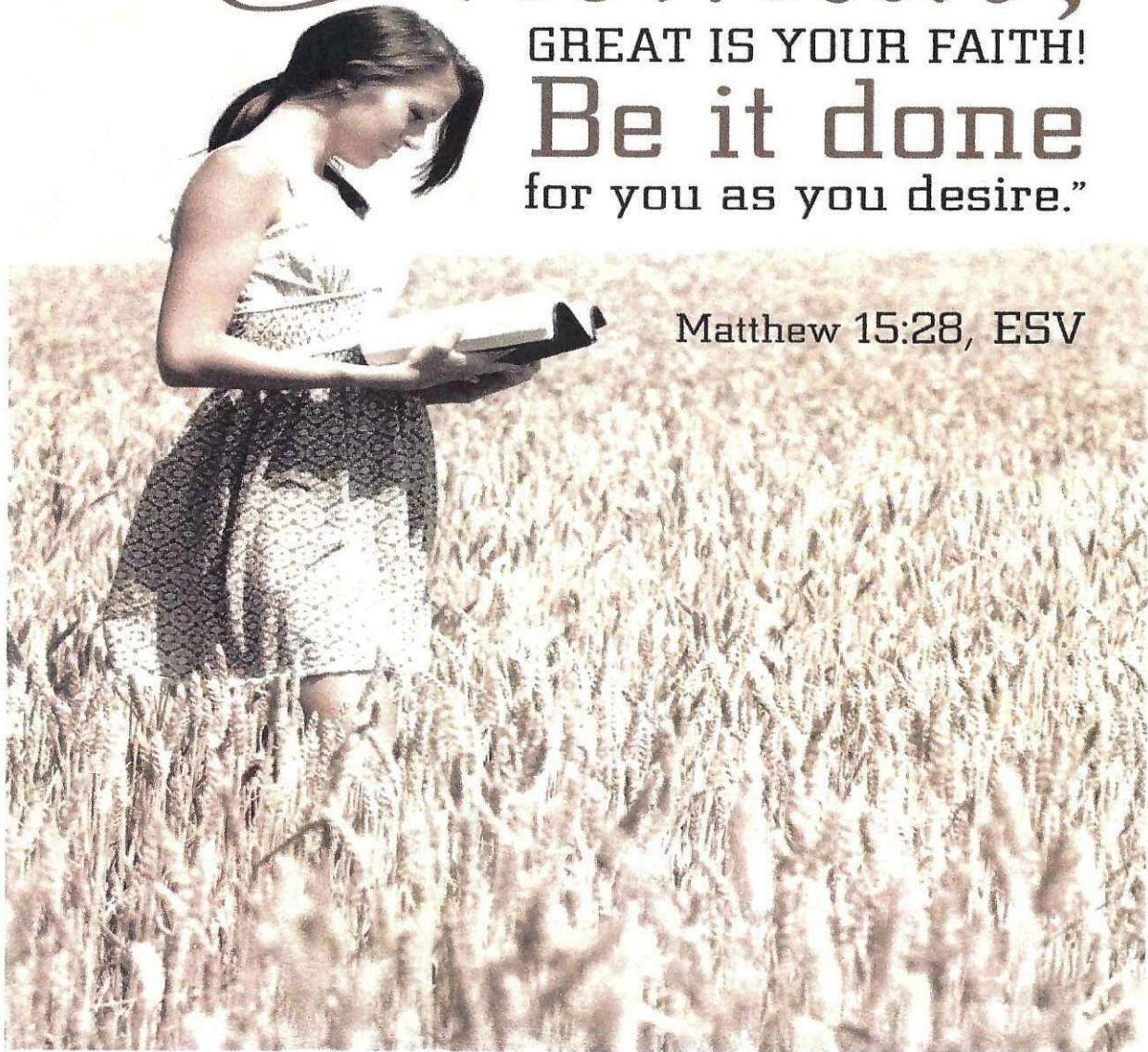


Christ Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Hillsboro, Texas

“O woman,
GREAT IS YOUR FAITH!
Be it done
for you as you desire.”

Matthew 15:28, ESV



12th Sunday after Pentecost
FAITH SEES GOD'S MERCY
August 16, 2026

TODAY'S MESSAGE: FAITH SEES GOD'S MERCY

Today's message is about faith and mercy. In today's readings from God's Word, mercy is a door welcoming sinners into God's fellowship and mercy is Jesus' compassion and His response to a woman crying out for help for her daughter. As tempted as we are to believe that we can somehow earn or merit God's kindness, we cannot escape the meaning of mercy. "When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy." (Titus 3:4-5) God shows us His mercy (His love, His forgiveness and His gift of eternal life) through the cross of His Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. And it is through faith in Jesus that we see and receive God's mercy.



