not answer her a word. And His disciples came and begged Him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of

Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before Him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶And He answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles’ Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Children’s Message

Bob Brantsch, DCE

Hymn

“Hope of the World”

LSB 690 sts. 1–2, 4

Sermon

Welcoming the Un-welcome

Offertory

Meditation on “Land of Rest”

by Anthony Giamanco

Pastoral Prayers

Prayer of the Church

A With the boldness of Your promise alone, O Lord, we come to petition Your mercy on behalf of the church, the world, all people as they have need, and ourselves. Grant us Your grace to hear and answer us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Bestow upon Your church, O Lord, grace to keep what You have commanded and to proclaim with boldness the Gospel You have given us in Jesus Christ, that many may hear, and in hearing believe in Jesus Christ and know the comfort of His mercy in their travail. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

- A** Govern Your church, O Lord, in mercy, granting to us faithful pastors who will preach Your Word and administer Your Sacraments and raising up church workers to serve us in Your name. Bless those now preparing for church work vocations and the schools in which they are being formed for Your service. Lord, in Your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- A** Having a deep and abiding gratitude for the manifold blessings You have shown to us as a nation and a people, we pray You to continue to bless and provide for us so that we be a blessing for many. Raise up for us good and wise leaders who will honor the legacy of liberty and enable Your people to serve You with a quiet mind and live in peace with all. Lord, in Your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- A** Give to the sick and to the suffering the blessing of Your presence and healing, that those suffering in body or mind may be comforted in their afflictions and brought to perfect healing in Christ. Bless the caregivers who provide for them and give to all for whom we pray answer to prayers we offer in Christ's name. Lord, in Your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- A** Bless the missionaries at home and abroad, strengthen all congregations by Your Word and Spirit, and prosper all the institutions of the church established to fulfill Your bidding and glorify Your name. Make us good stewards of Your gifts and generous in support of our neighbor in need and the work of Your kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- A** O Lord, give to husband and wife the grace of forgiveness that they may keep their vows and promises once made and bless the homes of Your people that they be places of blessing and love. Give the grace of children and sustain those whose longing is not fulfilled, that we be content in our vocations and serve to the glory of Your name. Lord, in Your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- A** Bless the members of the armed services who defend our nation at home and abroad and protect and defend the police, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, and disaster relief workers. Lord, in Your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- A** Help us to make the worthy communion, believing the word and promise of Christ and discerning His flesh in this bread and His blood in this cup. Grant that what we here receive at His Table we may keep in holy hearts and reflect in holy lives, manifesting the unity of doctrine and the blessing of good will. Lord, in Your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**
- A** Bring at last to that endless day, when night shall be no more and neither sorrow nor death shall cast their shadows over us. Bring us to that perfect consummation when we shall be reunited with those who have gone before and raised to everlasting life. Remember in Your mercy the dying and those who grieve. Lord, in Your mercy, **C hear our prayer.**

Silence for meditation.

P To You be all glory and power and might, O Lord God, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whom with the Spirit You are one Lord, one God, now and forevermore.

Lord's Prayer

- 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.

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."

Proclamation of Christ

- A** As often as we eat of this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** And also with you.

Hymn "God Loved the World So That He Gave" LSB 571, sts. 1–6

Hymn "Where Charity and Love Prevail" LSB 845, sts. 1–6

Communion Dismissal

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

Psalm 106:1

- A** Let us pray. Blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to us in this Holy Sacrament. Keep us in Your faith and favor that we may live in You even as You live in us. May Your body and blood preserve us in the true faith to life everlasting; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Benedicamus

- A** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. **C** Amen.

Memory Verse

Psalm 100:3–4

C ⁵ For the Lord is _____; His steadfast love _____ forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.

Hymn

“Christ for the World We Sing”

Verse 1

Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring
With loving zeal--
The poor and them that mourn, the faint and overborne,
Sin-sick and sorrow-worn, for Christ to heal.

Verse 2

Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring
With fervent prayer--
The wayward and the lost, by restless passions tossed,
Redeemed at countless cost from dark despair.

Verse 3

Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring
With one accord--
With us the work to share, with us reproach to dare,
With us the cross to bear for Christ our Lord.

Verse 4

Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring
With joyful song--
The new-born souls whose days, reclaimed from error's ways,
Inspired with hope and praise, to Christ belong.

Text: Samuel Wolcott | Text: Public domain

Postlude

“They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love” arr. Charity Book Putnam

Acknowledgments

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