

**“ON THIS ROCK  
I WILL BUILD  
MY CHURCH.”  
MATTHEW 16:18**

## **THE 13<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

August 27, 2023 | 8:00 and 10:30am

## **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH** Thornville, Ohio

### **VISITORS**

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We welcome you in the name of Christ and hope his word of forgiveness and freedom finds you while you are with us this morning. If you are visiting or are new to our church, we ask that you complete a yellow Connection Card and pass it to the center isle for collection during the Entrance Hymn. We would like to be in touch with you and to let you know more about Grace Lutheran. We are glad you are with us.

### **OUR WORSHIP**

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Lutherans believe that the Gospel is not only the good news that Jesus has saved sinners by his death and resurrection, but also the power by which God creates and strengthens faith in Jesus. Lutheran worship places the Gospel as the central focus in an order of service called the liturgy. In preaching and Holy Communion, in specially selected Bible readings and songs, prayers and confessions, the liturgy points us to Jesus as our gracious Savior.

### **PARENTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN**

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Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me." The presence of children in worship, even when they are noisy, is a gift to the Church and a reminder that our parish is growing. If you have to leave worship with your children, feel free to do so, but even more so, feel free to come back in!

### **PRAYER BEFORE HOLY COMMUNION**

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*We do not presume to come to your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, and so to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him and he in us.  
Amen*

## ORDER FOR WORSHIP - LBW Setting 2

*Watchword: A bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. - Isaiah 42:3 ESV*

### PRELUDE | WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS | OPENING PRAYER

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#### Confession and Absolution

#### INVOCATION

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P: In the Name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

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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.**

#### CONFESSION

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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.

*The people kneel for silent reflection and self-examination.*

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.**

#### ABSOLUTION

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*The pastor stands and addresses the assembly.*

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*The people stand.*

#### Gathering

#### ENTRANCE HYMN

*"Day by Day"*

Blue Book 746

*Connection Cards/Prayer Requests should be passed to the center aisle at this time.*

#### APOSTOLIC GREETING

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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.**

THE KYRIE

A=Leader; C=all voices



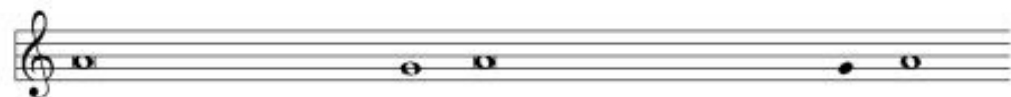
A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. C Lord, have mer - cy.



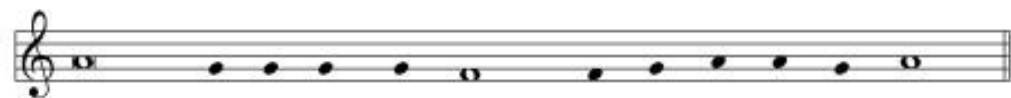
A For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



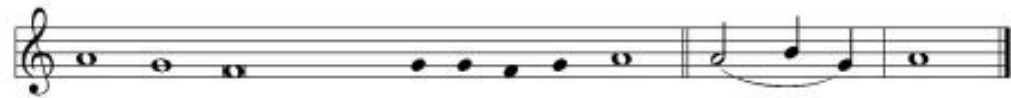
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. C A - men

THE HYMN OF PRAISE

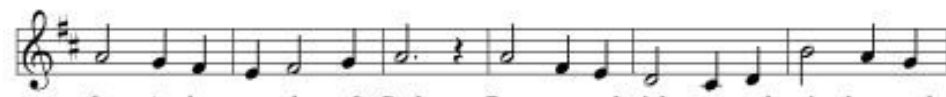
A=Leader; C=all voices



A This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



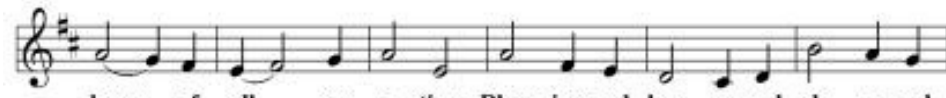
strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

