

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 14, 2025, 11:00 AM

FOR THOSE DESIRING HOLY COMMUNION

God's Word teaches the real presence of Christ's body and blood invisibly in, with, and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. We take seriously the spiritual care of those who commune at our altar. It is important that every partaker must be a baptized Christian and come with repentant faith. The Word of God states that no one offend against Christ and His Word by denying His true presence and its promise and seal of forgiveness. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (see 1 Cor. 11:27-29), and because Holy Communion is a confession of what is taught and believed at this altar (1 Cor. 11:26), any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession (beliefs) differing from that of this congregation (that is, belong to another church body or denomination) and yet desire to receive the sacrament, should first speak with the pastor before communing. As a courtesy, guests from sister congregations of the LCMS or from congregations of the American Association of Lutheran Churches (AALC) are also asked to introduce themselves to the pastor before communing.

AS WE GATHER



The charge against Jesus was always the same—He keeps the wrong company. But Jesus has come for sinners, and if you are not a sinner, He does not have anything for you. To emphasize why He has come, our Lord tells the stories of ninety-nine sheep left behind to find one who is lost and a woman who rejoices over finding one lost coin. You are that lost sheep and lost coin for whom Christ has come and in whom heaven rejoices. Jesus has come for you and for you He has offered Himself upon the cross and been laid in the tomb. This is the heavenly joy of the angels above, and it is our earthly joy as well. Christ came for us!

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC "He Is Exalted"

**He is exalted, the King is exalted on high; I will praise Him.
He is exalted, forever exalted and I will praise His name!
He is the Lord, forever His truth shall reign;
Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name.
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.**

WELCOME

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

O Lord, my God, I cry to You for help.
Heal and restore me, O Lord.

Most holy and merciful Father,

like sheep, O Lord, we have strayed and wandered from You. We have sinned against You and one another. We have done the evil You forbid, and we have not done the good You desire. There is no health in us. O merciful and divine Shepherd, cover our sins with Your forgiveness, clothe us with Your perfect righteousness, and preserve us in this faith and fear, that we may be kept to the day when Your Son comes to judge all people. Have mercy, O Lord, and fulfill Your Word to us in Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. His peace be with you.

And also with you.

SONG OF PRAISE “All I Want to Do”

(Repeat once)

**All I want to do is give this life to you
All I want to do is give this life to you
All I want to do is give this life to you
Lord, let your will be done, ‘til it’s all I want to do. *(repeat)***

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Ezekiel 34:11–24

¹¹“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

¹⁷“As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. ¹⁸Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? ¹⁹And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

²⁰“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

1 Timothy 1:5–17

⁵The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. ⁶Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, ⁷desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

⁸Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, ⁹understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, ¹⁰the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, ¹¹in accordance with the glorious gospel of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

¹²I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, ¹³though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, ¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. ¹⁷To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Luke 15:1–10

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus].

²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: ⁴“What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸“Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;**

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the
dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

CHILDREN'S SONG "Mighty God"

(Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus)

**Oh-O I've got a mighty God So-O awesome is He
Oh-O I've got a mighty God So awesome is He.**

**He created the sky He created the sea.
He created the mountains.
He created me. Chorus:**

**My God walks on the water Makes the blind man see
He turned the water into wine
My God died for me. Chorus:**

OBJECT LESSON

SONG “As The Deer” *(Based on Psalm 42:1)*

(Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus)

**As the deer panteth for the water,
so my soul longeth after You.
You alone are my heart’s desire,
and I long to worship You.**

Chorus:

**You alone are my strength, my shield:
To you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart’s desire,
and I long to worship You.**

**You’re my friend and You are my brother
Even though You are a King.
I love You more than any other,
So much more than anything.** Chorus

**I want You more than gold or silver,
Only You can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy giver
And the apple of my eye.** Chorus

MESSAGE

OFFERING

(Please fill out the fellowship pad beside you)

INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND SUPPORT STAFF

PRAYERS

LORD’S PRAYER

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

HOLY COMMUNION

(Visitors, please read the statement at the beginning of this service folder)

WORDS OF OUR LORD

PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD AGNUS DEI

O Christ Lamb of God You take away the sin of the world.

Have mercy on us, have mercy on us

O Christ Lamb of God You take away the sin of the world.

Have mercy on us, have mercy on us.

RECEIVING THE LORD'S SUPPER

SONG "Song of Hope"

(Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Bridge, Chorus)

All things bright and beautiful You are

All things wise and wonderful You are

In my darkest night, You brighten up the skies

A song will rise

Chorus:

I will sing a song of hope Sing along

God of heaven come down Heaven come down

Just to know that You are near is enough

(alternate for 2nd chorus: Just to know You and be loved is enough)

God of heaven come down, heaven come down

All things new

I can start again

Creator, God

Calling me Your friend

Sing praise, my soul

To the Maker of the skies

A song will rise (Chorus)

Bridge:

Hallelujah, sing

Hallelujah, sing, sing

Oh, Hallelujah, sing (Chorus)

SONG "Bread of Life, Make Me Whole"

(Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus, Verse)

**Bread of Life, make me whole.
Lamb of God, heal my soul.
Living Word alive in me,
Shed Your blood to set me free.**

**We praise Your name. We praise Your name.
We praise Your name. We praise Your name. (repeat)**

PRAYER OF THANKS

Amen

BLESSING

SONG "Benediction"

(3 Verses)

**Now to Him who is able to keep you;
Who is able to keep you from stumbling;
And to make you stand in His presence
In His glory blameless with great joy.**

**To the only God, our Savior;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord;
Be all glory, majesty and power.
Before all time and now and forever.**

Amen, amen...

LEAVING

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 2.

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