

## **Sunday Worship Service – August 10, 2025**

### **Ninth Sunday After Pentecost**

All the hymns are from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship Book* (ELWB)

#### **Land Acknowledgement and Welcome Statement**

#### **Introduction to the Theme of the Bible Readings**

True treasure comes as we share with others, as we care for others, and as we love others as God has loved us. This is the treasure God desires from us. This is the treasure we are called to accumulate during our time on earth. We respond to God's treasures in our lives by sharing the true treasures in God's world.

#### **Prayer of Confession**

**We hear the call to trust in God always, but some days our stresses and doubts are even more real to us than God, and trust is elusive.**

**We remember how Abram dared to believe in God's promises, but belief like that is hard to come by.**

**When the world seems filled with dangers, we can be quick to protect ourselves, and we forget the wisdom of scripture.**

**With God's help, we confront our fears and struggles, and we call upon a power greater than our own to resist their pull.**

**Hear us, Holy One, as we confess our frailty and failings.**

*(silence for reflection)*

#### **Words of Forgiveness**

Don't be afraid, little flock, for God delights in giving us the kingdom, the treasure of God's love and mercy!

Through the Spirit of the living God, we are washed clean and made whole: with delight and grace we are loved and forgiven in the name of the + Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen

#### **#557 Gathering Hymn "Awake, my Soul, and with the Sun"**

1. Awake, my soul, and with the sun thy daily stage of duty run;  
shake off dull sloth, and joyful rise to pay thy morning sacrifice.
2. All praise to thee, who safe hast kept and hast refreshed me while I  
slept.  
Grant, Lord, when I from death shall wake, I may of endless light  
partake.
3. Lord, I my vows to Thee renew. Disperse my sins as morning dew;  
guard my first springs of thought and will; and with thyself my spirit  
fill.
4. Direct, control, suggest, this day, all I design or do or say,  
that all my pow'rs, with all their might, in thy sole glory may unite.
5. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures  
here below;  
praise God above, ye heav'enly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy  
Ghost.

### 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.**

### Call to Worship

From the rising of the sun,  
**God speaks, calling out to the earth.**  
At the beginning of each new day,  
**God speaks, calling us to life and service.**  
Even with the setting sun,  
**God speaks, reminding us that we are not alone.**  
As we gather for worship this day,  
**God speaks, inviting us to love freely and to become true treasure on  
earth.**

### Prayer of the Day

*Generous God*, speak your truth to us this day. Give us the treasure of your  
wisdom and love, that we might become for the world the treasure you

desire us to be. Clothe us with your compassion and courage, that we might be Christ to a hurting world. Amen.

### **First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6**

*In the reading from the book of Genesis, God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.*

After these events, God's word came to Abram in a vision, "Don't be afraid, Abram. I am your protector. Your reward will be very great."

But Abram said, "God, what can you possibly give me, since I still have no children? The head of my household is Eliezer of Damascus." Abram continued, "Since you haven't given me any children, the head of my household will be my heir."

Then the word of God came immediately to Abram, "This person will not be your heir. Your heir will definitely be your very own biological child." Then God brought Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars if you think you can count them. This is how many children you will have." Abram trusted God, and God recognized Abram's high moral character.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalms 33:12-22**

Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!

Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

**The Lord looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.**

God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.

**God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.**

A king is not saved by the size of the army,  
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

**The horse gives vain hope for victory;**

**despite its great strength it cannot save.**

Truly, your eye is upon those who are in awe of you, O Lord,

upon those who wait for your steadfast love,  
**to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine.**  
 Our innermost being waits for you, O Lord, our helper and our shield.  
**Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.**  
 Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us,  
 even as we place our hope in you. (NRSVUE)

## **Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16**

*In the reading from the book of Hebrews, we hear Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.*

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, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, 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 homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

p.188 **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Alleluia, alleluia**

**Gospel Reading: Luke 12:32-40**

*In the gospel reading from Luke, Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.*

The holy gospel according to Luke, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

"Don't be afraid, little flock, because God delights in giving you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to those in need. Make for yourselves wallets that don't wear out—a treasure in heaven that never runs out. No thief comes near there, and no moth destroys. Where your treasure is, there your heart will be too.