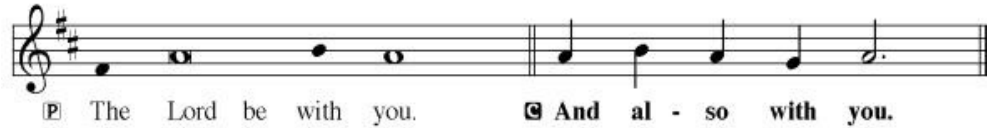


This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY



P: Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you have given great and precious promises to those who believe. Grant us the perfect faith which overcomes all doubts, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

*The people may be seated.*



## The Liturgy of the Word

### THE FIRST LESSON

*Isaiah 51:1-6*

L: A reading from Isaiah.

*God reminds His people of their past, but he also directs them to their future.*

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. <sup>2</sup>Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him. <sup>3</sup>For the Lord comforts Zion; he comforts all her waste places and makes her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. <sup>4</sup>Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples. <sup>5</sup>My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait. <sup>6</sup>Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke,

the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed.

L: The Word of the Lord.      C: Thanks be to God.

### PSALMODY

*Psalm 138*

*The verses are chanted alternately by the cantor and the congregation.*



<sup>1</sup>I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with | my whole heart;\* before the gods  
I will | sing your praise.

<sup>2</sup>**I will bow down toward your holy temple and | praise your name,\* because  
of your | love and faithfulness;**

<sup>3</sup>for you have glori- | fied your name\* and your word a- | bove all things.

<sup>4</sup>**When I called, you | answered me;\* you increased my | strength within me.**

<sup>5</sup>All the kings of the earth will praise | you, O Lord,\* when they have heard the  
words | of your mouth.

<sup>6</sup>**They will sing of the ways | of the Lord,\* that great is the glory | of the Lord.**

<sup>7</sup>Though the Lord be high, he cares | for the lowly;\* he perceives the  
haughty | from afar.

<sup>8</sup>**Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you | keep me safe;\* you stretch forth  
your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right | hand shall save me.**

<sup>9</sup>The Lord will make good his pur- | pose for me;\* O Lord, your love endures  
forever; do not abandon the works | of your hands.

## THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 12:1-8

L: A reading from Romans.

*The grace of God in our lives leads to action and a changed perspective.*

<sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. <sup>6</sup>Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; <sup>7</sup>if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; <sup>8</sup>the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

L: The Word of the Lord.      **C: Thanks be to God.**

## THE VERSE

*The people stand.*

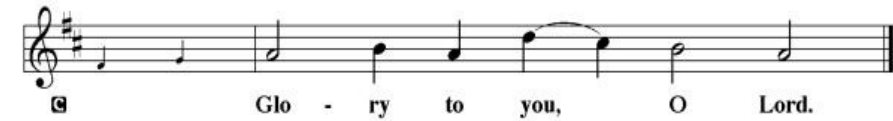


Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

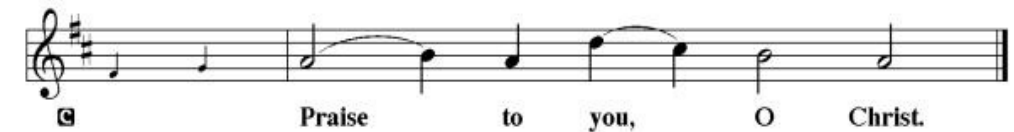
P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup>And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup>He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup>Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

P: The Gospel of our Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

## SERMON

Pastor Tom Jacobson

*The people may be seated.*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*"Built On a Rock"*

Green Book 365

*The people stand.*

**THE APOSTLES' CREED** (8:00 only, then continue with the Prayers on pg 14)

**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.**



## *The Sacrament of Holy Baptism*

*Tate Craig Pancoast* (10:30 only)

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ says in the last chapter of Matthew: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark, our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved." And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you."

