



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America



EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 14, 2024 - 10:00 AM - in the Sanctuary



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of their daughter, Amanda, on her birthday by Brian and Karen Craig.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister and Preaching	Elaine Nocks
Assisting Minister	Richard Moose
Pianist and Choir Director	Rick Smith
Lector	Tori Hilbourn
Prayers	Elijah Colburn
Communion Assistant	Bradley Suddeth
Cantor/Soloist	Megan Finnern
Acolyte	Jenna Mast
Children's Worship Activity Leaders	Julie Brightwell Chad Brightwell Anne Fagala
Nursery	Karen Craig
Praying for Possibilities	Debbie Farstad
Greeters	Anne Harmon Deirdre Hixson Amanda Mast Chris Mast Jenna Mast Kylee Mast Sarah Weeks
Ushers	Carol Elliott Danny Fagala Jay Hilbourn Pattimarie Janssen
Fellowship Hosts	Jane and Lyle Mortenson
Video	Henry Wilcox
Audio	Gregg Alley

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME AND AFFIRMATION

Please stand as able

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world.**

Amen.

Beloved people of God:

in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.

By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.

Through Jesus, † the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:

you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

**Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come",
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.**

**Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.**

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

Let us pray. O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING

Amos 7:7-15

A reading from Amos.

⁷This is what the Lord GOD showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸And the LORD said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said,

“See, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass them by;

⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”

¹⁰Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos has said,

‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.’”

¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; ¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”

¹⁴Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, ¹⁵and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

*Psalm
Refrain*



I will lis - ten to what the LORD God is



say - ing, I will lis - ten to the LORD.

*Psalm
Tone*



- ⁸ I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their | hearts to you.
- ⁹ **Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell | in our land. R**
- ¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together;
righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.
- ¹¹ **Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,
and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.**
- ¹² The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity,
and our land will | yield its increase.
- ¹³ **Righteousness shall go be- | fore the LORD
and shall prepare for | God a pathway. R**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:3-14

A reading from Ephesians.

³Blessed be the God and Abba of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before God in love. ⁵God destined us for adoption as God’s children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of God’s will, ⁶to the praise of God’s glorious grace freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In Christ we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that Christ lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹God has made known to us the mystery of God’s will set forth in Christ, according to God’s good pleasure, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of God who accomplishes all things according to God’s own counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of God’s glory. ¹³In Christ you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s own people, to the praise of God’s glory.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Finding Hope

Please stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark the sixth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴King Herod heard of the disciples' preaching, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." ¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." ²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

The Power of Despair

Please stand as able

**Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water pure,
enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.**

**Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed,
an ever flowing stream of faith translated into deed.**

**So may God's plumb line, straight, define our measure true,
and justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

A brief silence.

You gather your people into the body of Christ. Where your church is wounded, heal it. Where it is right, strengthen it. Where it is divided, reunite it. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

From before the foundation of the world, you are God. Revive ecosystems destroyed by human greed. Curb our desire to put wealth ahead of the health of all who call this planet home. Show us new ways to live sustainably while strengthening our passion for eco-justice. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You establish equity and make justice. Within every nation, tribe, and land, cause laws to be written and customs to be observed that protect the most vulnerable. Help us to overcome our desire to always put ourselves first. Allow us to more fully see you in the faces of the oppressed and marginalized. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

On the cross your beloved Son endured pain and death. Bring healing to those in need, hope to any in despair, and comfort to the dying. We pray especially for those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts ... In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You send your Spirit into this community of faith. Empower our outreach ministries that serve and build up local communities. Nurture our partnerships with other community organizations, especially Lutheran Services of the Carolinas, United Ministries, and other justice seeking congregations in the upstate. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

You call ordinary people to speak your extraordinary truths. Continue to raise up and support social justice leaders and allies in this place and in the Greenville community. Amplify voices when they bravely speak out against homophobia, transphobia, racism, sexism, and misogyny. Unite marginalized communities in your love, that they may be sustained by community. In your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

You sent your disciples out into the world to proclaim your good news. Sustain and grant courage to Trinity's youth who will be traveling to New Orleans for the ELCA Youth Gathering. Make their lights to shine brightly with your love. Nurture relationships both new and old as they spend this holy time together. Grant them safe travels, the rest they need, and an infinite supply of your love and grace. Bless and have mercy on the adults who will be looking after them. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

All people praise you, O God. We give you thanks and praise for the lives of our loved ones who now rest in you. In the fullness of time gather us with all your saints in light. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Please be seated

SERVICE OF COMMISSIONING

We invite the six youth and three adults travelling to the ELCA National Youth Gathering to come and gather at the font.

Anne, Jesse, Mark, Sam, Jenna, Kylee, Dan, Lexi, and Lara, claimed by God, crafted with your own authentic gifts, you are a brave community of disruptive disciples, called to be participants in the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering.

In this, there will be times when you feel energized, and times when you feel exhausted. Times when you enjoy every activity planned, and times you wish you were in charge. Times when the Holy Spirit will show up in joy, and times when the Holy Spirit will show up in challenge.

And so, I ask you:

Will you use your braveness for the sake of the Gospel as you step into the journey ahead? If so, respond with “we will and we ask God to help us.”

We will and we ask God to help us.

Will you use your authenticity to enrich the gathering and the community of New Orleans?

