

Service of Holy Communion
13th Sunday after Pentecost
September 4, 2022
10:00 a.m.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

- “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” - Dale Wood
“Auf meinen lieben Gott” - Dietrich Buxtehude
“He Comes to Us as One Unknown” - Robert J. Powell

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. **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 mercy of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Merciful God, **we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.**

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "Earth and All Stars" Red Book #731

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.

GLORY TO GOD *page 139 in the front of the red book.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

FIRST READING **Jeremiah 18:1-11**

God teaches Jeremiah a lesson at a potter's shop. Just as a potter may destroy an unacceptable vessel, starting over to refashion it into one of value, so God molds and fashions the nations, including Israel.

¹The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ²"Come, go down to the potter's house, and there I will let you hear my words." ³So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel. ⁴The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter's hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

⁵Then the word of the LORD came to me: ⁶"Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. ⁷At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, ⁸but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. ⁹And at another moment I may

declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, ¹⁰but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. ¹¹Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 139:1-6, 13-18 *read responsively*

¹LORD, you have searched me out;

O LORD, you have known me.

**²You know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

³You trace my journeys and my resting-places
and are acquainted with all my ways.

**⁴Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
but you, O LORD, know it altogether.**

⁵You encompass me, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

**⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**

¹³For you yourself created my inmost parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

**¹⁴I will thank you because I am marvelously made;
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.**

¹⁵My body was not hidden from you,
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.

**¹⁶Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of
them were written in your book;
my days were fashioned before they came to be.**

¹⁷How deep I find your thoughts, O God!
How great is the sum of them!

**¹⁸If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the
sand;
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.**

SECOND READING **Philemon 1-21**

While Paul was in prison, he was aided by Onesimus, a man who had run away from Philemon, a slaveowner and a Christian friend of Paul. Paul told Onesimus to return to Philemon and encouraged Philemon to receive Onesimus back as a Christian brother.

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh

my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

O God, Whose Word Well-Planted



1 O God, whose word well-plant - ed yields fruit a hun - dred - fold,
2 O God of seed and har - vest, of sun and soil and rain,
3 O God, your fi - nal har - vest of his - t'ry's an - cient field



we praise your grac - es grant - ed to those who sowed of old,
at - tend the word we sow, lest its plant - ing be in vain.
will test with truth the proud - est that hu - man work can yield.



who by their wit - ness scat - tered good seed up - on the soil
Send show - ers of your Spir - it, bright sun - shine of your grace,
Op - pres - sion's blight will van - ish, fair free - dom's fruits in - crease;



where oth - ers, reap - ing, gath - ered the har - vest of their toil.
that mul - ti - tudes who hear it your gos - pel may em - brace.
and love and joy will flour - ish to clothe the earth with peace.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007
Music: ABIDING PRESENCE, Stephen P. Folkemer, b. 1952
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GOSPEL Luke 14:25-33

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus speaks frankly about the costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation may be seated.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” Red Book #802
Stanza 2 high voices only; Stanza 3 low voices only

APOSTLES’ CREED

**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,
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

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

We pray for the church around the world and for the mission of the gospel. Refresh the hearts of your people, deepen our understanding of every good thing we share, and strengthen our partnerships in the faith. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the well-being of the earth and all its creatures: for trees and forests, for all that will yield fruit this season, and for streams and other bodies of water. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the nations and those in authority: for the elected leaders of our city, state, and country. Today we remember the members of our local school boards, that you would help them focus on what truly serves the needs of students. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For all in need: for those who suffer from disease, who struggle with homelessness or food insecurity, for those whose family life is difficult, and for all in this community who need your care. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For this community of faith: for all our labors—begun, continued, and ended in you—that they glorify your holy name. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the saints who now rest from their labors (*especially Peter Claver, priest and missionary*). Give us faith, like them, to love you with all our hearts, and by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.
Amen.

