

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, August 3, 2025 – 8:00 a.m.
Sunday, August 3, 2025 – 10:30 a.m.



Welcome!

To our guests and visitors:

We are glad that you are here with us today!
If you are looking for a church home, consider joining us?

Come, Thou almighty King,
Help us Thy name to sing;
 Help us to praise;
Father all-glorious,
O'er all victorious,
Come and reign over us,
 Ancient of Days.

Come, Thou incarnate Word,
Gird on Thy mighty sword;
 Our prayer attend.
Come and Thy people bless,
And give Thy Word success,
And let Thy righteousness
 On us descend.

Come, holy Comforter,
Thy sacred witness bear
 In this glad hour!
Thou, who almighty art,
Now rule in ev'ry heart,
And ne'er from us depart,
 Spirit of pow'r.

To Thee, great One in Three,
Eternal praises be
 Hence evermore!
Thy sov'reign majesty
May we in glory see,
And to eternity
 Love and adore.

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

People: **He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry.**

Pastor: Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

People: **It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for He gives to His beloved sleep.**

Pastor: Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

People: **The First Commandment reminds us, "You shall have no other gods before Me."**

Pastor: Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

People: **On account of these the wrath of God is coming.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God,

People: **You are the giver of everything we have. Yet, we are guilty of coveting the possessions, experiences, and social standing of others. We sin by valuing these things above You. For Jesus' sake, forgive our sins. Renew us in Your knowledge and conform us to Your image by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Pastor: “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you by His poverty might become rich” (2 Corinthians 8:9). We receive the riches of God’s forgiveness because of Jesus. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray.
O God, You are the giver of all that we have, including all that we are. We praise and thank You for blessing us with family, friends, opportunities, jobs, and possessions. Guide us to be good stewards of all You generously give to us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

LSB 809

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be. **Refrain**

ref Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. **Refrain**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **Refrain**

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. ³ And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.

P This is the word of the Lord
C **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading

Ephesians 5:8-15

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰ and find out what pleases the Lord. ¹¹ Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹² It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³ But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. ¹⁴ This is why it is said: “Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.” ¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise,

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

Holy Gospel

John 8:12-21

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

¹³ The Pharisees challenged him, “Here you are, appearing as your own witness; your testimony is not valid.” ¹⁴ Jesus answered, “Even if I testify on my own behalf, my testimony is valid, for I know where I came from and where I am going. But you have no idea where I come from or where I am going. ¹⁵ You judge by human standards; I pass judgment on no one.

¹⁶ But if I do judge, my decisions are true, because I am not alone. I stand with the Father, who sent me. ¹⁷ In your own Law it is written that the testimony of two witnesses is true. ¹⁸ I am one who testifies for myself; my other witness is the Father, who sent me.”

¹⁹ Then they asked him, “Where is your father?” “You do not know me or my Father,” Jesus replied. “If you knew me, you would know my Father also.” ²⁰ He spoke these words while teaching in the temple courts near the place where the offerings were put. Yet no one seized him, because his hour had not yet come. ²¹ Once more Jesus said to them, “I am going away, and you will look for me, and you will die in your sin. Where I go, you cannot come.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

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.

Sermon Hymn Gracious God You Send Great Blessings LSB 782

Gracious God, You send great blessings
New each morning all our days.
For Your mercies never ending,
For Your love we offer praise. **Refrain**

ref Lord, we pray that we, Your people
Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of Your blessings
May bring glory to Your name.

By Your Word You formed creation
Filled with creatures large and small;
As we tend that endless treasure
May our care encircle all. **Refrain**

In His earthly life, our Savior
Knew the care of faithful friends;
May our deeds of dedication
Offer love that never ends. **Refrain**

Heav'nly Father, may our caring
Bear the imprint of Your grace;
With the Son and Holy Spirit,
Praise be Yours in ev'ry place! **Refrain**

Sermon The Light of God

**Rev. Mark Moss
Lutheran Heritage Foundation**

Offering

Worship, honor, pow'r, and blessing
 Thou art worthy to receive;
 Highest praises, without ceasing,
 Right it is for us to give.
 Help, ye bright angelic spirits,
 All your noblest anthems raise;
 Help to sing our Savior's merits,
 Help to chant Immanuel's praise!

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Pastor: Lord of Glory, You created this world and everything in it, and You continue to rule over it. We praise and thank You for being our Good Shepherd who daily and richly provides for us. Thank You for laying down Your life for us and taking it back up again. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, we praise and thank You for all the blessings You generously give us. We thank You for our families, friends, opportunities, vocations, and possessions. Lead us to be good stewards of all that You place into our hands. Guard our hearts against selfishness, arrogance, and pride. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Gracious God, You promised Abram that You would bless him to be a blessing. We, too, are truly blessed as we freely receive the riches of Your kingdom. We praise and thank You for the riches of Your Word and the forgiveness we graciously receive at Your Table. Empower us by Your love to care for the widow, the orphan, the poor, and the needy. We pray now for all who are struggling in body, mind, and spirit, [*especially . . .*]. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Glorious Lord, we praise and thank You for calling us by the Gospel, enlightening us with Your gifts, and sanctifying and keeping us in the one true faith. We pray for those in our families, workplaces, and neighborhoods who are near to us but far from You. Pour Your love, mercy, and grace into their lives and bring them to faith in You. Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, we lift these prayers to You, trusting in Your mercy to hear and answer us according to Your good and gracious will. In Your glorious name, we pray.
People: **Amen.**

The Words of our Lord

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."

Pax Domini

pg 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen**

Agnus Dei

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.

Distribution

Distribution Hymn I Come O Savior, to Thy Table

LSB 618

I come, O Savior, to Thy table,
For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able
To satisfy and make me whole: **Refrain.**

ref Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!

Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning
That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;
So I, a sinner, come to Thee. **Refrain.**

Unworthy though I am, O Savior,
Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never,
For Thou my faithful shepherd art: **Refrain.**

Weary am I and heavy laden;
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously and gladden
My heart, for I am now Thy guest. **Refrain.**

What higher gift can we inherit?
It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit,
The covenant of hope and grace. **Refrain.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- P Let us pray.
We thank You, merciful Father, for giving us the good gifts of Your grace through the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus. In Your mercy, strengthen our faith and lead us to trust in Your grace and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

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.**

Closing Hymn

Lift High The Cross

LSB 837

Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. [Refrain]

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. [Refrain]

All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. [Refrain]

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. [Refrain]

Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. [Refrain]

So shall our song of triumph ever be;
Praise to the Crucified for victory! [Refrain]

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**