In the Lord's Supper, Jesus gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. The Lord's Supper is also a very sacred and intimate proclamation of fellowship among those who confess the same faith (doctrine, teachings) concerning God's Word and the Gospel of His Son Jesus Christ. Therefore, we practice close communion and ask that those who are not confirmed members of an LC-MS congregation receive instruction prior to receiving the Lord's Supper.

Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.

1 Corinthians 11:27-29

Before receiving the Lord's Supper, we need to examine ourselves in the following way:

(1) Am I truly repentant (sorry) for all of my sins and do I truthfully desire to change my sinful life? (2) Do I believe that Jesus is my Lord and Savior and that in the Lord's Supper I receive His body and His blood for the forgiveness of all my sins? And (3) Have I been instructed in the Scriptures and have I publicly confessed my belief that the teachings of this church and the LC-MS are faithful to God's Word and the Gospel of His Son Jesus Christ?

If you have questions about what God's Word says concerning the Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor and/or pick up our brochure titled "Fellowship in the Lord's Supper".

Those not confirmed are welcome to come to the altar, keep your hands down and folded and receive a blessing. For those who will be communing: **Non-alcoholic** wine is located in the center of each tray for those who have concerns with alcohol. We offer the **chalice** as well as individual cups. If you desire the chalice, do not take an individual cup from the tray and the pastor will serve you from the chalice. Christ is present in both to grant you forgiveness.

✚ ORDER OF SERVICE WITH COMMUNION ✚

[“Divine Service: Setting One” from LSB p.151]

Please silence – or turn off – your phones and refrain from using them during the service.

Welcome

Opening Hymn

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

LSB 915

**Today Your mercy calls us, to wash away our sin.
However great our trespass, whatever we have been.
However long from mercy, our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us, and make us clean today.**

**Today Your gate is open, and all who enter in
Shall find a Father’s welcome, and pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten, a present joy be giv’n.
A future grace be promised, a glorious crown in heav’n.**

**Today our Father calls us. His Holy Spirit waits.
His blessed angels gather, around the heav’nly gates.
No question will be asked us, how often we have come.
Although we oft have wandered, it is our Father’s home.**

**O all embracing Mercy. O ever-open Door.
What should we do without You, when heart and eye run o’er?
When all things seem against us, to drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open, one ear will hear our prayer.**

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: (sung) A - - - men.

Confession of Sins

1 John 1:8-9

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

ALL: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. 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.

P: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:19-23*

C: *(sung)* **A - - - men.**

Entrance Psalm [ESV]

Psalm 67

P: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among all nations.

C: **Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!**

P: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

C: **Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!**

P: The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, shall bless us.

C: **God shall bless us; let all the ends of the earth fear him!**

ALL: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you!

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

C: **As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

LSB 790

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!

Let all who hear, now to His temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen, all that is needful has been, sent by His gracious ordaining?**

**Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.
What need or grief, ever has failed of relief? Wings of His mercy did shade you.**

**Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew, what the Almighty can do, as with His love He befriends you.**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the "Amen", sound from His people again; gladly forever adore Him!**

Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *(sung)* And also with you.

Opening Prayer

ALL: Heavenly Father, you give your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation, grant us steadfast confidence in your loving kindness and mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading [ESV]

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Thus says the LORD: "Keep justice, and do righteousness, for soon my salvation will come and my righteousness be revealed. . . . 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, everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant – 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." The Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares, "I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered."

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God for his Word and his mercy.

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel? “Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life.” But what is God’s reply to him? “I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal.” So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace. But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.

Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. . . . As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God for his Word and his mercy.**

Gospel Reading [ESV]

Matthew 15:21-28

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 15th chapter.

C: *(sung)* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Jesus went away from there (the town of Gennesaret on the Sea of Galilee) and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon (along the Mediterranean Sea). And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him saying, “Lord, help me.” And he answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.” Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: *(sung)* **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children's Message

Sermon Hymn

"Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service"

LSB 848

**Lord, whose love through humble service, bore the weight of human need.
Who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed.
We, Your servants, bring the worship, not of voice alone, but heart,
Consecrating to Your purpose, ev'ry gift that You impart.**

**Still Your children wander homeless. Still the hungry cry for bread.
Still the captives long for freedom. Still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, Your deep compassion, healed the sick and freed the soul,
Use the love Your Spirit kindles, still to save and make us whole.**

**As we worship, grant us vision, till Your love's revealing light,
In its height and depth and greatness, dawns upon our quickened sight.
Making known the needs and burdens, Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to tireless striving, Your abundant life to share.**

**Called by worship to Your service, forth in Your dear name we go,
To the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show.
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort, counsel, aid and peace we give,
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom, may Your mercy know and live.**

Sermon

FAITH SEES GOD'S MERCY

Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offertory *(sung)*

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,

In the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Offering *(Greet those seated near you. You may say, "The peace of the Lord be with you.")*

[If you are a guest, please feel under no obligation to give anything, but receive this worship service as our gift to you. For the members and friends of this congregation, our mission and ministry is dependent upon your generous giving, a significant act of our worship.]