THE MEAL

PEACE

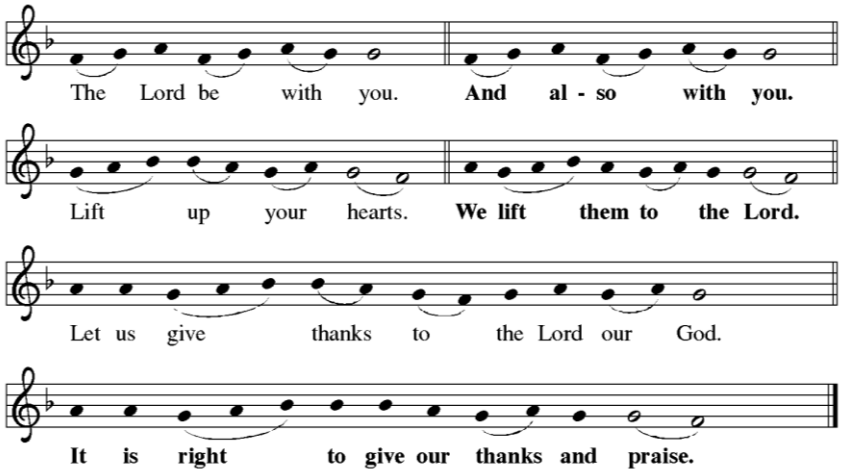
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

ORGAN OFFERTORY

“Voluntary in D Minor (Part One)” - William Boyce

OFFERING PRAYER *led by the assisting minister*

GREAT THANKSGIVING



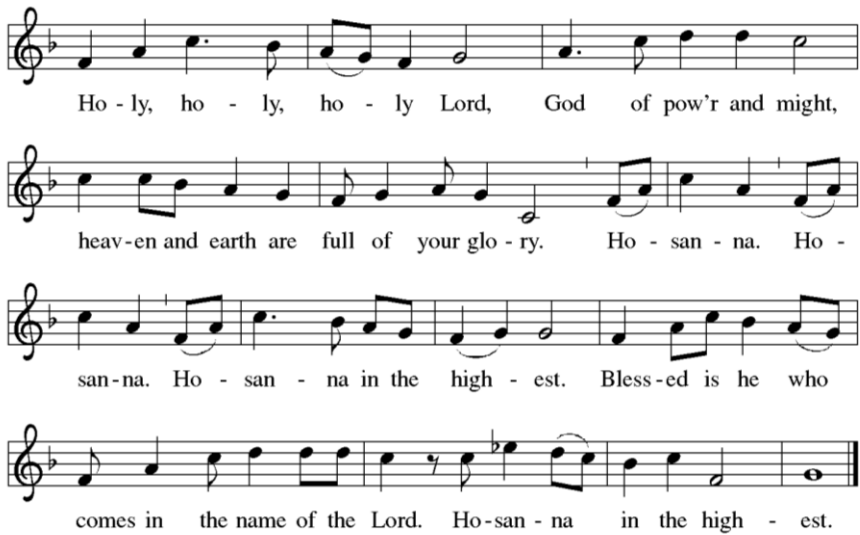
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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 (*the presiding minister continues giving thanks*)...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 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.

You are indeed holy, God of power and might, O God...(*the prayer continues*)...Through your Son, in you Spirit, with all your people, we give you thanks and praise, O source of our life and fountain of all good, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we 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

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

All are welcome to Holy Communion today. Lutherans believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. The ushers will invite you forward to receive. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the pastor know if you wish to receive them. If you are able to receive either bread or wine (but not both), please know that you still receive the full communion.

SONG DURING COMMUNION (next page)

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re -
joice! Look to God, do not be a - fraid. Lift up your
voic - es, the Lord is near. Lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near." There are triplets of eighth notes in the piano accompaniment on the second and third systems.

