



We're glad you're here!
If you do not have a church home,
please know that you are welcome to
make this your church home.

God's blessings to you!

We are glad you are worshiping with us today. If you are visiting, we invite you to sign our guest book at the usher stand. If you have any questions or need assistance, an usher will be happy to help.

All who are baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please come forward with your hands folded.

Whether you are visiting or searching for a church home, know that you are always welcome here.



Introduction to the Service

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.



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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/alcjesup/>

Pastor Susan Friedrich email: friedrichsusan@gmail.com

Secretary's email: secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org

12th Sunday after Pentecost

ELW Holy Communion

Sunday, August 16, 2026

Prelude: Courtney Frush

Welcome & Worship Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism (ELW p. 97)

Gathering Song: *In Christ There Is No East or West* (ELW 650)

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 (ELW p. 184)

Prayer of the Day

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Kid's Time

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Isaiah.

¹ Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, 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, all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it and hold fast my covenant—

⁷ these 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. ⁸ Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel: I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 67

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

² **Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,**

for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth. R

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ **The earth has brought forth its increase; God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷ May God give us blessing, and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe. R

Second Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

A reading from Romans.

[Paul writes:]¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (ELW p. 142)

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

⁵**Gospel: Matthew 15: 21-28**

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (ELW 588)*

Apostles' Creed (in the back cover of your hymnal or on pg 105)

Prayers of Intercession

At the end of each petition will be, "Merciful God," and you may respond, **"receive our prayer."**

Closing petition:

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

Offering: *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending (ELW 678) vs. 2*

**Sharing lavish gifts and blessings, love that not one mite withholds,
stretch out arms to friends and strangers: God has sheep of many folds.**

Offering Prayer

Great Thanksgiving responses:

Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Amen. come, Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer ELW p. 145

Holy Communion

Communion Song: *Lamb of God p. 146*

Table Blessing & Prayer after Communion

Sending Announcements

Blessing

Sending Song: *Commonwealth Is God's Commandment (ACS 1036)*

Dismissal

Postlude: Courtney Frush

**Join us for fellowship in the Fireside Room
Treats supplied by Shiela collins**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You, Courtney!

A heartfelt thank you to Courtney Frush for sharing her musical talents with us and filling in for our worship services during the absence of our full-time musician. Her beautiful piano playing has truly been a blessing to our congregation, and we are so grateful for her willingness to serve.

We wish Courtney all the best as she begins her new position at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Independence. May God bless her in this new chapter and continue to use her wonderful gift of music to bless others!

Remember our members in your prayers: Wendell, Shirley, Bill, Sharon, Jeanne, Emelia, Lori, Marie, Kaye

Prayer Chain: Contact Kaye Jones kayejns@gmail.com or the office (secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org) with any prayer concerns.

Back to School Blessing on August 23

As a new school year begins, we invite all who are returning to school to receive a special Back-to-School Blessing on August 23rd.

Students, teachers, school staff, administrators, custodians, bus drivers, aides, cooks, and everyone who helps our schools thrive are invited to be part of this special blessing.

Join us as we pray for a safe, successful, and joy-filled school year for all!

Worship Wednesday Volunteers Needed

Do you enjoy working with children? American Lutheran Church is looking for volunteers to help with Worship Wednesday from September through April.

Whether you can help every week or occasionally, your time and talents can make a meaningful difference in the lives of our young people.

If you are interested in serving or would like more information, please contact the church office.

Noisy Offering – Through September 15

Our Noisy Offering will support the final phase of the Cedar Lodge renovations at Camp Ewalu. Through September 15, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids will match every dollar donated (up to \$50,000), doubling the impact of your gift. Bring your coins, cash, or a special donation, and help Camp Ewalu complete this important project debt-free. Thank you for your generous support!

LWR School Kit Collection: We are collecting 70-sheet spiral notebooks, 16 or 24 count crayons, blue or black ballpoint pens, blunt scissors, and 12-inch rulers for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. Please place donations on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for your support!

Special Congregational Meeting

A Special Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, August 23, following the 9:00 a.m. worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and vote on flooring improvements for the parsonage and concrete work needed on the east side of the church. A quorum of 25 voting members is required to hold the meeting. Voting members are confirmed members who have communed and made a contribution of record to this congregation one time within the last 2 years.

THIS WEEK AT ALC

Sunday, August 16th

9am Worship with Communion

Sunday, August 23th

9am Worship with Communion

Congregational meeting to follow

BY THE NUMBERS

Attendance July Aug 9th 19

OFFERING

Current \$1743

Benevolence: \$380

Improvement: \$25

EWALU \$32

LWR \$300

Summer Food \$120

Current Balance as of July 31, 2026

Checking: \$3,493.83

Savings: \$22,515.04

Improvement \$44,624.42

ASSISTING THIS SUNDAY:

Reverend Susan Friedrich

Music: Courtney Frush

Usher: Collins/Adams

Deacon: Maureen Even

Reader: Maureen Even

Fellowship: Sheila Collins

Videographer: Mike Waring

Military Address: Christa Leach, 387 AEW (CSS), OPC 1201 Box 72

APO AE 09309 As of now, this will be through the end of Sept.

Military members: Christa Leach has been called to active duty with the 434th Air Force Reserve Unit in Grissom, Indiana. Jordan and Justin are still members of the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City. Jeryn Loyd is stationed at Fort Knox and in the Army Reserves Cassidee is stationed in Iowa City and Cole is currently home. Cody Clayton is back from Fort Benning, Georgia Basic Training and will report to Dubuque. Karsten Nuehring is back from training and is drilling with the Aviation Unit in Waterloo.

Please contact the church office to add other names who serve.

We remember them in our prayers.

Stay Connected This Summer

Summer is a wonderful time for vacations, family, and relaxation, but we encourage you to stay connected with your church family at ALC. Your presence, prayers, and financial support help sustain our ministry throughout the summer. If you're away, you can still join us through online worship and online giving.

For your convenience, electronic giving is available through Simply Giving. Scan the QR code below or download the Give+ App to make a one-time or recurring gift. Thank you for keeping ALC in your summer plans!



Fellowship Volunteers needed!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050448A5A628AAF94-61890755-alc-fellowship#/>



Scan QR code, use the link or
leave message for
Chris 319-827-6626