

## THIS WEEK AT ALC

### August 25th

8:30am Worship with Holy communion

6pm Youth meeting with pizza

### August 28th

6pm Confirmation Orientation

### September 1st

8:30am Worship with Holy communion

## BY THE NUMBERS

Attendance **08/18/24 24**

FB Views: 166

Current **July 31, 2024**

Checking: \$3021.27

Savings: \$78,335.42

Offering: **August 18, 2024**

Current: \$1185

Benevolence: \$210

Improvement: \$25

## Military members: Military members:

Christa Leach has returned from deployment and is still with the 434th Air Force Reserve Unit in Grissom, Indiana.

Jordan and Justin continue their monthly drills with the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City. Jeryn Loyd is a student at Iowa State and currently home from Arkansas in the Army Reserves as Cassidee and Cole. Please contact the church office to add other names who serve. We remember them in our prayers.

## ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY:

Pastor: Pat Mohr-Kelly

Music: Shirley Bergman

Usher: Mary Adams/Sheila Collins

Deacon: Maureen Even



## ELECTRONIC GIVING IT'S EASY!

Simply Giving is a stress-free, no hassle way to set up automatic giving to ALC. You have the ability to set up one-time or regular giving at a

frequency that works best for you. Use your smartphone to scan the QR code below or download the Give+ App to get started. Feel free to reach out to Mike Waring or Sara Borland for more info.

# WELCOME

## AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

14th Sunday after Pentecost

ELW Holy Communion Setting Three

Sunday, August 25, 2024

## OUR MISSION

Jesus Christ calls American Lutheran Church to nourish the world by faithfully sharing His gifts.

Praise God that we can worship together! We pray you will be enlightened by the Holy Spirit and strengthened in the faith that trusts in our Lord Jesus Christ and praises him for the gift of our salvation. Peace be with you!

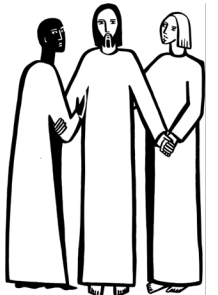
## CONTACT US

Church office: 319-827-6626

Church website: [www.americanlutheranjesup.org](http://www.americanlutheranjesup.org)

Pastor's email: [patmohrkelly@gmail.com](mailto:patmohrkelly@gmail.com)

Secretary's email: [secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org](mailto:secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org)



## Introduction to the day

In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

## **WELCOME VISITORS!**

We are so happy you've joined us today. If you have any questions about our service or facilities, please reach out to an usher. If you are a guest please fill out the yellow slip and place it in the offering plate.

The children will be invited up front during the children's message – please feel free to join us!

All who are baptized are welcome to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing only, come with your hands folded.

If you are looking for a church home, know you are always welcome here.

## **ORDER OF WORSHIP- Setting Three**

**Prelude by Shirley Bergman**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father,  
and of the † Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**We are blessed** to have so many beautiful prayer shawls on hand. Please feel free to take one for yourself, a friend, or a family member who would enjoy it. Gift cards are also available on table next to the shawls.

### **Lutheran World Relief School Kits: Donation Drive**

We encourage everyone to participate in our annual donation drive for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. Now is the perfect time to take advantage of great deals! We will be collecting items up to **September 21st**.

#### **Items we are short of:**

- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 12-inch ruler
- 1 pair of blunt scissors
- 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons

Items can be dropped off at the church whenever you see my white Nissan parked in front. Please ring the doorbell to let me know you are here. Thank you for your generosity and support!

**Please keep in your prayers:** *Emelia Dahl Jacobson - Send cards to Emelia at Hiawatha Care Center, Room 53, 405 North 15th Avenue, Hiawatha, IA 52233.*

*Stephanie Winkelpleck is back home. She will continue to go to Iowa City for checkups.*

**Everyone is invited to participate** – individuals of all ages are welcome to read the Lessons and Psalm during Sunday mornings. If you're interested, please reach out to the church by emailing secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org or leaving a message at 319-827-

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we are captive 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.**

