

# WELCOME



10th Sunday after Pentecost  
ELW Holy Communion Setting Ten  
Sunday, August 17, 2025

## 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

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### Introduction to the day



The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great “cloud of witnesses.” In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, “the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.”

## 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 Ten

**Prelude by Shirley Bergman**

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM (ELW p. 97)

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters  
and by your Word you created the world,  
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.

Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.  
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.  
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,  
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,  
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.  
Shower us with your Spirit,  
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG** *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* (ELW 774)

**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** (ELW p. 204)  
**Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.**  
**Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:**  
**we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.**  
**Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.**  
**Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.**  
**Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav’n above;**  
**on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God’s right hand.**  
**Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.**  
**Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;**  
**Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:**  
**Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father’s splendor bright.**  
**For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**  
Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*  
**O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**  
*The assembly is seated.*

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:23-29**  
*Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God’s judgment, he suffers rejection. Today’s reading distinguishes between the true prophet, like Jeremiah, who speaks God’s word, and the false prophet who misleads the people through dreams. One is like wheat; the other like worthless straw.*  
*The reading may be announced:*  
A reading from Jeremiah.

<sup>23</sup> Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup> Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. <sup>25</sup> I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, “I have dreamed! I have dreamed!” <sup>26</sup> How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? <sup>27</sup> They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. <sup>28</sup> Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. <sup>29</sup> Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?  
The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 82**  
<sup>1</sup> God stands to charge the divine council assembled,  
giving judgment in the midst of the gods:  
<sup>2</sup> **“How long will you judge unjustly,  
and show favor to the wicked?”**  
<sup>3</sup> Save the weak and the orphan;  
defend the humble and needy;  
<sup>4</sup>

<sup>4</sup> **rescue the weak and the poor;  
deliver them from the power of the wicked. R**

<sup>5</sup> They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

<sup>6</sup> **Now I say to you, 'You are gods,  
and all of you children of the Most High;**

<sup>7</sup> nevertheless, you shall die like mortals,  
and fall like any prince.' "

<sup>8</sup> **Arise, O God, and rule the earth, for you shall take all nations for your  
own. R**

**Tone**

## **SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:29—12:2**

*The author of Hebrews presents us with rich stories of faith. In a long list of biblical heroes, we find examples of trust in God that enabled them to face the trials of life faithfully. In addition to this "cloud of witnesses," we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.*

*The reading may be announced:*

A reading from Hebrews.

<sup>29</sup> By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup> By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

<sup>32</sup> And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, <sup>33</sup> who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup> Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented <sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup> Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup> since God had provided something better so that they

would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

<sup>12:1</sup> Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)**

*The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.**

**Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.**

**Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

## **GOSPEL: Luke 12:49-56**

*Jesus delivers harsh words about the purifying and potentially divisive effects of obedience to God's call. The way of the cross often leads followers to encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.*

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>49</sup> "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! <sup>50</sup> I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup> Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup> From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup> they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

<sup>54</sup> He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens. <sup>55</sup> And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens.

<sup>56</sup> You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

*The assembly is seated.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* (ELW 325)

**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 de-  
scended 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, 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**

**RESPONSE TO PETITIONS:** God of Mercy, **Hold us in love.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERING HYMN**

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.  
**Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered togeth-**

**er to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the  
ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ,  
now and forever. Amen**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.**

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** (ELW p. 207)  
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heav’n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**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 Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *Shine, Jesus, Shine* (ELW 671)

DISMISSAL  
Postlude by Shirley Bergman

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

College Student Blessings—August 17th during Praise Worship!

Whether your heading off to college for the first time, continuing your studies, or staying local while pursuing your degree– we want to bless and celebrate you! Join us in worship as we pray over our students and send them off with love and support.

Stick around afterward for a pizza party in the Fellowship Hall! (Please let Chris –secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org) know how many in your family are coming so we know how much pizza to order.)

Notice of Congregational Meeting

Special Congregational Meeting to be held Sunday, August 24, 2025 following worship. The following items will be on the agenda.

1. Approval of a bid for the Air Conditioning/Heat pump units for the Pastor's office, Secretary's office and the Fireside room.
2. Approval for payment of property insurance deductible pertaining to the claim for lightning stike damage to ur computers, telephones, router, elevator fire alarm and elevator.
3. Yoke Agreement (Pastor's contract and future vision for ALC).

Backpack Blessing Sunday!

Join us on **Sunday, August 24th at the 9am service** as we bless the backpacks and all those heading back to school!

Kids, teachers, college students — bring your backpacks, bags, or briefcases as we send you off with love, prayers, and a whole lot of joy for the year ahead!

GROUNDING IN PRAYER A Training Guide for Congregational Prayer.

This is an introductory study of prayer, The themes to be covered include: The Groundwork of Prayer, Sharpening Your Personal Tools For Prayer, Praying for the Hardened Path, Praying for the Rocky Ground. Praying for the Thorny Ground, Blessing the Good Soil.

A small group experience for those interested in beginning or deepening their prayer life. We will meet for 1 and 1/2 hours each week for 6 weeks.

The day, time and place will be chosen by those who will be working the landscape of prayer.

Write "Prayer Group" and your name on a slip of paper or prayer request slip, (pink paper in hymnal holder) place it in the offering plate or let Pastor Pat, Chris or Kaye Jones know.

**Lutheran World Relief School Kits** – American Lutheran has been collecting items to fill backpacks for school kits that will be delivered to St. Paul's Lutheran, Sumner, at the Fall In-Gathering on October 8th. Our goal is to fill 25 backpacks. Items that are still needed are: 70-sheet spiral notebook paper, pencil sharpeners, 12-inch rulers, blunt scissors, black or blue ink pens (no gel) and 16 or 24 count boxes of crayons. We welcome donations of the above items and request that they be brought to the church by Sunday, September 21st. Thank you for your generous support of this ministry.

**THIS WEEK AT ALC**

**Sunday August 17**

9am Worship with Communion

4pm Praise Worship with Communion

**Sunday August 24th**

9am Worship with Communion

Blessing of Backpacks

Congregational meeting to follow  
Worship

4pm Praise Worship with Communion

**BY THE NUMBERS**

Attendance 8/10/25

9am 36

4pm 14

Offering: **8/10/2025**

Current: \$1195

Benevolence: \$337

Improvement: \$330

World Hunger \$300

Youth \$100

**Current Balance as of 7/31/25**

Checking: \$6,203.28

Savings:32,867.15

Improvement \$46,592.97

**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, Pat Winblade

Deacon: Christy Phillips

Reader: Christy Phillips

**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.