



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

# TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 11, 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 memory of her grandparents, Jack and Caroline Massey and Bertha Cook, by Amanda Cook.

# SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister and Preaching	Susan Crowell
Assisting Minister	Patrick Preacher
Organist and Choir Director	Jim Parham
Lector	Margaret Roth
Gospel Reader	Franklin Sease
Prayers	Emily Hager
Communion Assistant	McKinsey Threlkeld
Cantor/Soloist	Jeff Rehm
Acolyte	Lexi Thomas-Harewood
Children's Worship Activity Leaders	Mark Allen Heather Fanning Teresa Harrington
Nursery	Melissa Kolb
Praying for Possibilities	Terry Morgan
Greeters	Mark Allen Roger Brown Bonnie Farmer Charlie Fontecchio Kellie Fontecchio David Foster Pattimarie Janssen
Ushers	Steve Boguski Teres Harrington Lani Wise Russ Wise
Fellowship Hosts	Roger Brown David Foster
Video	Henry Wilcox

Audio

Gregg Alley

# **G**ATHERING

PRELUDE Chorale Improvisation on *Cwm Rhondda* (Guide Me Every Great Redeemer) by Paul Manz

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.

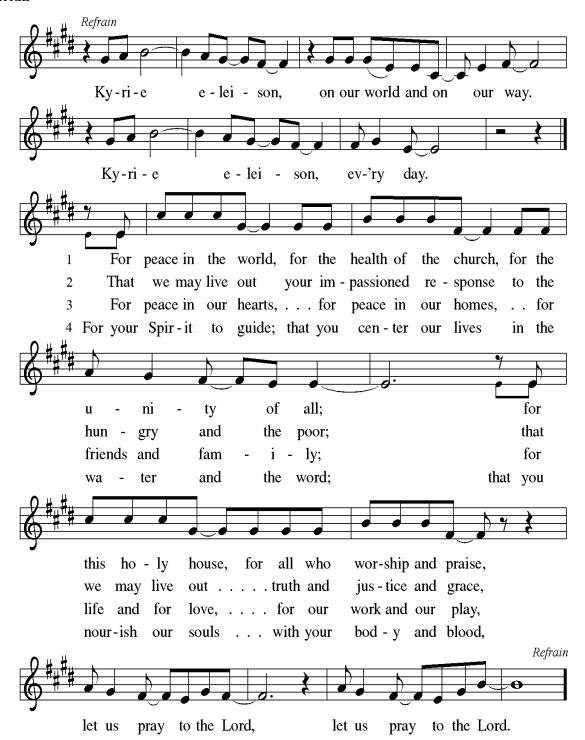
Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your pow'rful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore, feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain where the healing waters flow; let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through. Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer, shield me with your mighty arm.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside; death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side. Songs and praises, songs and praises I will raise forevermore, I will raise forevermore.

#### 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. God of the journey, we acknowledge that the road is very difficult, that we are tired, exhausted, weary and often feel like lying down and giving up. But, when all seems lost, when we are feeling hopeless and full of despair, you come to us on the journey. You reveal yourself to us. You feed, nourish, and sustain us. You show up in the most unlikely places, through the most unlikely people and our hope and strength is rekindled. We are strong and loving and fearless once again. Use us to be bread for the journey. Give us the courage to walk through this life together...hand in hand, heart to heart...inspiring and encouraging one another to continue on the journey.

#### Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING 1 Kings 19:4-8

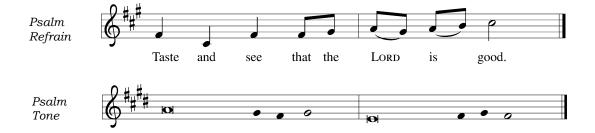
A reading from first Kings.

<sup>4</sup> Elijah went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." <sup>6</sup> He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. <sup>7</sup> The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." <sup>8</sup> He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

# The refrain is introduced by the cantor Thereafter, the congregation is invited to sing without introduction



- <sup>1</sup>I will bless the LORD | at all times; the praise of God shall ever be | in my mouth.
- <sup>2</sup> I will glory | in the LORD; let the lowly hear | and rejoice.
- <sup>3</sup> Proclaim with me the greatness | of the LORD; let us exalt God's | name together.
- <sup>4</sup>I sought the LORD, who | answered me and delivered me from | all my terrors. R
- <sup>5</sup>Look upon the LORD | and be radiant, and let not your faces | be ashamed.
- <sup>6</sup>I called in my affliction, and | the LORD heard me and saved me from | all my troubles.
- <sup>7</sup> The angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear the LORD and de- | livers them.
- 8 Taste and see that the | LORD is good; happy are they who take ref- | uge in God! R

A reading from Ephesians.

<sup>25</sup> So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. <sup>26</sup> Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup> and do not make room for the devil. <sup>28</sup> Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. <sup>29</sup> Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, <sup>32</sup> and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. <sup>5:1</sup> Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, <sup>2</sup> and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The Word of God for the people of God.

