

9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, August 10, 2025

9:30 AM

+ **Gathering** +

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

GATHERING HYMN

The congregation may stand.

See next page.

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying (ELW 436)



1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
heart with joy is spring-ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



thrill-ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past.
grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun-d'ring might



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. composite
Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai
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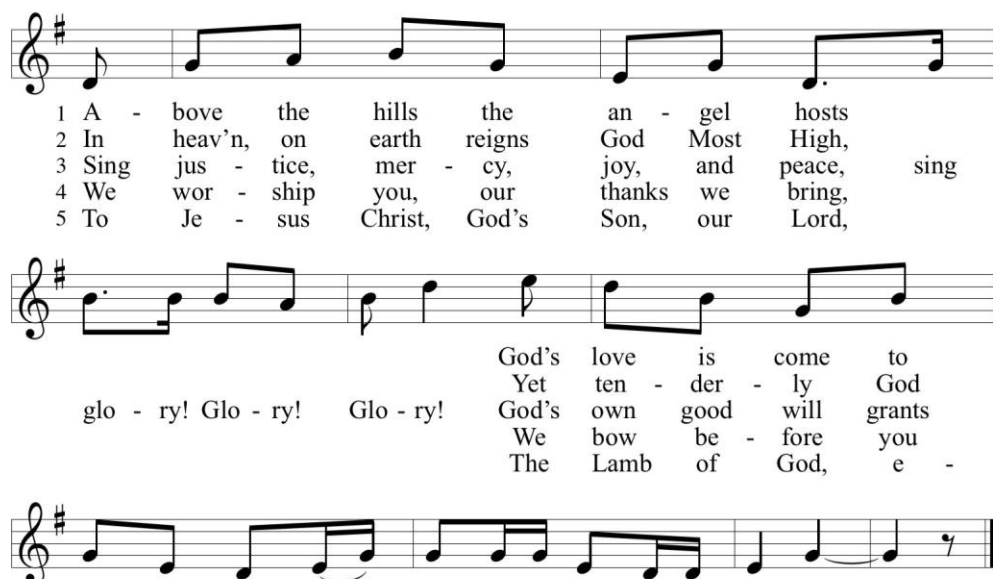
GREETING

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Cantor leads the singing with call and response.



1 A - bove the hills the an - gel hosts
 2 In heav'n, on earth reigns God Most High,
 3 Sing jus - tice, mer - cy, joy, and peace, sing
 4 We wor - ship you, our thanks we bring,
 5 To Je - sus Christ, God's Son, our Lord,

glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry! God's love is come to
 Yet ten - der - ly God
 God's own good will grants
 We bow be - fore you
 The Lamb of God, e -

seek the lost.
 hears our cry.
 sin's re - lease. Give glo - ry to God in the high - est!
 as we sing.
 ter - nal Word.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer, based on the Gloria in excelsis
 Music: THE DEVIL'S NINE QUESTIONS, Appalachian traditional
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The congregation may be seated

+ WORD +

READING

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

A reading from Hebrews.

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who

were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

The congregation may stand.



1 O God, whose word well-plant - ed yields fruit a hun - dred - fold,
 2 O God of seed and har - vest, of sun and soil and rain,
 3 O God, your fi - nal har - vest of his - t'ry's an - cient field

we praise your grac - es grant - ed to those who sowed of old,
 at - tend the word we sow, lest its plant - ing be in vain.
 will test with truth the proud - est that hu - man work can yield.

who by their wit - ness scat - tered good seed up - on the soil
 Send show - ers of your Spir - it, bright sun - shine of your grace,
 Op - pres - sion's blight will van - ish, fair free - dom's fruits in - crease;

where oth - ers, reap - ing, gath - ered the har - vest of their toil.
 that mul - ti - tudes who hear it your gos - pel may em - brace.
 and love and joy will flour - ish to clothe the earth with peace.

