+ Holy Cross Lutheran Church +

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Pastor Mark Huston

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Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 21, 2022

Divine Service, Setting One

As We Gather

The Gospel of Christ is God's invitation to salvation and eternal life. Cards or letters of invitation occasionally end with the eloquent phrase from the French language abbreviated only with the letters RSVP, signaling that the sender wishes to know for how many to plan in attendance. (Of course, we may presume God already knows that final number!) But to receive an RSVP invitation requires a response. Today, Jesus issues the invitation to the Kingdom asking all to "strive to enter." Surprisingly, the response or effort required is simply to receive the benefit of our Lord's own work on our behalf. You enter the open, narrow door through Baptism into the death of Christ. The baptismal life is a striving to die and rise daily by faith in the way of the cross of Christ. Through the door of the Eucharist we are nourished and faith is strengthened and sustained by Christ's body and blood. This eating and drinking is necessary for the struggle of faith. Here today you continue your RSVP, entering the door who is Christ by the power of your Holy Baptism.





Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

- **P** 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 reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- 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.
- 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 Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

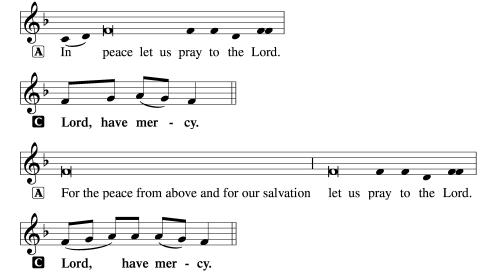
Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 117; antiphon: Psalm 96:6a; 115:18

- P Splendor and majesty are be- | fore him;*
 we will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore. | Praise the LORD!
- Praise the LORD, all | nations!*
 Extol him, all | peoples!
- P For great is his steadfast | love toward us,* and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. | Praise the LORD!
- Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,*
 - is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- P Splendor and majesty are be- | fore him;*
 we will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore. | Praise the LORD!

Kyrie LSB 152







LSB 155



Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray.

O Lord, You have called us to enter Your kingdom through the narrow door. Guide us by Your Word and Spirit, and lead us now and always into the feast of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 66:18-23

R The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 66.

¹⁸"For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, ¹⁹and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands afar off, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. ²⁰And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. ²¹And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the LORD.

224 For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make
shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain.
23 From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath,
all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD."

- R This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Epistle Hebrews 12:4–24

R The Epistle is from Hebrews, chapter 12.

⁴In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons?

"My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him.

⁶For the Lord disciplines the one be loves

⁶For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."

⁷It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

¹²Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³ and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ¹⁴Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no "root of bitterness" springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

¹⁸For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

- R This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse LSB 156



Holy Gospel

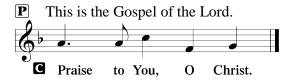
Luke 13:22–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.



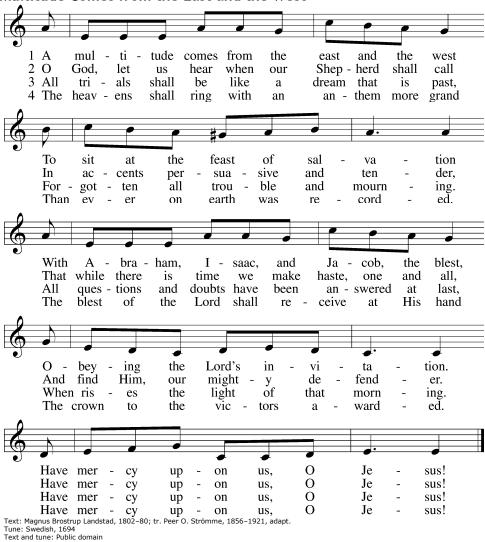
²²[Jesus] went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. ²³And someone said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" And he said to them, ²⁴"Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. ²⁵When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then he will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.' ²⁶Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' ²⁷But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!' ²⁸In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. ²⁹And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and

recline at table in the kingdom of God. ³⁰And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."



Sit

510 A Multitude Comes from the East and the West



Sermon The many and the few

Stand

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.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, grant us repentant faith to strive to enter ever more deeply into Your blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. By the witness of Your saints, gather many from the very corners of this world to enter Your kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C hear our prayer.
- Eternal Lord, You have founded Your Church and promised that she will remain forever. Bolster her confidence in Your Word and guide her pastors in paths of righteousness, that she would declare Your glory among all nations. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Lord God, heavenly Father, You have called fathers to bring up their children in Your fear and love. Sanctify and sustain them through Your Word, that they would lovingly discipline their children and so show forth Your own divine care for Your baptized children. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P O Lord, grant wisdom, integrity and skill to our president, the Congress of the United States, our governor and all those in authority, that in the exercise of their lawful duties justice would be maintained, the innocent defended, wickedness restrained, liberty upheld and consciences respected. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P Heavenly Father, You chasten those whom You love. Teach Your fatherly love to those enduring the afflictions of this life, for all things come from Your hand. Guard [_______and] all who suffer in body and soul, and bring them through their trials. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

- Divine Host, in Your holy presence we recline at Your table and receive the blood of Your Son, which speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. Let this blood of Christ thoroughly bless the earth of our created bodies and sanctify us completely to become a new holy land for His eternal dwelling. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P O Lord, we give You thanks for all the saints who have gone before us. Grant that we would die to ourselves and enter with Christ into the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to join with all the angels in festal gathering and to be numbered with the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, perfected in the righteousness of Christ and abiding forever in His new creation. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- **P** To You, O Lord, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be all glory, honor, worship and praise, now and even to the end of all the ages.
- C Amen.

Sit

Offering

638 Eat This Bread sts. ref-2

LSB 159

Stand



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa-lem.

Welcome to our Visitors

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15–35; 26:26–29;

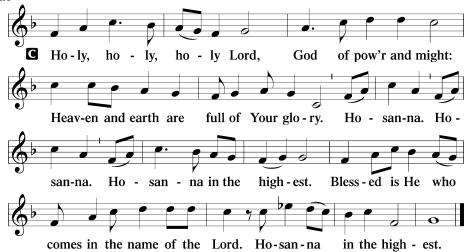
1 Corinthians 11:17–34.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 160

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- 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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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 LSB 161



Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

The Words of Our Lord

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.



LSB 163

Distribution

772 In Holy Conversation



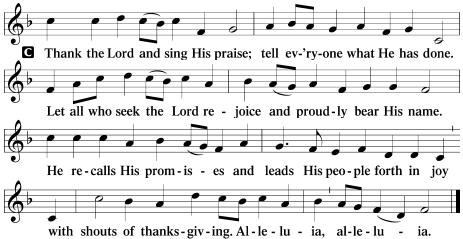
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641 You Satisfy the Hungry Heart



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Thank the Lord LSB 164



Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

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.

C Amen.

Benediction LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

C Amen.

514 The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us

Text (sts. 2–4) and tune: Public domain



Announcements

Voters' Assembly will meet Aug 28 for voting on position of elder and treasurer.

Adult Sunday School is studying Genesis at 9am on Sunday mornings.

The **Flowers** that beautify our altar this morning are given to God's glory for the birthday of Betty Reich's son..

The Ladies Bible Study meets Wednesdays at 10am. They are studying the Book of Deuteronomy.

Church Council next meeting is Sep 11 at 8am.

Tickets are now on sale for the **Lutheran Hymn Festival Sept 18** at the Myerson Symphony Center. Kantor Hildebrand from the Fort Wayne seminary, is this years' organist. More info at lutheranhymnfestival.org.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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