



September 21, 2025
15th Sunday After Pentecost

St. John Lutheran Church
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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN: *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*

p. 487

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

p. 56

L: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for self-reflection

L: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

L: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

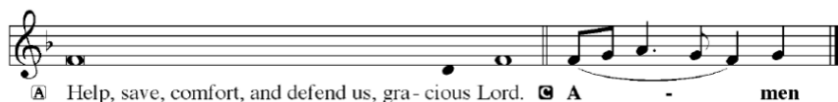
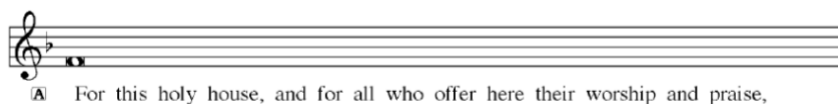
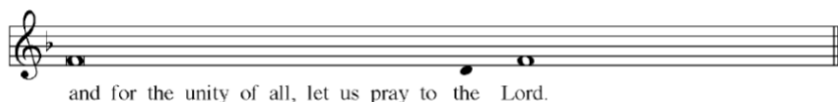
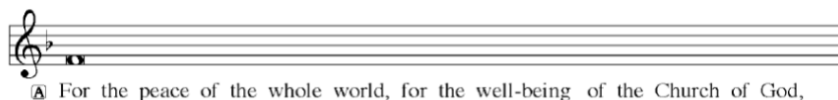
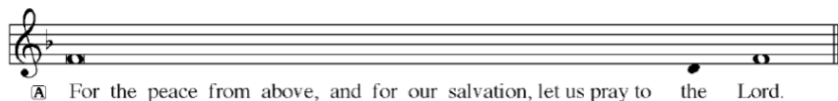
p. 57

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE ("In peace let us pray to the Lord...")

p. 57-58



HYMN OF PRAISE ("Glory to God...") **acapella**

p. 58



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-cieve our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

SALUTATION (**acapella**)



P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: Direct our hearts, O Lord, by your merciful reign, because without your help it is impossible to please you. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Amos 8:4-7

L: The First Lesson is from the 8th chapter of Amos.

4 Hear this, you who trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,

5 saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain,
and the Sabbath,

so that we may offer wheat for sale?

We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier
and practice deceit with false balances,

6 buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

7 The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

PSALM 113

1 Praise the Lord!

Praise, O servants of the Lord;
praise the name of the Lord.

2 Blessed be the name of the Lord
from this time on and forevermore.

3 From the rising of the sun to its setting,
the name of the Lord is to be praised.

4 The Lord is high above all nations
and his glory above the heavens.

5 Who is like the Lord our God,
who is seated on high,

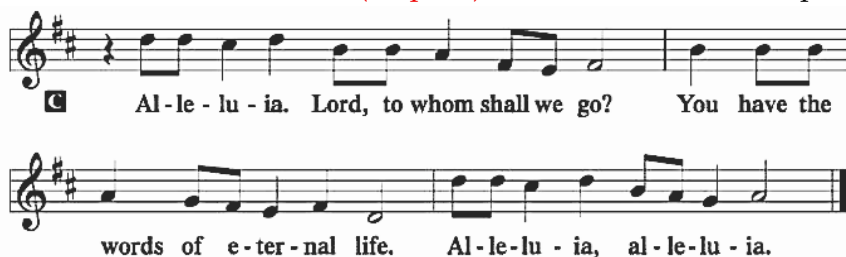
6 who looks far down
on the heavens and the earth?

7 He raises the poor from the dust
and lifts the needy from the ash heap,
8 to make them sit with princes,
with the princes of his people.
9 He gives the barren woman a home,
making her the joyous mother of children.
Praise the Lord!

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-15

L: The Second Lesson is from the 2nd chapter of 1 Timothy.

2 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions,
and thanksgivings be made for everyone, 2 for kings and all who
are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable
life in all godliness and dignity. 3 This is right and acceptable
before God our Savior, 4 who desires everyone to be saved and to
come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God; there
is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus,
himself human, 6 who gave himself a ransom for all – this was
attested at the right time. 7 For this I was appointed a herald and
an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the
gentiles in faith and truth. 8 I desire, then, that in every place the
men should pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or
argument, 9 also that the women should dress themselves in
moderate clothing with reverence and self-control, not with their
hair braided or with gold, pearls, or expensive clothes, 10 but with
good works, as is proper for women who profess reverence for
God. 11 Let a woman learn in silence with full submission. 12 I do
not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she
is to keep silent. 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve, 14 and
Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and
became a transgressor. 15 Yet she will be saved through
childbearing, provided they continue in faith and love and
holiness, with self-control.



HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-15

L: The Holy Gospel according to St Luke, the 16th chapter.