"Be dressed for service and keep your lamps lit. Be like the household staff waiting for the owner's return from a wedding, so that when the owner arrives and knocks, you'll open the door without delay. It will go well with those staff members whom the owner finds wide awake upon returning. I assure you that, the owner will put on an apron, seat them at a table and proceed to wait on them. Should the owner happen to come at midnight, or before sunrise, and find them prepared, it will go well with them. Understand this, no homeowner who knew when a thief was coming, would have let the thief break in. So be on guard – the promised One will come when least expected."

The gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**#818 Hymn of the Day "O Master, Let Me Walk with You"**

1. O Master, let me walk with you in lowly paths of service true;  
tell me your secret; help me to bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
2. Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love;  
teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.
3. Teach me your patience; share with me a closer dearer company,  
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,  
in trust that triumphs over wrong,
4. In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broad'ning way,  
in peace that only you can give; with you, O Master, let me live.

### **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 and 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<sup>1</sup>**

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world. Prayer petitions will end with "God of grace" and the congregation is invited to respond by saying:  
**"receive our prayer."**  
*A brief silence.*

Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://members.sundaysandseasons.com/Home/TextsAndResources#texts>

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened. We pray for all people who have been effected by the wildfires across Canada, and all those who are fighting the fires and caring for displaced people. Empower all those involved in rebuilding efforts. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be on those in need especially those who are grieving and those in hospital. Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure.  
God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of CLWR, Canadian Lutheran World Relief, and other means of support and advocacy. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

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

### **Sharing the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always! **And also with you!**

### **Offering Prayer**

Abundant God, as we offer these earthly treasures back to you, transform these gifts into love and mercy by the power of your Holy Spirit and the gift of your miraculous love. Turn these earthly treasures of human currency into heavenly treasures of love and justice to bring your realm here on earth. Amen.

### p.190 **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 our thanks and praise.**

It is a right, good and joyful thing, always and everywhere,  
to give thanks to you.

As you gave our ancestors in faith food and water in the desert,  
even when they turned away from you,  
you have promised to free us from all divisions and to give us eternal life.  
And so with your creatures on earth and all the heavenly chorus,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

p.190 **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and holy is Jesus, your anointed one,  
who invites us to place our trust in you, rather than in earthly treasures.

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, Jesus took the cup,  
Gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the 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 your Holy Spirit on us, and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
May they remind us that we are one in Christ,  
no longer divided by race or country or any other earthly sign.



For all these gifts, we give our thanks and praise. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

### **Communion** *(for online worshippers)*

The body of Christ given for you. *(eat bread)*  
The blood of Christ shed for you. *(drink wine)*

### **Communion Distribution**

#### p.191 ***Lamb of God***

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.**

### **Communion Blessing**

#### **Prayer after Communion<sup>2</sup>**

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.

### **Greetings from Jennifer Ardon**

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<sup>2</sup> <https://members.sundaysandseasons.com/Home/TextsAndResources#texts>

## Announcements

### Blessing

May the Watchful Creator protect and preserve you;  
 The Wounded Healer renew and restore you;  
 The Wind of the Comforter embrace and empower you;  
 This day, and all your days to come. Amen.

### #768 Sending Hymn “*Lead Me, Guide Me*”

#### *Refrain:*

Lead me, guide me along the way; for if you lead me, I cannot stray.  
 Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow’r  
 to help me over my weakest hour.  
 Help me through the darkness thy face to see.  
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

#### *Refrain*

2. Help me tread in the paths of righteousness,  
 be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.  
 I am putting all my trust in thee.  
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

#### *Refrain*

3. I am lost, if you take your hand from me,  
 I am blind, without thy light to see.  
 Lord, just always let me thy servant be.  
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

#### *Refrain*

### Sending

Go in peace, inspired by Christ to love and serve. **Thanks be to God!**

#### Sources:

Bible passages (except where otherwise indicated) from Common English Bible (CEB).

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