The Word of God also teaches that all humanity is sinful and born in need of salvation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent his Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. Let us call upon God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, that in his goodness and mercy he will receive Tate by baptism and make him a member of his holy Church.

*The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of the candidate.*

P: Tate Craig, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your head and upon your heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, according to your judgment you condemned the wicked and unbelieving by the waters of the ancient flood, yet according to your great mercy you preserved believing Noah and his family. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet you led your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of your Holy Baptism. Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, was baptized by John in the Jordan River and fulfilled that baptism by his death and resurrection. He made water a sign of cleansing and rebirth.

Grant that Tate would be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church and all of his days grow in faith, love, and obedience to your will, serving you at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope.

**C: Amen.**

P: Parents, as you present your child for baptism, you are entrusted with gifts and responsibilities: to live with him among God's faithful people, bring him to the services of God's house and the Supper of our Lord, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that by word and example he may learn to trust God in life and in death.

Sponsor, you are witness that this child has been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. You are also to remember him before God in prayer, and if the parents are not able to fulfill their obligations, you shall, as far as possible, see to it that the Holy Scriptures are placed in his hands, that he is taught the Ten Commandments, the Creed, and the Lord's Prayer, and that he is brought to the services of God's house, so that as he grows in years, he may abide in Christ, even as now, through Holy Baptism, they have been grafted into him.

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

*The pastor addresses the parents and sponsors of the candidates and asks the following questions:*

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

R: I do.

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?**

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

**C: 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.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: 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.**

*The pastor pours water three times on the head of the candidate while saying:*

Tate Craig is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*The pastor marks the sign of the cross with oil on the forehead of the baptized:*

P: Tate Craig, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

The parents and sponsors respond: "Amen."

*The assisting minister presents the parents and sponsors of the candidate with a burning candle lit from the paschal candle while the pastor says:*

P: Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the light of the world. Live always by the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for his coming, that you may meet him with joy and enter with him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in his kingdom, which shall have no end.

P: O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon the parents of Tate. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their child. Strengthen them in their own baptism so they may share eternally with their child the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

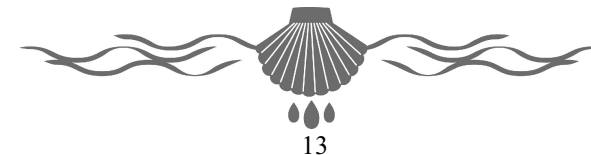
**C: Amen.**

*The assisting minister speaks the following:*

A: In Holy Baptism, God the Father has made you a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heir with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our brother in Christ, that together we might hear his Word, receive his gifts, and proclaim the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his marvelous light.

**C: Amen.**

*The baptismal party returns to the pews, the service then continues with the prayers.*



## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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After each petition:

A: Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

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.**



## The Liturgy of Holy Communion

### THE PEACE

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P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*The people greet one another in the name of the Lord and then are seated.*

### OFFERING

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Stationary plates have been placed in the sanctuary for giving offerings before or after service. Online giving through the church's website is also highly encouraged. Quiet music will play to provide a time for prayer and reflection.

### OFFERTORY RESPONSE

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*The people stand.*

☩ Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be

fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

### THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

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A: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

**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.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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☩ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so 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 him thanks and praise.



## THE PREFACE

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P: It is indeed right .... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## THE SANCTUS

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Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n 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.

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: 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.

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

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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.**

## THE FRACTION

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P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

**C: Happy are those who take refuge in him!**

*The people may be seated.*

## LAMB OF GOD

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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, grant us peace.

