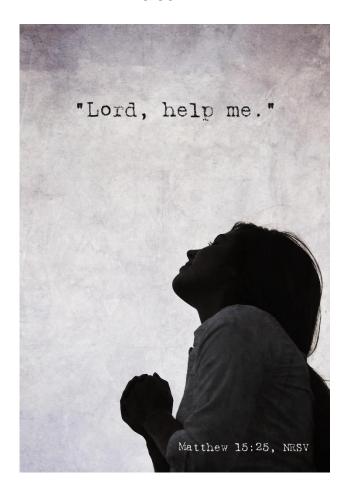
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 20, 2023 9:30 AM





"Christ- Students- Community Coming Together"

444 Abbot Road | East Lansing, MI 48823 | (517) 332-0778

www.martinlutherchapel.org

What parents would not cry out for help to someone who could save their sick or tormented children? Here, in the gospel reading, we see a mother who will not abandon her mission to find relief for her suffering daughter. She is persistent and unflinching in her request for Christ's healing.

In this Canaanite woman, the church finds an image of its mission. The world is filled with people who are tormented, sick, and oppressed. In the prayers, the church asks for God's healing in a world that is troubled and wounded. In the eucharistic meal, the church receives the strength to enter this world and bring comfort, healing, and justice to those in need.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

Stand

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C** Amen.

WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.

Kneel/ Remain Standing

P Most merciful God,

We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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 us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

GREETING OF PEACE

saying "Peace be with you/ And also with you", being mindful of those who do not wish to shake hands, you may give a head nod, bow or place your hand on your heart.

SERVICE OF THE WORD





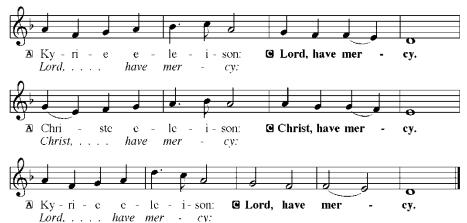
Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 Music: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 HOUSTON 10 7 10 8 and refrain

Text and music: @ 1970, 1975 Celebration

2 Cor. 4:4-6; Heb. 12:1-2; 1 John 1:5; Rev. 21:23

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C And also with you.

KYRIE (Cong. sings "c" parts)



HYMN OF PRAISE





PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P The Lord be with you. C And also with you.
- P Almighty and everlasting 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 Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Whereas the Israelite community, defined by early legal traditions, was expected to live the righteous and obedient life, the prophet makes a new announcement: now righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community. In other words, commitment to the Lord makes a person a member of God's people--not race, nationality, or any other category.

P Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come,

and my deliverance 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,

all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,

and hold 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 prayerfor all peoples.

Thus says the Lord GOD,

who gathers the outcasts of Israel,

I will gather others to them

besides those already gathered.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

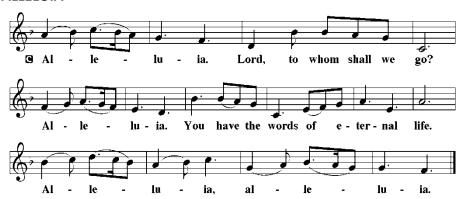
As a Jewish Christian, Paul is dismayed that other Jews have not believed in Jesus as their Messiah. In his letter to the Romans, he discusses whether these Jews remain the chosen people of God.

Paul writes: 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. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

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

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA



GOSPEL P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 15, starting at verse 10. Glory to You, O Lord.

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 pagan and unclean approaches him for help.

P Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the

heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 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." 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." 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." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven. And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come again 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.

MESSAGE



PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

Other prayers are inserted here. Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy," to which the congregation responds, "hear our prayer." The prayers conclude:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

OFFERING

You may contribute online using the QR code or by placing a gift in the offering plate at the door along with the interest sheet.



OFFERTORY SONG AND PRAYER

Stand



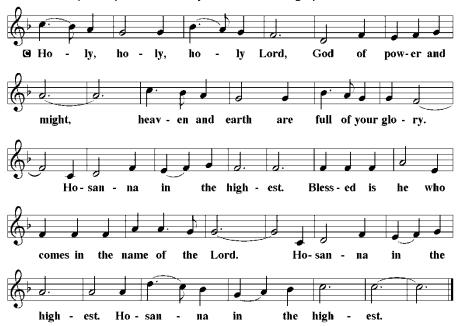
P Let us pray. Merciful Father,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PREFACE

- P The Lord be with you. 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 our thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right ...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

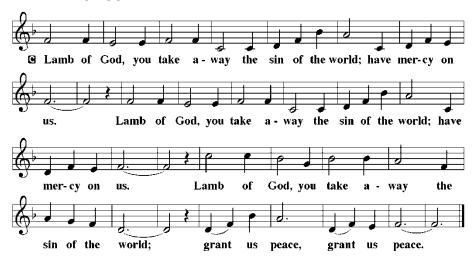
P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Recognizing that the church, and this congregation, are comprised of people from many cultures, languages, and backgrounds, please speak this prayer in the language or version closest to your heart.

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 LAMB OF GOD



Sit

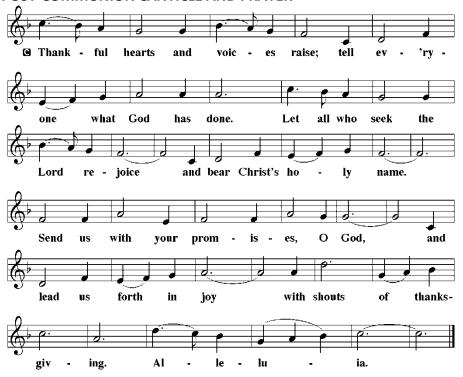
THE DISTRIBUTION Please approach the altar as space is available. You may receive communion from pre-packaged elements or the common loaf, along with an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Gluten-free options are available.





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

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE AND PRAYER



P Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith towards you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. C Amen.

BENEDICTION

- P Let us bless the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.
- The Lord bless you and keep you.

 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

 The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
- C Amen.
- P Go in peace; serve the Lord. C Thanks be to God!



POSTLUDE

Thank you for worshiping with us!

Our Confession about Communion

Our Confession

- 1. Holy Communion is a divinely instituted act in which Jesus Christ gives His true (real) body and blood under the forms of bread and wine. We thus hold that the bread and wine are not mere symbols of Jesus' body and blood. When we receive the bread and wine we receive in fact the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.
- 2. We believe that Communion is a celebration of this forgiveness which comes to us through faith as we eat and drink. In communion we remember our Lord's passion and death, His resurrection and ascension, and the promise of His coming again. Communion is truly the Gospel made visible, and is offered for those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness."
- 3. We believe that as we eat and drink this Supper we are strengthened in our faith in Jesus Christ and in our love for one another.

Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Table all who:

- a. have been instructed in the meaning of Communion; have been baptized in the name of the Triune God; have received Jesus Christ as their own personal and living Savior and Lord, and concur in our confession;
- b. are not living in open rebellion against the Word of God, and do not hold willful and persistent form of hatred, resentment or anger against any other person.

Those who have questions about communion are welcome to talk to one of the Pastors.

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