

✠ Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost ✠
August 30, 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

Ryann Jagger, Youth Director

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: One of the areas of traditional historical study that has changed greatly in recent years is cartography, the science of mapmaking and map reading. Fewer people these days depend on the once-common foldout paper maps that were in use everywhere years ago. Directions to desired destinations are now often supplied by satellite imagery. Whatever technology is used, it is still important to be able to follow the instructions given with the map for it to be used successfully. Following is vital! On several occasions, Jesus says to those who would be His disciples very simply and straightforwardly, “Follow Me” (Matthew 4:19; Luke 9:59). Those who followed Him found renewal and blessing. As we follow His leading through our worship, we are renewed and blessed.

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 "Lead On, O King Eternal" arr. Robert W. Thygerson

Hymn "Awake My Soul, and with the Sun" LSB 868, sts. 1-6

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Memory Verse

Psalm 100

C ¹ Make a joyful _____ to the Lord, all the earth! ² Serve the Lord with _____! Come into His presence with _____. ³ Know that the Lord, He is God! It is He who _____ us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. ⁴ Enter His gates with _____, and His courts with _____. Give thanks to Him; bless His name! ⁵ For the Lord is _____; His steadfast love _____ forever, and His _____ to all generations.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 103:10

P God does not deal with us according to our sins,

C nor repay us according to our iniquities.

P Holy and gracious God,

C I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver me according to Your mercy and grant peace to my heart so that I may serve You with all my mind, body, and soul.

P By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you. Amen.

Salutation

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray. Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Hymn

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

LSB 821 sts. 1, 3

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 15:15–21

¹⁵O LORD, You know; remember me and visit me, and take vengeance for me on my persecutors. In Your forbearance take me not away; know that for Your sake I bear reproach. ¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by Your name, O LORD, God of hosts. ¹⁷I did not sit in the company of revelers, nor did I rejoice; I sat alone, because Your hand was upon me, for You had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will You be to me

like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail? ¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: “If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before Me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall be as My mouth. They shall turn to you, but you shall not turn to them. ²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, declares the LORD. ²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.”

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Epistle: Romans 12:9–21

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in

spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless

and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with

all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Women's Chorus

"Kyrie"

by Ruth Elaine Schram

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 16:21–28

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord! This shall never happen to You." ²³But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are a hindrance to Me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

²⁴Then Jesus told His disciples, "If anyone would come after Me, let him

deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. ²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with His angels in the glory of His Father, and then He will repay each person according to what He has done. ²⁸Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom."

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

"Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said"

1 "Take up your cross," the Sav-ior said, "if you would my dis - ci - ple be; de -
2 Take up your cross, let not its weight fill your weak spir - it with a - larm; his
3 Take up your cross, heed not the shame, nor let your fool - ish pride re - bel; your
4 Take up your cross, and fol - low Christ, nor think till death to lay it down; for

ny your - self, the world for - sake, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."
strength shall bear your spir - it up, and nerve your heart, and brace your arm.
Lord for you the cross en - dured, and fought the powers of death and hell.
on - ly they who bear the cross may hope to wear the glo - rious crown.

Words: Charles W. Everest (1814-1877), alt.; para. Luke 9:23 | Southern Harmony, 1835 | Setting: by J.S. Bach | Public domain

Sermon

Take Up Your Cross

Offertory “Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart” arr. Lenny Seidel

Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love,
One holy passion filling all my frame;
The kindling of the heav’n-descending Dove,
My heart an altar, and Thy love the flame.

Text: George Croly | Public domain

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 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 us 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.
C **Amen.**

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	“Lord Jesus, Think on Me”	LSB 610, sts. 1–5
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Hymn	“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”	LSB 427, sts. 1-4
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Hymn	“Christ Be My Leader”	LSB 861, sts. 1-3
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Communion Dismissal

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

Psalm 106:1

A Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,

C **for His steadfast love endures forever!**

A We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You 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

C ¹ Make a joyful _____ to the Lord, all the earth! ² Serve the Lord with _____! Come into His presence with _____. ³ Know that the Lord, He is God! It is He who _____ us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture. ⁴ Enter His gates with _____, and His courts with _____! Give thanks to Him; bless His name! ⁵ For the Lord is _____; His steadfast love _____ forever, and His _____ to all generations.

Acknowledgments

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Hymn

"Savior, I Follow On"



1 Sav - ior, I fol - low on, Guid - ed by Thee,
 2 Riv - en the rock for me Thirst to re - lieve,
 3 Of - ten to Ma - rah's brink Have I been brought;
 4 Sav - ior, I long to walk Clos - er with Thee;



See - ing not yet the hand That lead - eth me.
 Man - na from heav - en falls Fresh ev - 'ry eve.
 Shrink - ing the cup to drink, Help I have sought;
 Led by Thy guid - ing hand, Ev - er to be



Hushed be my heart and still, Fear I no fur - ther ill,
 Nev - er a want se - vere Caus - eth my eye a tear
 And with the prayer's as - cent Je - sus the branch hath rent,
 Con - stant - ly near Thy side, Quick - ened and pu - ri - fied,



On - ly to meet Thy will My will shall be.
 But Thou dost whis - per near, "On - ly be - lieve."
 Quick - ly re - lief hath sent, Sweet - 'ning the draught.
 Liv - ing for Him who died Free - ly for me.

Text: Charles S. Robinson, 1829–99 | Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838–96 | Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude

"Forever I Will Sing!"

by Lani Smith