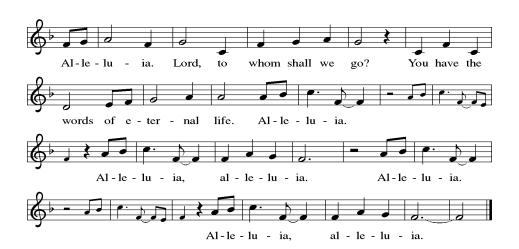
#### Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Choices that Lead to Life

Please stand as able

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL John 6:35, 41-51

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John the sixth chapter.

## Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus said to the crowd, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."<sup>41</sup>Then the temple authorities began to complain about Jesus because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." <sup>42</sup>They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" <sup>43</sup>Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. <sup>44</sup>No one can come to me unless drawn by Abba God who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. <sup>45</sup>It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from Abba God comes to me. <sup>46</sup>Not that anyone has seen Abba God except the one who is from God; he has seen Abba God. <sup>47</sup>Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. <sup>48</sup>I am the bread of life. <sup>49</sup>Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup>This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup>I am the living bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

When the Journey Is Too Much

Please stand as able

HYMN OF THE DAY

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

#659

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey, we are trav'lers on the road; we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night time of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Reignite the prayer of the church. By your Spirit, and remembering Clare of Assisi, who was known for her powerful prayer, root your church around the globe in prayer and spiritual practices. Teach us to pray beyond our own personal wants and needs, making us intercessors for your justice in your world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** 

We rely on the goodness of your creation in everything we do. We pray for trees that offer shade and for our fellow creatures that depend on the trees for shelter and food. Sustain the work of all who advocate for forests and wilderness areas. We pray for people and communities impacted by Tropical Storm Debby. Do not allow grief and desperation to overtake those affected and move quickly to their aid so they may experience your joy and peace once more. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** 

Guide our leaders and nations with a spirit of justice and mercy. Let no evil come out of our mouths, but rather let us extend grace. Remind us each of one another's belovedness even in times of disagreement and conflict. Teach us to pray for our enemies. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** 

Sustain feeding ministries and organizations such as ELCA World Hunger and our local food pantries. Guide us in doing the work needed to make healthy and fresh food available to all who hunger as we pray for a day when hunger is no more. Bless the hands and hearts of Anne, Calvin, Caroline, Evan, John, John, Joshua, Margo, and Pat as they volunteer on behalf of Trinity at Project Host Soup Kitchen this morning. May the light, love, and food they share positively impact those receiving it. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** 

Make your presence known to students and teachers who begin a new school year. Make your presence known in work and play, in lively conversation and quiet rest. Safeguard our schools from violence. Sustain teachers, parents, and administrators with the energy and patience needed to shepherd young minds. Surround transgender, gender non-conforming, non-binary, and queer students with your protection and love as they enter South Carolina schools where protections are limited or often non-existent. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** 

We pray for this congregation and for all who are gathered both via our livestream and in this physical space. Continue to use technological advances to bring us together in worship and service to you. Show us creative and meaningful ways to live as one community via multiple platforms. Be present among anyone who cannot be with us today. Comfort all who are hurting, grieving, or ill, especially those we name now on our lips or silently in our hearts ... Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** 

We remember the saints who have gone before us in faith. Trusting in the promise of the resurrection, we find hope in your communion of saints of all times and all places. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.** 

We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping. **Amen.** 

#### Blessing of Teachers and Students

We invite all students and teachers, preschool to college, and anyone who works in public or private education in our community to come forward at this time and gather around the baptismal font.

Today in our life together in the church we are officially marking the transition from the restful, renewing pace of summer to the more demanding pace of a new school year. As you begin to adjust to new schedules, new challenges, and new opportunities, know that you are not alone, that God is with you giving you courage, strength, energy, enthusiasm, comfort, peace and hope.

As you prepare to begin a new school year, be mindful of these words of Scripture:

From Romans: Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Romans 16:13

From Psalm 91: God will give the angels charge over you to accompany you, defend you, and preserve you in all your ways. Psalm 91:11-12

From the Gospel of Matthew: Jesus says, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. You shall also love your neighbor as yourself. Matthew 22:37-39

From the book of Exodus: The Lord will fight for you, you need only to be still. Exodus 14:14

In holy baptism our Lord Jesus Christ named you and claimed you, made you a part of God's family. You are God's beloved, precious, baptized children. And that means that you can go out into the world (and to school) with confidence, grace, and faith, secure in the knowledge that you are loved, honored, and valued by God and this community.

While you are at school, each of you will face challenges, difficulties, and frustrations. Life being what it is, you will deal with difficult people, people who will find fault with you, people who will say mean things to you and about you, people who will dampen your enthusiasm and joy. In these times, remember *God is Crazy About You*. These words are printed on a tag that you can attach to your backpack or purse, or keys, or any place that you can see it every day and be reminded that God loves you dearly.

