# Gethsemane Lutheran Church Tom Steffen August 7, 2022 9th Sunday after Pentecost

**Welcome to worship today.** Our prayer is that we may meet our holy God in song, word, activity and prayer.

# Introduction

Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part in today's assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

# [Congregation's responses are printed in **BOLD** type.]

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **GATHERED**

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\oplus$  one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of ± Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.



# **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

# **HYMN OF PRAISE**





# PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray: Almighty God,

you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### WORD

#### FIRST READING Genesis 15:1-6

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The word of the Lord.

## Thanks be to God.

**PSALM READING Psalm 33:12-22** (read responsively)
Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all humankind.

From where he sits enthroned he watches all the inhabitants of the earth he who fashions the hearts of them all, and observes all their deeds.

A king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

The war horse is a vain hope for victory, and by its great might it cannot save.

Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,

to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and shield.

Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.

Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

# SECOND READING Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

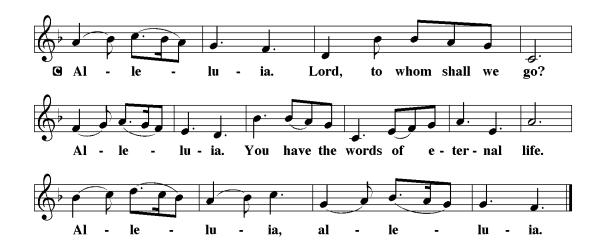
By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** 



#### **GOSPEL Luke 12:32-40**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 12th chapter Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

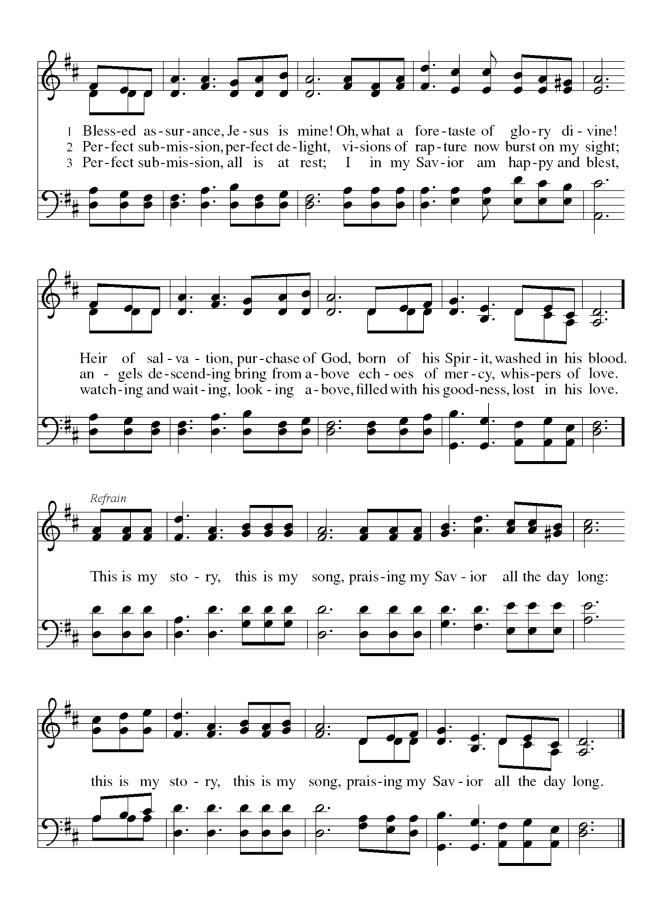
"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The gospel our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

# **SERMON**

HYMN 638 Blessed Assurance



Together let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

Each prayer petition ends, *Merciful God*, Our response, **receive our prayer**.

# THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

You may share the peace of Christ with one another

## **OFFERING**

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. God of abundance:

you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

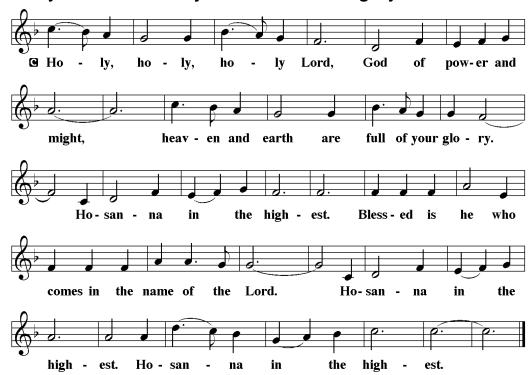
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary......

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



# WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

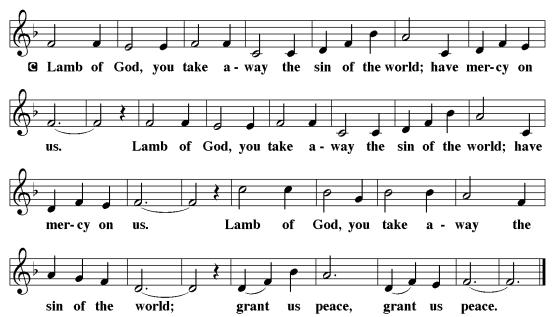
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

Assisting Minister will be communed first so that those on Zoom can partake in the communion before the congregation:

The Body of Christ given for you. The Blood of Christ shed for you.



# POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus the Christ strengthen you and

keep you in his grace. **Amen.** 

#### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray. Life-giving God,

through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

# BENEDICTION

The God of peace, Father,  $\oplus$  Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always. **Amen.** 

HYMN Art





# **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**Music portions of the Liturgy**, With One Voice Worship Setting 5, Reprinted under Augsburg Fortress license 44230

Texts for August 14, 2022: Jeremiah 23:23-29; Psalm 82; Hebrews 11:29—12:2; Luke 12:49-56

<u>The attendance</u> at last week services was 13 in Church and 2 on Zoom and YouTube

# **Calendar for the Week**

Tuesday August 9 – Church Council at 7:00pm in-person and on Zoom

# **Upcoming Events**

**Saturday August 20** - Yard Sale – You can start bring in your donations on August 1<sup>st</sup>. The fellowship hall will be set up after church on August 7<sup>th</sup>. **Saturday September 24** – Late Summer Bonfire

LCFS needs your help! Here are some wish lists from our programs. Any help at all is appreciated.

#### Our most needed school items are below. in order of need:

- wireless composition notebooks pencil-top erasers
- · folders without prongs
- · looseleaf notebook paper
- posterboard
- · handheld calculators
- dry erase markers
- · colored pencils
- pencils
- index cards

#### We are unable to use the following items at the **Lutherwood school:**

- notebooks and folders with spiral binding or metal pieces
- handheld pencil sharpeners
- · water-based (like Crayola) or permanent markers
- pens
- · Ramen noodles
- Water/soda/Gatorade
- Rice
- · Pasta Roni
- Paper towels
- Laundry detergent/Pods
- · Bath towels

- Hamburger helper
- Pasta sauce/Pasta
- · Snacks/Chips, Pringles/Cookies
- · Spam/Canned meat
- Canned foods/Canned Starchy Veggies
- Dog Food
- · Peanut Butter
- Jelly

- · Toilet Paper
- · Deodorant/Liquid Body Wash/Sensitive lotion, hair supplies, and etc.
- Comet/Bleach/Extra Cleaning supplies
- · Diapers and Pull ups (all sizes)/Baby Wipes