GOSPEL

Luke 12:32-40

The Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

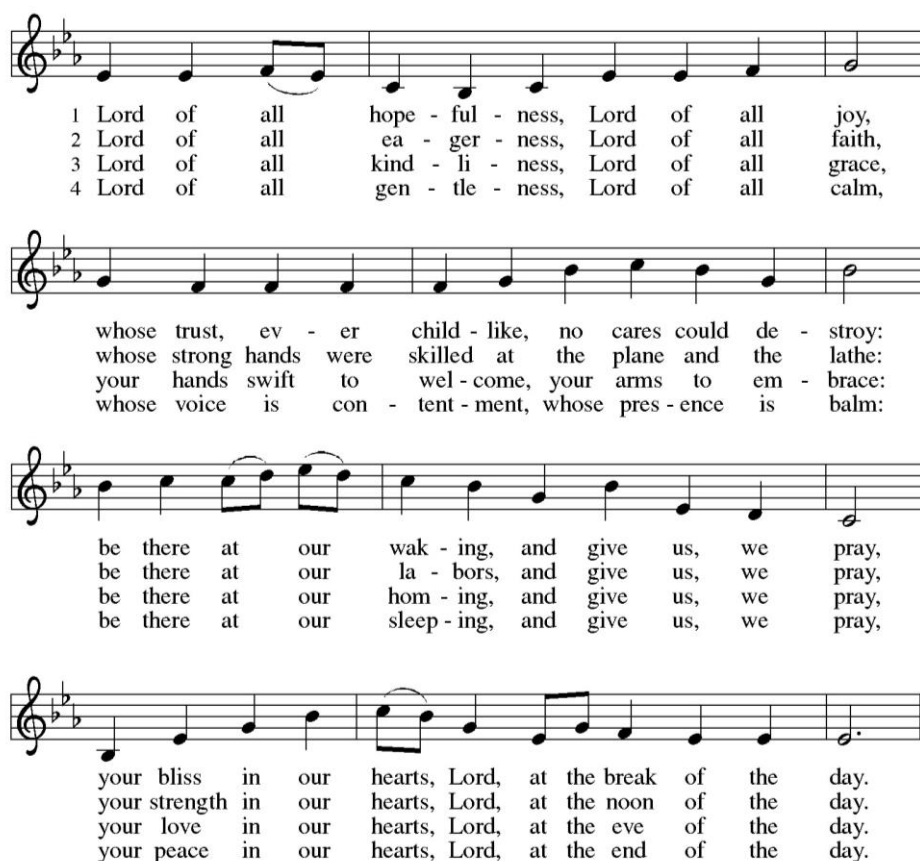
The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

Pastor Kaari Reiersen

HYMN OF THE DAY

The congregation may stand.
 Lord of All Hopefulness (ELW 765)



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,

your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world. You are invited to pray through standing, kneeling, or sitting.

A brief silence.

Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened. Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Let your lovingkindness be on those in need, especially the family of Carl Freedlund. Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of Global Refuge and other means of support and advocacy. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance. Sustain us in our hope of things not seen. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of peace with one another (wave, handshake, hug, etc.), honoring the personal boundaries of all. Those online may unmute and verbally share the peace.

The congregation may be seated.

+ MEAL +

OFFERTORY

We give thanks for your ongoing support of the ministry of St. John's! Gifts may be placed in the offering plate, made in the Vanco Mobile app, or given online by scanning the QR code. Thank you for your generosity!



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

OFFERTORY VERSE

Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring

1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we
place up - on your ta - ble. We do not wor - ship
grew in your good plea - sure. What once was com - mon,
lift in prayer be - fore you. Lord, by your grace now
as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
dai - ly food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

Text: Beth Bergeron Folkemer

Music: BARB'RY ELLEN, Appalachian traditional

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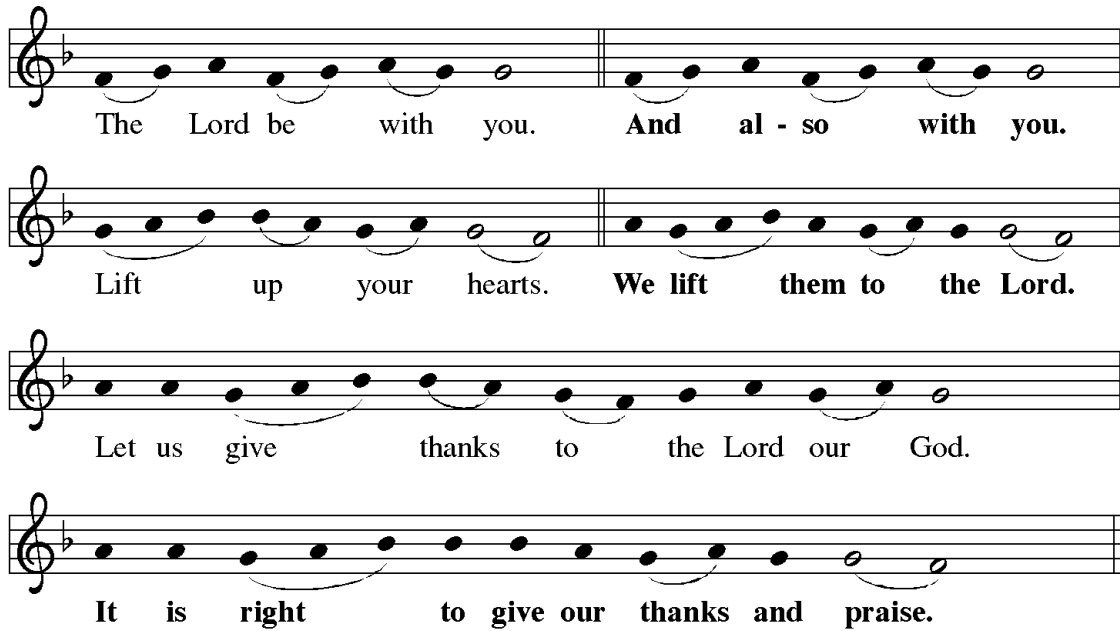
OFFERTORY PRAYER

The congregation may stand.