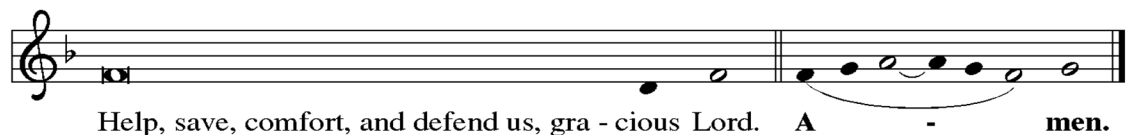
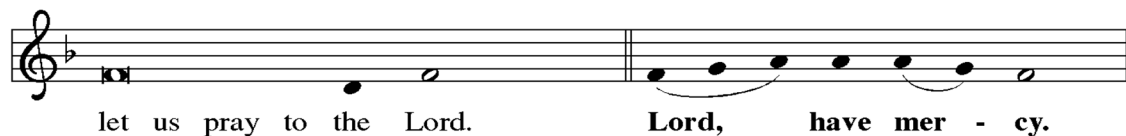
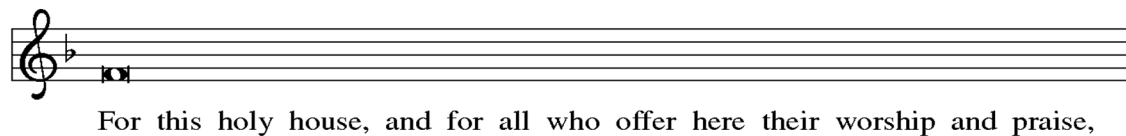
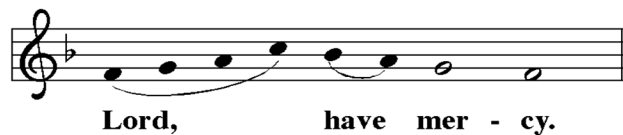
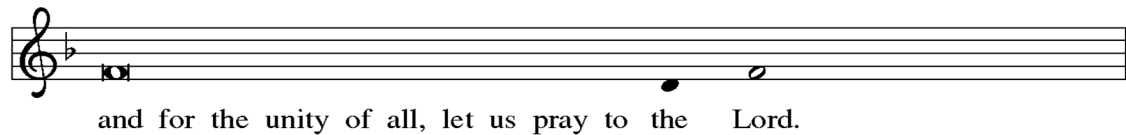
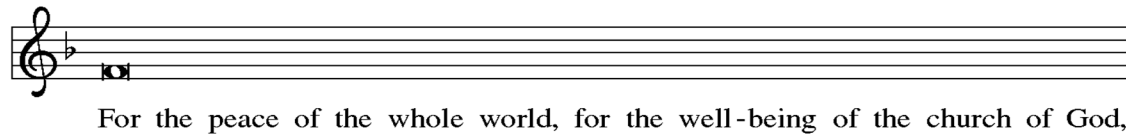
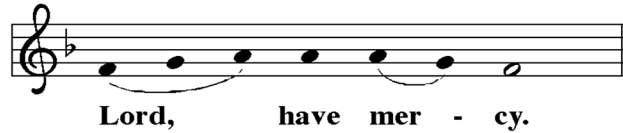
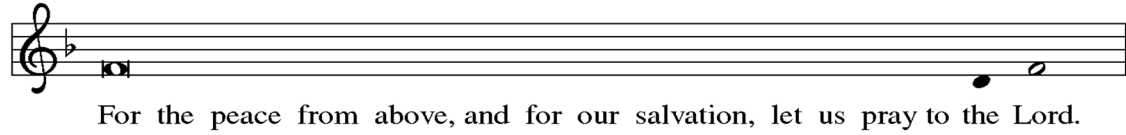
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{†}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

### **GATHERING SONG *When Morning Gilds the Skies* (ELW 853)**

#### **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.**

## KYRIE:



in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG *Lead On, O King Eternal!* (ELW 805)**

### DISMISSAL BY CHILDREN

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

And have fun doing it.

**We will! Amen!**

### Postlude by Shirley Bergman

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Tonight at 6 PM: Youth Meeting with PIZZA!** ☐ Don't miss out—come for the fun, stay for the pizza!

**Wednesday, August 28th at 6 PM: Confirmation Orientation!** Join us at ALC for an exciting evening as Zion and ALC confirmands kick off their journey together!