(acapella)



16 Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. 2 So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' 3 Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. 4 I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' 5 So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' 6 He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' 7 Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' 8 And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. 9 And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. 10 "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is

dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. 11 If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? 12 And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? 13 No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.” 14 The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all this, and they ridiculed him. 15 So he said to them, “You are those who justify yourselves in the sight of others, but God knows your hearts, for what is prized by humans is an abomination in the sight of God.

L: The gospel of the Lord.

(acapella)



CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON: Pastor Ann Auten

"Another Tricky Bible Reading"

SONG AFTER SERMON: *Let the Healing Flow*

NICENE CREED

p. 64

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**
**We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became Incarnate from the Virgin Mary
and was made man
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge
the living and the dead,
and his Kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life, who proceeds from the Father
and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped
and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian the Apostolic
Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the
forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and
the life of the world to come Amen**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

p. 75-76

L: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

L: Lord, in your mercy

C: hear our prayer.

L: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

RECEIVE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

("Thank You") **acapella**

OFFERING PRAYER

L: Let us pray,

C: Father, we come before you with joyful hearts, eager to give back a portion of what you have given us. May our tithes be a blessing to others as they have been to us. Amen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

p.68

(acapella)

♩ The Lord be with you. ♪ And al - so with you.

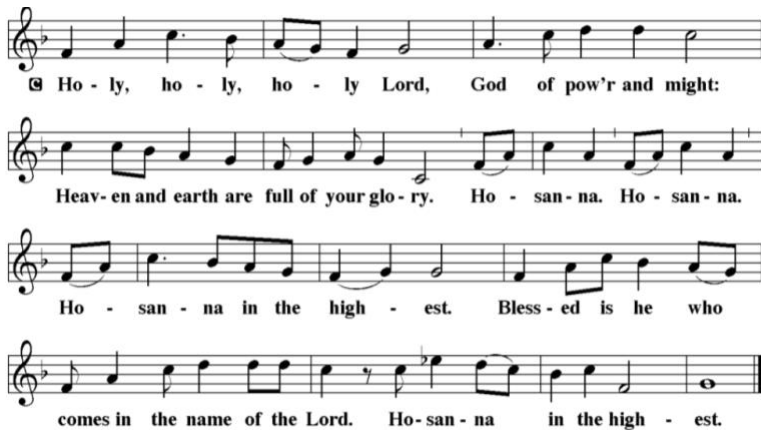
♩ Lift up your hearts. ♪ We lift them to the Lord.

♩ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

♪ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE

L: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

L: 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

p. 76


L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray...


**C: 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.**


COMMUNION


One Bread One Body
What a Beautiful Name
Just as I am

p. 72


C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.


 Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.


 He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy


 with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

L: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

BENEDICTION & AMEN

p. 74

L: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord made his face shine on you

And be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN: *You are Holy*

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SEPTEMBER FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: "We can use whatever you give. Thank you so much." May we be the example of Jesus to feed the hungry with good things.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 23 @ 7:00 pm – Youth/ Adult Book Study -
“We Shall Live in Heaven”

Sept. 24 @ 9:00 am – Morning Circle

@ 9:00 am - Noon Pastor's Office Hours

@ Noon – Bulletin/Newsletter Deadline

@ 6:00 pm - Confirmation Class

@ 7:30 pm - Council Meeting

Sept. 25 @ 1:30 pm - Bible Study at Sunporch

Sept. 27 @ 9:00 am - WOW Conference - FSP in Hastings

Sept. 28 @ 5:00 pm – Yard Games and S'mores Bonfire!

Fall Youth Event next Sunday! Meet at the church for yard games
Lasagna Supper to follow with S'mores over a fire.

Bible Camp for 3rd Graders - 4:30-5:45 PM Wednesdays

October 1st, 8th, and 15th with Pastor Ann

Parents are asked to attend on October 15th

October 19th - Mission Festival! - Pastor Siimon Haamer

Tartu Academy and Home of Hope in Estonia

Lunch and Presentation to follow church service.

Next Week's Scriptures:

First Reading: Amos 6:1-7

Psalms 146

1 Timothy 3:1-13

Luke 16:19-31

Sermon Title: "What Will It Take to Be Convinced?"

PREPARING FOR THE LORD'S SUPPER

We believe that Holy Communion is a gift of Christ to His Church. However, all who receive this gift must first examine themselves. "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup." – 1 Corinthians 11:28

Therefore, prayerfully consider the following:

- Do I believe that I am a sinner without hope of eternal life except for God's mercy offered through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ?
- Do I repent of my sins in thought, word and behavior?
- Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my Savior?
- Do I believe that Jesus Christ is personally and physically present in Communion with His Body and Blood?
- Do I desire by God's power and God's Word to live a life pleasing to Him?

We believe your "Yes!" to these questions affirms a common faith with confirmed Lutheran Christians and is your invitation to Communion.

We encourage non-communing children to accompany their parents for a personal blessing. White grape juice is available.