

St. Paul Lutheran Church, LCMS

503 S. State Street, Caro, MI 48723

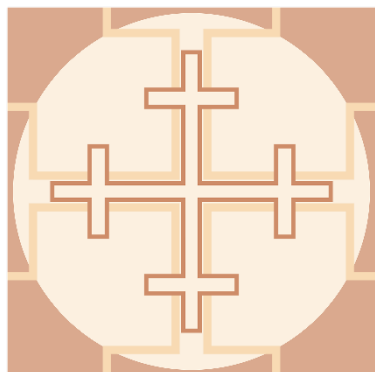
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Rev. Richard Boshoven, Interim Pastor

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 15

August 16, 2026, 8:30 AM

Contemporary Service



AS WE GATHER

In today's Gospel, our Lord Jesus moved beyond His ministry initially among the Jews now to the Gentile woman of Canaan. The miracle greater than the healing of her daughter was her great faith in Jesus addressing Him, saying, "Lord, help me" (Matthew 15:25). Through the prophet Isaiah, the Lord said He would bring "foreigners" to His "house of prayer for all peoples" (Isaiah 56:6–7).

Here He gives "many blessings even though we are undeserving" (Prayer of the Day). The early church learned how the Gentiles are grafted into Israel, making the Christian Church the fulfillment of the true Israel, God's people! The outreach of the Gospel of Christ continues through His church, calling all people "that He may have mercy on all" (Romans 11:32). Because of God's effective call, you can have steadfast confidence in His loving kindness and mercy.



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

“A New Hallelujah”

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

**Can you hear? There's a new song
Breaking out from the children of freedom.
Ev'ry race and ev'ry nation, sing it out,
Sing a new hallelujah.**

**Let us sing, love to the nations,
Bringing hope of the grace that has freed us.
Make it known, and make Him famous.
Sing it out, sing a new hallelujah.**

Chorus:

**Arise, let the church arise.
Let love, reach to the other side.
Alive, come alive; let the song arise.**

**Africa, sings a new song,
Reaching out with a new hallelujah.
Ev'ry son, and ev'ry daughter,
Ev'ryone sing a new hallelujah. Chorus**

WELCOME

(Please stand)

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES

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

My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Today, though we are undeserving, we come to the Lord saying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David.” Let us seek the Lord here while He may be found to grant us healing, help, and forgiveness.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of David, Son of God, we are severely oppressed by sin in all our thoughts, words, and actions. We have sinned against You by our own fault. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, O Lord, and grant us forgiveness, help, and salvation. Amen.

Almighty God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and of all who believe in the name of His only begotten Son, is the God of mercy and for His sake forgives us all our sins. Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. In that mercy He gives power to become the children of God and promises His Holy Spirit. All who believe and are baptized shall be saved.

Amen.

INTROIT

Psalm 28:1–2, 6–7; antiphon: v. 8

The LORD is the strength of his people;
he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

**To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me,
lest, if you be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the
pit.**

Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to you for help,
when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctuary.

Blessèd be the LORD!

For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am
helped;

my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

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.

The LORD is the strength of his people;

he is the saving refuge of his anointed.

(Please be seated)

SONG OF PRAISE

“How Great Is Our God”

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

**The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.**

Chorus:

**How great is our God! Sing with me:
How great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great is our God!**

**And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.
The Godhead, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.**

Bridge:

**Name above all names, worthy of all praise.
My heart will sing: how great is our God!
Name above all names, worthy of all praise.
My heart will sing: how great is our God**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6–8

¹Thus says the LORD:

**“Keep justice, and do righteousness,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed. . . .**

⁶**“And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,**

and to be his servants,
everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it,
and holds fast my covenant—
⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.”

⁸The Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares,
“I will gather yet others to him
besides those already gathered.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: Romans 11:1–2a, 13–15, 28–32

¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. . . .

¹³Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry ¹⁴in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. ¹⁵For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? . . .

²⁸As regards the gospel, they are enemies of God for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. ²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. ³²For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 15:21–28

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” ²³But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶And he answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

"Your Grace Is Enough"

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

**Great is Your faithfulness, oh God.
You wrestle with the sinner's heart,
You lead us by still waters into mercy,
And nothing can keep us apart.**

Chorus:

**So, remember Your people, remember Your children,
Remember Your promise, oh God.
Your grace is enough, Your grace is enough,
Your grace is enough for me.**

**Great is Your love and justice, God.
You use the weak to lead the strong,
You lead us in the song of Your salvation,
And all Your people sing along.**

Chorus:

Ending:

**Your grace is enough, heaven reaching down to us.
Your grace is enough for me.
God, I see Your grace is enough;
I'm covered in Your love.
Your grace is enough for me, for me.**

MESSAGE

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

(Please stand)

PRAYERS

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.

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

**Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world
have mercy on us.
Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world
have mercy on us.
Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world
give us Your peace.**

(Please be seated)

RECEIVING THE LORD'S SUPPER

DISTRIBUTION SONG

"Communion"

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

**To give us life, to prove His love for us,
God sacrificed His only Son for our salvation.
Yes, we believe that we have been set free.
And now as we kneel before the cross of our Redeemer.**

Chorus:

**Let us break the bread of life, together take the cup of salvation,
the body and the blood of Christ, communion, holy communion.**

To unify the children of His grace, our Savior beckons us
To know the taste of true redemption.
Now as we share this bread and wine as one,
God's family unites in reconciliation. Chorus:

Bridge:

By His grace our God has freed us
In His mercy, justified us.
Now, before the cross of Jesus,
May our hearts be unified. Chorus:

DISTRIBUTION SONG

"Carried Away"

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

You are the open door to freedom,
You are the only hope I have,
the reason in my reason,
the only thing that lasts.
How could I begin to settle
when all within me longs
to step into the shelter
of Your everlasting arms?

Chorus:

I wanna get carried away,
I wanna be tossed by Your waves.
I don't care where or how deep,
I'm gonna jump in with both feet.
I wanna get carried away,
I wanna get lost in Your ways.
I wanna be held by Your truth,
I wanna behold all of You.
I'm gonna be all Yours today.
I wanna get carried away.

Bridge:

Some say You're far away,
but I know You're here with Me.
I could go anywhere
and still You'd be there with me.
I know You're here with me.

(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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