

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
BRISTOL, CT**

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

July 13, 2025, 9:30 a.m.

5th Sunday after Pentecost

To love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind is to reflect God's mercy in responding to one's neighbor. That mercy found its most profound expression in the "gospel that has come to you"—namely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That gospel mercy comes to us again today: at the font, at the table, and from the pulpit. It is very near to you.

Offerings towards our Ministries are welcomed at our entryways, by passing a plate or you can scan this code with your phone camera. Thank you!



+GATHERING+

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.

WELCOME

**PRELUDE Pastorale Dance on Praise and Thanksgiving
arr. Andrew Clark**

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Today, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Melissa and Robert, one with us in the body of Christ, who are making public affirmation of their baptism as new members of Faith Lutheran Church of Bristol.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for this sister and brother in Christ, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourish them in this community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

Today, we also welcome their child through baptism. Who presents this child?

Sponsors present the candidate:

I present Ida Joyce for baptism.

The presiding minister addresses parents:

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

Response: I do.

As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in your holy baptism as you take on these responsibilities with and for Ida:

to live with her among God's faithful people,
 bring her to the word of God and the holy supper,
 teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
 place in her hands the holy scriptures,
 and nurture her in faith and prayer,
 so that she may learn to trust God,
 proclaim Christ through word and deed,
 care for others and the world God made,
 and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life as you continue your faith in life too?

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture this child in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

People of God, do you promise to support Ida, Melissa and Robert and pray for them in their life in Christ?

Response: We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The presiding minister addresses parents and sponsor. The assembly joins in the responses.

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Renunciation Question

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response:

I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the parents, sponsor and assembly.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

BAPTISM

Ida Joyce, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

L: You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia!

The presiding minister continues:

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Ida with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Chrism

Ida Joyce, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the +cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

L: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

A blessing is repeated for each new member.

Father in heaven, for Jesus' sake, stir up in Melissa/Robert the gift of your Holy Spirit; confirm her/his faith, guide her/his life, empower her/him in her/his serving, give her/his patience in suffering, and bring her/him to everlasting life. **Amen.**

The Assistant Minister leads the assembly in the welcome.

L: Let us rejoice with these sisters and brother in Christ.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

An applause in celebration is offered.

GATHERING HYMN

Baptized in Water

ELW 456

+WORD+

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

First Reading

Moses calls the people who are about to enter the promised land to renew the covenant God made with their ancestors. Through this covenant God gives life and asks for obedience. God's commandment is neither burdensome nor too far off, but dwells in the people's hearts.

A reading from Deuteronomy, chapter 30.

⁹ The LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, ¹⁰ when you obey the LORD your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. ¹¹ "Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. ¹² It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will go up to heaven for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' ¹³ Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?' ¹⁴ No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Deuteronomy 30: 9-14

Psalm 25

¹ To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

² My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

³ Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴ Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

⁵ Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶ Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

⁸ You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in

your way.

⁹ You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

¹⁰ **All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

Second Reading

The letter to the Colossians was written to warn its readers of various false teachings. The first part of the letter is an expression of thanks for the faith, hope, and love that mark this community, including a prayer for strength and courage.

A reading from Colossians 1, chapter 1.

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, ² To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father. ³ In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁴ for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, ⁵ because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel ⁶ that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. ⁷ This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, ⁸ and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit. ⁹ For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰ so that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. ¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Colossians 1: 1-14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Gospel

Jesus is challenged to explain what is involved in obeying the greatest commandment. He tells a parable rich in surprises: those expected to show pity display hard hearts while the lowly give and receive unexpected and lavish mercy.

The holy Gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵ An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ²⁶ He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” ²⁷ He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.” ²⁸ And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.” ²⁹ But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” ³⁰ Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. ³¹ Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³² So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³ But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him.

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³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?' ³⁷ He said, 'The one who showed him mercy.' Jesus said to him, 'Go and do likewise.'

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ Luke 10: 25-37

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (aimed toward Grades K thru 6th, but those younger are welcomed with an accompanying adult).

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY **There's a Wideness in God's Mercy** **ELW 588**

L: PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Saving God, awaken your church to your truth as it follows your path of love. Encourage pastors, deacons, teachers, and seminarians, and lead them as they seek to learn your ways. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Prosper the harvests of fruit-bearing bushes, trees, and plants. Uphold farmers and farm workers as they labor through summer days, and bring relief to lands that are parched with heat. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God our healer, we continue to pray for those on our prayer list. In addition we lift up to your care these loved ones and concerns that we name aloud or in our hearts before you now...(*time is allowed for additions*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Now may we lift up praise and thanksgiving for Restored Health, Life Celebrations and God Sightings for which we are joyful...(*time is allowed for responses*) God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for all who have gone before us and have made your love known. Help us to follow their witness as we await our share in the inheritance of the saints. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

SHARE THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

+MEAL+

God feeds us in the presence of Jesus Christ.

Please be seated

OFFERING COLLECTION

Herr Gott, dich loben alle wir

arr. Johann Pachelbel

Offerings towards our Ministries are welcomed at our entryways, by passing a plate or you can scan this code with your phone camera. Thank you.



OFFERTORY

We Give Thee but Thine Own

ELW 686 (vs. 1 & 2)

L: OFFERING PRAYER

For all that we have received from God let us pray for what we return.

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

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 our thanks and praise.**

EUCARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all
who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and
forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, as we pray:

**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.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

At Faith all are welcome to receive Holy Communion. You are invited to come forward by the center aisle to receive the bread (or gluten-free wafers upon request) and wine (or white grape juice). Empty glasses can be placed in baskets provided as you return by the side aisles to your seat for silent meditation. If you need communion brought to you, please notify the usher.

(if you are giving a reminder at the end of the service, please move to the lectern as the altar is cleared after communion distribution)

1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer - cy now, we pray.

you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer - cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION HYMNS **Spirit of Gentleness**
God Is Here!

ELW 396

ELW 526

L: POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

+SENDING+

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

REMINDERS

(If you are giving a reminder, come to the lectern as the altar is cleared).

BLESSING

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit [☩] bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN Go, My Children, with My Blessing ELW 543

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Herr Christ, der ein'ge Gottes Sohn arr. J. S. Bach

WORSHIP LEADERS for Sunday, July 13, 2025

Presiding Minister: Pastor Chris Dion

Musician: John Parsons

Assisting Minister: Jill Little

Lector: Linda Klopp

Tech Team: Abigail Griffin, Ken Griffin, Connor Pratt

Ushers: Donald Zurell, Alan Rindfleisch, Denise Martin

Altar Guild: Susan and Ashley Provenzano

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THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, July 13, 2025

9:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary, You Tube, Facebook)
10:30 a.m. Congregational Vote on Air-Conditioning in the Fellowship Hall
followed by Congregational Conversation with Brunch

Monday, July 14, 2025

6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

6:30 p.m. Summer Bells

Thursday, July 17, 2025

7:00 p.m. AA (Fellowship Hall)
7:00 p.m. Al Anon (YOUTH Room)

Saturday, July 19, 2025

10:00 a.m. Fitness Class with Nancy Plourde (Fellowship Hall)
1:00 p.m. Faith Walks at Pidgeon Hill Preserve, adjacent to Barnes Nature Center on Shrub Road

Sunday, July 20, 2025

9:30 a.m. Service of Holy Communion (Sanctuary, You Tube, Facebook)
10:30 a.m. Ice Cream Social

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRISTOL, CT

1125 Stafford Ave., Bristol, CT

Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Church Phone: 860.583.5809

Email: churchoffice@FaithBristolCT.org

Pastor Chris Dion, phone: 860.989.3507