Let us pray together.

Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ out Lord. Amen.

DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, God of power and might,
and your glory fills the whole earth.
You created all that exists: stars and suns;
flowing streams and ripening grain;
abundance stored in the ground and beneath it;
the richness of life of plants and animals.

You created humans to care for and enjoy your creation,
and to give words to its song of praise.
When humanity fell into sin,
you were faithful to the promise of your covenant.
Through the ages you nurtured and nourished your chosen people,
using prophets and judges, story and poetry to guide and guard them.
And at the midsummer of the ages,
you sent your Son to bring your life to your people and your creation.

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

Remembering, therefore, his birth for our hope,
his Remembering teaching for our correction,
his welcome for our reconciliation,
his healing for our encouragement,
his death for our forgiveness, his resurrection for our jubilation,
his ascension for our companionship,
and his promise to come again for our reassurance,
we give you thanks not only with our lips but with our lives.

Send, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the life-giver and advocate.
By this meal, let the fruit of your Spirit ripen in our midst and in our lives.
Unite us with all who share this feast,
and nurture us to become what you have made us—
your beloved people, the body of your Son, the temple of your Spirit.
Through your Son, in your Spirit, with all your people,
we give you thanks and praise,
O source of our life and fountain of all good, now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us in the many and varied languages we hold dear. . .

**Our God in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

COMMUNION

All are welcome to commune at Christ's table without exception! Please proceed down the center aisle at the direction of an usher. You may receive bread or request a gluten-free wafer. A glass of wine (dark colored) will be placed on the table for you, or you may request grape juice (light colored). After drinking, please place your empty glass in the basket before returning to your seat via the side aisle. If you would prefer to receive only a blessing, you may cross your arms across your chest to indicate this preference. If you would like to receive communion in your seat, please inform an usher, and the sacrament will be brought to you.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

The congregation may stand.

Let us pray together.

Gracious God, we give thanks for your pruning, planting, and nurture.

**We rejoice that you have used the harvest of field and vineyard
to renew and sustain us.**

**Lead us as we go from this life-giving meal
into lives of grateful service to you and your cherished creation;
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.**

Amen.

+ SENDING +

BENEDICTION

The Spirit of the triune God

+ bless you with joy,

anoint you with compassion,

and send you in love.

SENDING HYMN

Lead Me, Guide Me (ELW 768)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Worship materials adapted this day from multiple ecumenical partners and The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (2024).

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- Scripture readings from the NRSV

SERVING TODAY

<i>Bridge Pastor:</i>	The Rev. Kaari Reiersen
<i>Director of Youth & Families</i>	Evergreen Edwards
<i>Interim Director of Music:</i>	Leo Radosavljevic
<i>Cantor:</i>	Angela DeVenuto
<i>Worship Assistant:</i>	Jan Wendel
<i>Usher:</i>	Luke Rasmussen
<i>Altar Guild:</i>	Jan Wendel
<i>Camera</i>	Kristen Danielsen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome, Pastor Kaari

We welcome back Pastor Kaari as she joins us as a part-time bridge pastor as we seek a permanent pastor. We're looking forward to her fresh energy and voice in worship, and her leadership and support of the congregation in between worship services.

Pastoral Care during the Transition

Emergency pastoral care is available for the time we are using guest pastors. Contact Jan (office: 847-251-1730, cell: 224-261-0114) if you have a need in this regard, and she will put you in contact with our bridge pastor, Pastor Kaari Reiersen. Because we value each other, we encourage all members of the congregation to be supporting each other and looking out for one another during this time.

Financial Update

Thank you to everyone who attended the June annual meeting. The Annual report includes 2024 and 2025 year to date financials with comments. I encourage you to review it and please email me with any questions! Statements of giving will go out in mid-July!

IN OUR PRAYERS

- Family & friends of long time member, Carl Freedlund, who passed away from pneumonia on August 1, 2025.
- Family & friends of Skip Cordts, brother of Rachel Cordts, who passed away on February 21.
- Family & friends of Ann Wagner, who passed away on February 10.
- Family & friends of Mike Yurkonis, husband of Candace Witt Yurkonis, who passed away on April 3.
- Family & friends of Jean Genovese, mother of Courtney Radde, who passed away 12/18/24.
- Family & friends of Marie Louise Williams, mother of Christi Wise, who passed away 12/11/24.
- Marlene Leonard, recovering from throat cancer, 9/25/24.
- Family and friends of Rena Leinberger, wife of Karl and mother of Shayna, Brandon and Jordon, who passed away 4/26/24
- Margaux Tauszig, granddaughter of Wolf Peddinghaus
- Karen Brunn, daughter of Dave & Lyn Braun, recovering from spinal cord injury.

