

St. Paul Lutheran Church, LCMS

503 S. State Street, Caro, MI 48723 | 989-673-4214, www.stpaulcaro.org

Rev. Richard Boshoven, Interim Pastor

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 14

August 9, 2026, 11:00 AM

Contemporary Service



AS WE GATHER

The only way a sinful human being can dare to approach and worship an almighty God is if we also know that He is a God of mercy. God's mighty power is known from the vastness of His creation, the stars and seas, light and darkness, tempests and storms (Job 38). "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom" (Psalm 111:10). Yet we are told, "everyone

who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:13). "Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore He exalts Himself to show mercy to you" (Isaiah 30:18). This "almighty and most merciful God" (Prayer of the Day) showed both His might and mercy when He became aware of His disciples' peril on a storm-tossed sea. Walking on water wasn't the point. It was the Lord's coming to save us in our fear and distress (Matthew 14). As the catechism says of God's commandments, "We should fear and love God." We can trust the God who has harnessed His wrath with His love. Greater love has no one than the God who joined us in our misery, took our sin upon Himself, and died our death but now is risen to save us from every evil that threatens us or makes us afraid.



FOR THOSE DESIRING HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor. For further study, see Matthew 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15-35; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.)

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

“God of Wonders”

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

Chorus:

**God of Wonders beyond our galaxy, You are holy, holy;
The universe declares Your majesty. You are holy, holy;
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth.**

**Lord of all creation, of water, earth and sky,
The heavens are Your tabernacle; glory to the Lord on high.**

Chorus:

**Early in the morning I will celebrate the light.
When I stumble in the darkness, I will call Your name by night.**

Chorus:

Bridge:

**Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.**

Chorus:

WELCOME

(Please stand)

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 43:4; Matthew 14:30–31

I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy.

“Lord, save me.”

“O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Matthew 14:33

No doubt our needs are known by the God of mercy, chief of which is deliverance from sin and fear. Aware of our great need for forgiveness and faith, we cry out to our Creator and Redeemer.

Lord, save me from my little faith, my doubt, my fears, my sin. I come to You now because You have promised to come to me here with Your saving grasp of power and mercy. Forgive me of my sin and give me help and deliverance from all my fears, that I may worship You with a pure heart and say, “Truly You are the Son of God” and my Savior. Amen.

The Lord your God has brought you out from the slavery of sin with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm of mercy by the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. By His own command I announce to you as a called and ordained servant of the Word: I forgive you all your sins. Peace be with you, in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

INTROIT

Psalm 34:4–8; antiphon: v. 1

I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.**

Those who look to him are radiant,
and their faces shall never be ashamed.

**This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him
and saved him out of all his troubles.**

The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him,
and delivers them.

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!

Blessèd is the man who takes refuge in him!

I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

(Please be seated)

SONG OF PRAISE

“All Bow Down”

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

**You're arriving with the sound of thunder and rain,
You're arriving in the calm of the wind and the waves,
You're arriving in the glow of a burning flame, a burning flame.**

**Praise awaits You at the dawn when the world comes alive,
Praise awaits You in the darkness and shines in the light,
Praise awaits You with a song of love and desire, love and desire.**

Chorus:

Here comes the King; All bow down.

Lift up your voices unto the Lamb.

He is the King! All bow down, all bow down.

**You are coming again like a thief in the night,
You are coming again with a shout from the sky,
You are coming again to take away Your bride,
To take away Your bride.**

Chorus:

Bridge:

Yeah, You are the King. Yeah, You are the King.

Last Chorus: “You are the King...” (X2)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Job 38:4–18

⁴[The Lord said to Job:] “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know!
Or who stretched the line upon it?
⁶On what were its bases sunk,
or who laid its cornerstone,
⁷when the morning stars sang together
and all the sons of God shouted for joy?
⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb,
⁹when I made clouds its garment
and thick darkness its swaddling band,
¹⁰and prescribed limits for it
and set bars and doors,
¹¹and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?
¹²“Have you commanded the morning since your days began,
and caused the dawn to know its place,
¹³that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,
and the wicked be shaken out of it?
¹⁴It is changed like clay under the seal,
and its features stand out like a garment.
¹⁵From the wicked their light is withheld,
and their uplifted arm is broken.
¹⁶“Have you entered into the springs of the sea,
or walked in the recesses of the deep?
¹⁷Have the gates of death been revealed to you,
or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?
¹⁸Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?
Declare, if you know all this.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: Romans 10:5–17

⁵Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or “‘Who will descend into the

abyss?” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

¹⁴But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” ¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22–33

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

²²Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”

²⁸And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” ³¹Jesus immediately reached

out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³²And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

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.

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN’S SONG OF THE MONTH: “Take Up Thy Cross and Follow Me”
(sing twice)

**“Take up thy cross and follow Me,” I heard the blessed Savior call;
How can I make a lesser sacrifice, When Jesus gave His all?**

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SONG OF THE DAY

“Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)”

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

**You call me out upon the waters
The great unknown where feet may fail
And there I find You in the mystery
In oceans deep
My faith will stand**

Chorus:

**And I will call upon Your name
And keep my eyes above the waves
When oceans rise
My soul will rest in Your embrace
For I am Yours and You are mine**

**Your grace abounds in deepest waters
Your sovereign hand
Will be my guide
Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me
You've never failed and You won't start now Chorus**

Bridge:

**Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders
Let me walk upon the waters
Wherever You would call me
Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander
And my faith will be made stronger
In the presence of my Savior [repeat] Chorus**

MESSAGE

OFFERING *(Please fill out the fellowship pad beside you)*

(Please stand)

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

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

(Please be seated)

RECEIVING THE LORD'S SUPPER

DISTRIBUTION SONG

"Cornerstone"

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

**My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' name (repeat)**

Chorus

**Christ alone, Cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm He is Lord
Lord of all**

**When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil Chorus**

Bridge: He is Lord, Lord of All Chorus

**When he shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless stand before the throne.**

DISTRIBUTION SONG

“Ancient Words”

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

**Holy words long preserved
for our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart
Oh, let the Ancient words impart.**

**Words of Life, words of Hope
Give us strength, help us cope
In this world, where e'er we roam
Ancient words will guide us Home.**

**Chorus:
Ancient words ever true
Changing me, and changing you.
We have come with open hearts
Oh let the ancient words impart.**

**Holy words of our Faith
Handed down to this age.
Came to us through sacrifice
Oh heed the faithful words of Christ.**

**Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world.
They resound with God's own heart
Oh let the ancient words impart.**

Chorus 2X:

**Ending:
We have come with open hearts
Oh let the ancient words impart**

(Please stand)

PRAYER OF THANKS

Amen

BLESSING

(Please be seated)

SONG TO DEPART

“Carry the Call”

(Verse, Chorus, Verse, Chorus)

**Lord, make us a light to the nations
Help us to shine like the Son
Lord, we carry the message of Jesus
Help us to reach those who’ve yet to be won
We’re called out of darkness and into Your light
A people that walk in the power of Your might**

Chorus:

**And we will run with the wind of Your Spirit
And we will answer the call
And we will flow with the river from Heaven
Wherever the river may fall we’ll carry the call**

**Lord, give us a heart for the people
And help us to touch everyone
Lord, give us a hand of compassion
That they might be drawn to the love of Your Son
We’re called out of darkness and into Your light
A people that walk in the power of Your might Chorus**

LEAVING

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 1.

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