#### Please stand as able

Let us pray. God of all knowledge and wisdom, these students, teachers, and staff remind us that a new school year is beginning. Surround and fill each of them with your love, care, grace, and mercy, protect them from danger, ease their burdens, open their hearts and minds that they might reach out in love to this broken, hurting world. As they grow in knowledge, help them also grow in kindness, compassion, faith, and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

#### Amen.

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

ANTHEM

In the Singing
Text: Shirley Murray, Music: Carlton Young

Jeff Rehm

In the singing, in the silence, in the hands expectant, open, in the blessing, in the breaking, in your presence at the table, Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ, be the wine of grace; Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ, be the bread of peace.

In the question, in the answer, in the moment of acceptance, in the heart's cry, in the healing, in the circle of your people.

Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ, be the wine of grace;

Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ, be the bread of peace.

Please stand as able

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.

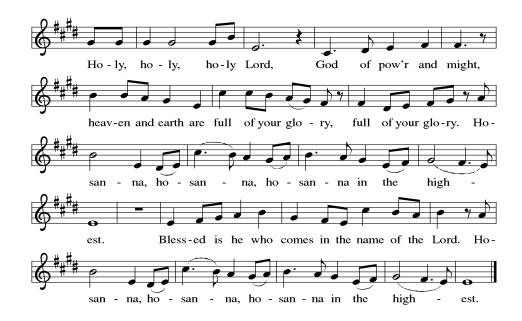
Lift up your hearts.

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:



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!

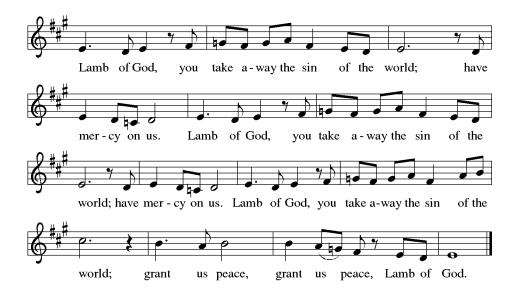
Please be seated

#### 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



#### Refrain

Hallelujah! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness. Hallelujah! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness. Repeat

Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger.
Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hunger. Refrain

Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt, strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joyful gospel.

Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt, strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joyful gospel Refrain

## I Am the Bread of Life

#485

"I am the Bread of Life. You who come to me shall not hunger, and who believe in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me unless the Father beckons,"

# Refrain

"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up, and I will raise you up on the last day."

"The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world, and if you eat of this bread, you shall live forever, you shall live forever. Refrain

"Unless you eat of the flesh
of the Son of Man and
drink of his blood, and drink of his
blood, you shall not have life within you." Refrain

"I am the resurrection, I am the life.

If you believe in me, even though you die,

you shall live forever." Refrain

Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who have come into the world. Refrain

You are holy, you are whole. You are always ever more than we ever understand. You are always at hand.

Blessed are you coming near. Blessed are you coming here to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

You are holy, you are wholeness, you are present. Let the cosmos praise you, Lord! Sing hosanna in the highest! Sing hosanna! Sing hosanna to our God!

We Are Marching in the Light

#866

We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God. We are marching in the light of God, we are marching in the light of God.

We are marching—— oo— we are marching in the light of God. We are marching—— oo— we are marching in the light of God.

We are dancing in the light of God, we are dancing in the light of God. We are dancing in the light of God, we are dancing in the light of God.

We are dancing—— oo— we are dancing in the light of God. We are dancing—— oo— we are dancing in the light of God.

We are praying in the light of God, we are praying in the light of God. We are praying in the light of God, we are praying in the light of God.

We are praying—— oo— we are praying in the light of God. We are praying—— oo— we are praying in the light of God.

We are singing in the light of God, we are singing in the light of God. We are singing in the light of God, we are singing in the light of God.

We are singing—— oo— we are singing in the light of God. We are singing—— oo— we are singing in the light of God. 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.

SENDING HYMN

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

#547

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.

Acknowledge that the journey is hard;

that you are often exhausted and weary and feel like giving up.

Embrace the faith to trust that God feeds you, strengthens you, encourages you, loves you.

Stand together. Stand up for each other.

Rest and eat. Heal and recover.

And then...keep moving on the journey.

#### Thanks be to God. Amen

POSTLUDE

Fugue in G Minor (578) by J. S. Bach

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

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## **CHURCH STAFF**

Susan J. Crowell
Senior Pastor

James C. Parham, III
Associate Pastor for Worship and Music

Amy R. Brown, Deacon Director of Educational Ministries

Patrick D. Preacher Queer and Justice Ministry Coordinator Pastoral Intern

Angie H. McCormack Youth and Children's Ministry Coordinator

> Kay M. Cook Office Manager

Henry W. Wilcox Accountant and Digital Media Manager

Karen M. Craig Administrative Assistant

> Roy L. Cook Facilities Manager

Beth C. Oswald Nursery Attendant

# CONGREGATION COUNCIL

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Mike Boliek Treasurer

Danny Fagala

Greg Hamluk Calvin Harmon

Lindsay Hawkins

Deirdre Hixson

Dean Hybl

John Otten

Donna Potts Secretary

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Peggy Schotsch

Kerry Sease

Chris Sorenson

Chris Wannemacher