We will and we ask God to help us.

Will you freely participate in the gathering and with the people of New Orleans with the love and compassion of Jesus?

We will and we ask God to help us.

Will you seek to disrupt injustice, working together in solidarity for the sake of your neighbors?

We will and we ask God to help us.

Will you be respectful, curious, helpful, open and kind?

We will and we ask God to help us.

Please stand as able

And now, I ask you, the congregation - Will you, led by the Holy Spirit, pray for these youth gathering participants in your daily prayers, asking for God’s guidance, love, safety and blessing in their endeavors? And upon their return, will you receive them and their stories/experiences with love and openness?

ALL: **We will and we ask God to help us.**

Almighty God ✝ guide, bless, and keep you.

Amen. Thanks be to God.

PEACE

The peace of Christ is with you always.

And also with you.

Please share with one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Please be seated

MEAL

OFFERING

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Megan Finnern

Music: Sebastian Temple

The text is based on the prayer traditionally known as "Prayer of St Francis."

Make me a channel of your peace: Where there is hatred, let me bring your love; where there is injury, your healing power, and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace: where there's despair in life let me bring hope; Where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness, ever joy.

O, master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace: it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving to all that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Please stand as able

OFFERING HYMN

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

#674

**Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

Refrain

***Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound! Repeat***

**Christ is able to make us one, at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express. *Refrain***

**Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) ev'ry where! *Refrain***

Let us pray, Jesus, Bread of life,
**you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.
Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord is 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 indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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 INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

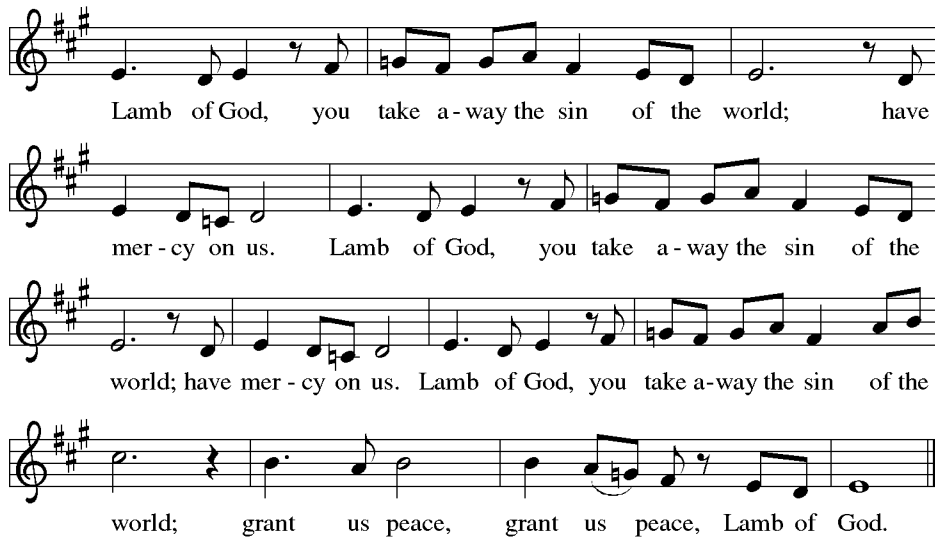
Please be seated

COMMUNION

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Anyone preferring not to receive the wine may receive only the bread, completely trusting that the full benefit of communion — Christ's grace and forgiveness — may be found in either the bread or wine.

At the direction of the ushers, worshippers are invited to move to the front of the center aisle to dip the bread into the wine to receive Communion by intinction.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION



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, Lamb of God.

Morning Has Broken

#556

Morning has broken like the first morning; blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play! Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning, God's recreation of the new day!

**As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word, help us know O God
your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.**

**Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own:
teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's vict'ry known.**

**Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.**

**Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.**

All Earth is Hopeful

#266

**All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!
Furrows lie open for God's creative task: this, the
labor of people who struggle to see how
God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free.**

**People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell:
"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel"; she
conceived him, "God with us," our brother, whose birth
restores hope and courage to children of this earth.**

**Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared;
new highways opened, new protocols declared. Almost
here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace! All
clear ev'ry gateway, in haste, come out in haste!**

**We first saw Jesus a baby in a crib.
This same Lord Jesus today has come to live in our
world; he is present, in neighbors we see our
Jesus is with us, and ever sets us free.**

**Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to
see all people's dignity. Light dawns on a
weary world: the promised day of justice comes.**

Refrain

***The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.***

**Love grows in a weary world when hungry hearts find
bread and children's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
weary world: the promised feast of plenty comes. *Refrain***

**Hope blooms in a weary world when creatures, once
forlorn, find wilderness reborn. Hope blooms in a
weary world: the promised green of Eden comes. *Refrain***

Please stand as able

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.
Amen.

**Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
 the people of God from this dwelling take leave.
 The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended
 the fruits of this service in all who believe.
 The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls
 reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all.
 Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us
 to work for your kingdom and answer your call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
 the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face—
 our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
 embracing God's children, the whole human race.
 With your feast you feed us, with your light now
 lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share.
 Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
 give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Disrupt injustice.
 Resist despair. Have hope.

Thanks be to God. Amen

*Everyone is invited to gather on the front lawn
 following worship for refreshments and fellowship.*

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ
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