Text: Taizé Community, based on Isaiah 12
Music: Jacques Berthier

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BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

"Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song"

Red Book #808

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The Lord is with you!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Bell Symphony”

- Henry Purcell

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Linda Mathias	Assisting Minister
Claudia van Driel	Reader
Signe Mitchell	Organist
Jim Cunningham	AV Assisting Minister
Joan Giese	PowerPoint Assisting Minister
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild
Bob and Karen Domanski	Ushers
Jim and Jeanette Cunningham	Counters

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Susan Farrell, in memory of Gretchen Farrell and Mary and Harry Loucks.

*All are welcome to gather in the social hall for coffee hour following worship.
Thank you to our hosts, Judy and Bill Vilcheck.*

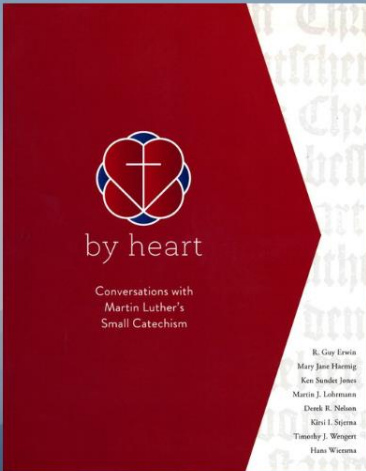
THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Mon., 9/5	Labor Day	<i>No Community Dinner</i>
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Tues., 9/6		<i>Church Office Closed</i>
Wed., 9/7	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thurs., 9/8	10:30 AM	Bible Study
	7:00 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Fri., 9/9		Pastor Kimberly's day off
	4:00 – 7:00 PM	Benefit Dinner for Patrick at Trinity
Sat., 9/10	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Spaghetti Dinner to benefit Patrick Frank, sexton at Trinity and First English, will be held at Trinity this Friday, September 9, from 4-7 p.m.

Next Sunday morning, there will be a Bible study meeting in Pastor Kimberly's office from 9:00 – 9:40 a.m.



Join Us for a
Wednesday Evening
Book Group on Zoom
beginning September
14th at 7:00 p.m.

We will read *By Heart:
Conversations with
Martin Luther's
Small Catechism.*

Books are available for purchase on Amazon
or you can contact the church office at
(724) 283-2378 to order your copy.

PRAYERS

Ray Sawyer & family; Ramona Schmidt; Sandy Lefebvre; continued healing for Graham Cannon; family of LTC. Jeffry E. Cunningham; Pat Mould & family; Stan Graff; family of Gretchen Farrell; Stephanie (Stevie) Andrew & husband; victims and community of Highland Park, Ill.; continued healing for Baby Mac; family of John Rudzki (Jack Rudzki's father); Aryl Bashline; Patrick Frank; family of Ed Shields; the families and community of Uvalde; Tom Walker; Holly Schubert; Jeff Cunningham; family of Mary Ellen Shanor; continued healing for John Negley; family of Don Hapeman (Jeanette Cunningham's stepfather); family of Jim Petsinger; Ellen Dodge; family of Jean Morrow; Jamie McPoyle & family; Andrea Dubler; Keith Morgan; Jan Nieto; family of Marlyn Dempsey; Michelle; family of Megan Gibson; Chrissy; Jennifer Hartle Fink; family of Rob Huey; the people of Ukraine & others affected by the conflict; Tracy Steadman & family; Cassidy; Roberta; Cindy Regis & family; Tad Sellers; Pam Patterson; Tom Olson; Judy; Claudia; Karen; Anita

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Judgment is spoken against Jerusalem

Psalm 14

The LORD looks down from heaven upon us all. (*Ps. 14:2*)

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Christ Jesus came for sinners

Luke 15:1-10

Looking for the lost sheep, silver coin: Jesus eating with sinners

ZOOM MEETING INFO

To join online, click 'Join Our ZOOM Meeting' in the email.

Meeting ID: 956 305 5281

Password: 408299

To join via telephone, dial: +1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 956 305 5281

Password: 408299

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