**Cedar Valley Hospice** is inviting you to the 13th annual Release & Remember event Sunday September 8th from 1-3pm Food, Family, Fun and Live music by Flatland ridge. @2:30pm. They will be releasing 1,000 butterflies in memory of our loved ones who have passed away. Honor a loved one with a \$30 donation to CVHospice.org



pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.  
**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.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

### COMMUNION

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.  
**Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and  
nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood  
of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to  
proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement  
grant you to live in harmony with one another,

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san - na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes:

- Christ has died.**
- Christ is risen.**
- Christ will come again.**

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

**Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

### DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

**Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

### FIRST READING: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

*In the Near East, covenant means "agreement" or "alliance." It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.*

*The reading may be announced:*

A reading from Joshua.

<sup>1</sup>Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. <sup>2a</sup>And Joshua said to all the people, <sup>14</sup>"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. <sup>15</sup>Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

<sup>16</sup>Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; <sup>17</sup>for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peo-

ples through whom we passed; <sup>18</sup>and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 34:15-22**

<sup>15</sup>The eyes of the LORD are up on the righteous,  
and God's ears are open to their cry.

<sup>16</sup>**The face of the LORD is against those who do evil,  
to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.**

<sup>17</sup>The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them  
and delivers them from all their troubles.

<sup>18</sup>**The LORD is near to the brokenhearted  
and saves those whose spirits are crushed. R**

<sup>19</sup>Many are the troubles of the righteous,  
but the LORD delivers them from every one.

<sup>20</sup>**God will keep safe all their bones;  
not one of them shall be broken.**

<sup>21</sup>Evil will bring death to the wicked  
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

<sup>22</sup>**O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants,  
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished. R**

**SECOND READING: Ephesians 6:10-20**

*Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.*

*The reading may be announced:*

A reading from Ephesians.

God of new life, protect students and teachers for a new school year. Bring an end to school shootings and cycles of violence. Move us to do all that is necessary to ensure a safe future for our children. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

God of every generation, we remember with thanksgiving all who have completed their baptismal journeys. Strengthen us in our baptismal callings to serve you faithfully until our journey's end. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping.

**Amen.**

**OFFERTORY**



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



**the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, you have the words of eternal life. Lead the church to put its trust in Jesus, the living Word. Direct preachers, teachers, writers, and all the baptized in faithful speech and bold witness. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Creator God, we and all creation are sustained by your Word. We pray for all who remind us of our interconnectedness with all living things. Prosper the work of conservation organizations, ELCA advocacy, and local climate justice advocates. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

God of wisdom, as our nation navigates another election cycle, guide our leaders to act justly for the sake of the world. Bring about fruitful conversation among your people and bring about change where you see fit. Sustain all who serve on juries in their deliberations. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

God of restoration, bring healing and wholeness to all who cry to you. Where pain is sharp, bring a sense of comfort and relief. Where grief runs deep, bring your tender mercy. Care for those on our hearts (*especially those we name in our hearts and out loud*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

<sup>10</sup>Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. <sup>15</sup>As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup>Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. <sup>19</sup>Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

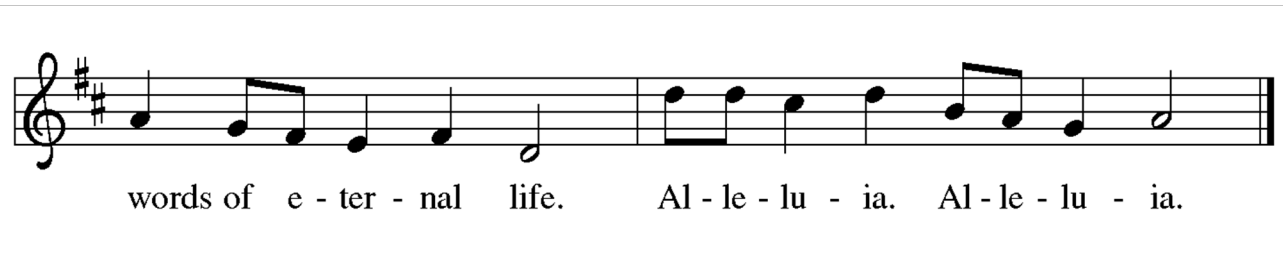
Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



### **GOSPEL: John 6:56-69**

The “hard saying” that offends Jesus’ disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: “To whom shall we go?”

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] <sup>56</sup>“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” <sup>59</sup>He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

<sup>60</sup>When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. <sup>65</sup>And he said, “For this reason I

have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

<sup>66</sup>Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

*The gospel concludes:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **CHILDRENS MESSAGE**

### **SERMON**

### **HYMN OF THE DAY *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* (ELW 773)**

### **CREED**

*Please stand if you are able*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**