Offering Prayer

[LSB 781 (v.1-2)]

P: We give Thee but Thine own, whatever the gift may be. All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.

C: May we Thy bounties thus, as stewards true receive. And gladly, as Thou blessest us, to Thee our first-fruits give! Amen.

Prayers

✠ THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION ✠

VISITORS and MEMBERS

Please read the message inside the first page of this bulletin re: participation in the Lord's Supper.

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: *(sung)* And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

C: *(sung)* We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Psalm 136

C: *(sung)* **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus 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. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:

Sanctus *(sung)*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of pow'r and might. Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

ALL: 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.

Words of Our Lord

Mt. 26:26-28; Mk. 14:22-24; Lk. 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed, took bread . . .

In the same way also, he took the cup after supper . . .

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

John 20:19

C: *(sung)* **A - men.**

Agnus Dei *(sung)*

John 1:29

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Grant us peace.**

Distribution Hymns

"Just as I Am, without One Plea"

LSB 570

**Just as I am, without one plea, but that Thy blood was shed for me.
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, and waiting not, to rid my soul of one dark blot.
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, though tossed about, with many a conflict, many a doubt.
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind. Sight, riches, healing of the mind.
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve.
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, Thy love unknown, has broken ev'ry barrier down.
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

“Oh, How Great is Your Compassion”

LSB 559

**Oh, how great is Your compassion, faithful Father, God of grace,
That with all our fallen race,
In our depth of degradation, You had mercy so that we,
Might be saved eternally!**

**Your great love for this has striven, that we may, from sin made free,
Live with You eternally.
Your dear Son Himself has given, and extends His gracious call,
To His supper leads us all.**

**Firmly to our soul's salvation, witnesses Your Spirit, Lord,
In Your Sacraments and Word.
There He sends true consolation, giving us the gift of faith,
That we fear not hell nor death.**

**Lord, Your mercy will not leave me. Ever will Your truth abide.
Then in You I will confide.
Since Your Word cannot deceive me, my salvation is to me,
Safe and sure eternally.**

**I will praise Your great compassion, faithful Father, God of grace,
That with all our fallen race,
In our depth of degradation, You had mercy so that we,
Might be saved eternally.**

"Jesus Comes Today with Healing"

LSB 620

**Jesus comes today with healing, knocking at my door, appealing,
Off'ring pardon, grace, and peace.
He Himself makes preparation, and I hear His invitation:
"Come and taste the blessed feast."**

**Christ Himself, the priest presiding, yet in bread and wine abiding,
In this holy sacrament,
Gives the bread of life, once broken, and the cup, the precious token,
Of His sacred covenant.**

**Under bread and wine, though lowly, I receive the Savior holy,
Blood and body, giv'n for me,
Very Lamb of God from heaven, who to bitter death was given.
Hung upon the cursed tree.**

**God descends with heav'nly power, gives Himself to me this hour,
In this ordinary sign.
On my tongue His pledge receiving, I accept His grace, believing,
That I taste His love divine.**

**Let me praise God's boundless favor, whose own feast of love I savor,
Bidden by His gracious call.
Wedding garments He provides me, with a robe of white He hides me,
Fits me for the royal hall.**

**Now have I found consolation, comfort in my tribulation,
Balm to heal the troubled soul.
God, my shield from ev'ry terror, cleanses me from sin and error.
Makes my wounded spirit whole.**

Thank the Lord and sing His praise. Tell everyone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: Let us pray.

ALL: We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore you that of your mercy you would strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: *(sung)* A - men, A - men, A - - men.

Closing Hymn

"O God of Mercy, God of Light"

[LW 397; AGPS 182]

**O God of mercy, God of light, in love and mercy infinite,
Teach us, as ever in your sight, to live our lives in you.**

**You sent your Son to die for all, that our lost world might hear your call.
Oh, hear us lest we stray and fall! We rest our hope in you.**

**Teach us the lesson Jesus taught: To feel for those his blood has bought,
That ev'ry deed and word and thought, may work a work for you.**

**For all are kindred, far and wide, since Jesus Christ for all has died.
Grant us the will and grace provide, to love them all in you.**

**In sickness, sorrow, want, or care, each other's burdens help us share.
May we, where help is needed there, give help as though to you.**

**And may your Holy Spirit move, all those who live to live in love.
Till you receive in heav'n above, those who have lived to you.**