## DISTRIBUTION

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Lutherans teach that Holy Communion (the Lord's Supper) was instituted by Jesus Christ himself for us to eat and drink. As his words declare, with bread and wine, he imparts to us his body and blood, and with it the grace of God. This sacrament is God's way of giving us the good news of Jesus in a concrete, physical way as we continue our pilgrimage on earth. We are rightly prepared to receive this great gift when we come before God with humility and faith. All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

To receive Holy Communion, come forward in two lines (10:30) or one line (8:00) as the ushers direct you. With open hands, you will receive the bread from the pastor or assisting minister. For those not able to receive regular bread, some gluten free wafers are available. Then proceed to receive the wine from an assistant on your side of the sanctuary. Take an empty cup, which will be filled using a pouring chalice. For those not able to receive wine, there are some pre-filled cups of grape juice available. After receiving the Lord's Supper, the communicant may say "Amen" and return to your pew for prayer. Those choosing not to receive Holy Communion may come forward for a brief prayer and blessing. You may indicate that by crossing your arms over your chest.

*Hymns during distribution: Green Book 212, 499, 518*

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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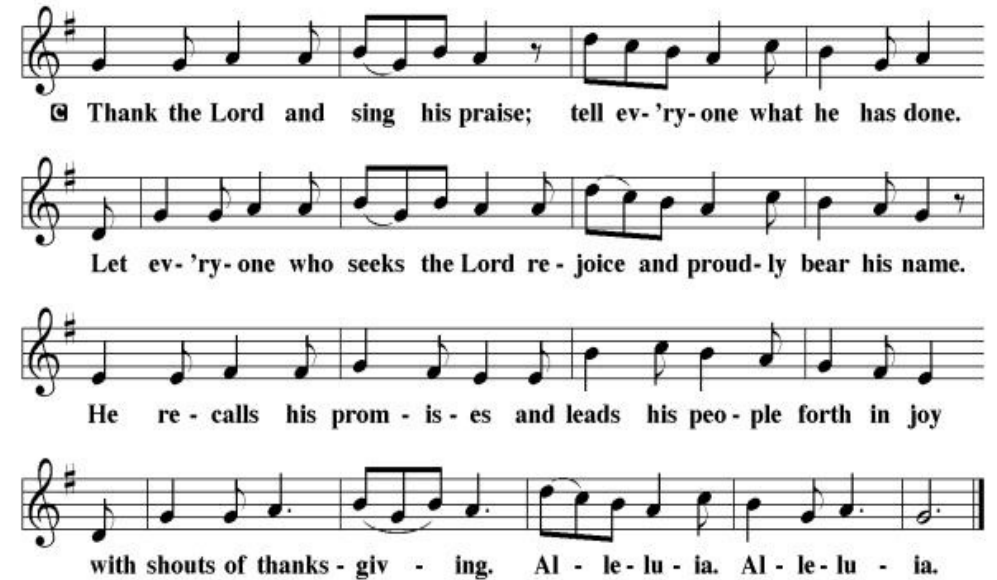
*The people please stand.*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

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☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.  
Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.  
He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy  
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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A: Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.



# Sending

## THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

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☩ 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.



☩ A - men

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

**SENDING HYMN** "How Firm a Foundation"

Green Book 507

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## THE POSTLUDE

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*We are sent into the world to proclaim God's grace in word and deed.*

## PRAYER AFTER WORSHIP

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*Almighty God, grant that the words we have heard this day with our ears may be grafted onto our hearts through your grace, that they may produce in us the fruit of a good life, to the praise and honor of your name, through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord. Amen*



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The Rev. Dr. Thomas Jacobson, Pastor



NORTH AMERICAN  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

**COMMEMORATIONS:**

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As Christians in the twenty-first century, we are called to remember that God's people of the past form a great "cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1). In that spirit, we commemorate memorable Christians of the past, usually on the day of their death. Though imperfect, their witness inspires us today as we run the race of faith. This week, the Church commemorates:

Aug. 28 Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, 430

Aug. 31 John Bunyan, teacher, 1688

Sept. 2 Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, bishop, renewer of the Church, 1872

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE 14 PENTECOST (SEPTEMBER 3)**

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Jeremiah 15:15-21

Romans 12:9-21

Psalms 26:1-8

Matthew 16:21-28