Tenth Sunday after Pentecost August 17, 2025 9:30 AM





"Christ- Students- Community Coming Together"

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

www.martinlutherchapel.org

The candles that grace our worship seem like gentle lights, but fire is a powerful and purging force. Fire is used to purify molten ore and burn away the dross. In this day's worship, God's word comes among us like raging fire, consuming what is false and leaving behind pure gold.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Stand

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

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.

.SERVICE OF THE WORD



Text and music: Public domain

1 Tim. 6:14-16; John 1:14; 14:25-26; Rev. 4:8

KYRIE

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.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



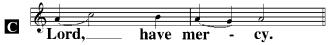
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



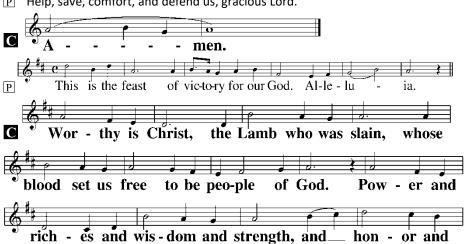
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.





Children are invited to the Fireside Lounge for the Children's Lesson.

Amen.

those who believe. Grant us the perfect faith which overcomes all doubts, through

your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. C

FIRST LESSON Jeremiah 23:23-29

Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God's judgment, he suffers rejection. Today's reading speaks of the mistaken notion that God sees only what is happening in the temple. Rather, Jeremiah points out, God's distance allows for a panoramic view of all the universe, including the lies and deceptions of false prophets.

R Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back--those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

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

SECOND LESSON Hebrews 11:29--12:2

The author of Hebrews presents us with a long list of biblical heroes whose exemplary faith enabled them to face the trials of life. In addition to this "cloud of witnesses," we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.

R By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

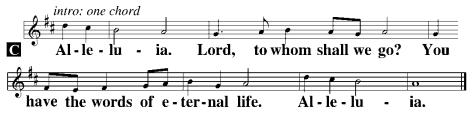
And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets--who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented--of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

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

Stand



GOSPEL P The Gospel is written in Luke chapter 12 beginning at verse 49. Glory to You. O Lord.

Today's gospel contains harsh words concerning the purifying and potentially divisive effects of God's call. People who follow the way of Christ often encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.

Desus said: "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law

and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. C 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.

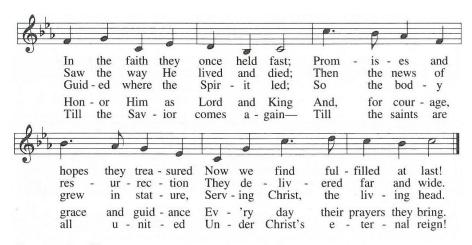
Sit

MESSAGE

Stand

HYMN "We Are Called To Stand Together" LSB 828





Hymn accompaniment: 491

Text: Martin E. Leckebusch, b. 1962 Tune: Henry V. Gerike, b. 1948

Text: © 2000 Kevin Mayhew Ltd. Tune: © 1973 Henry V. Gerike ASCENDED TRIUMPH 87 87 87

Hebrews 11; Luke 24:48; Matt. 28:19-20; 2 Tim. 4:1-5

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:

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

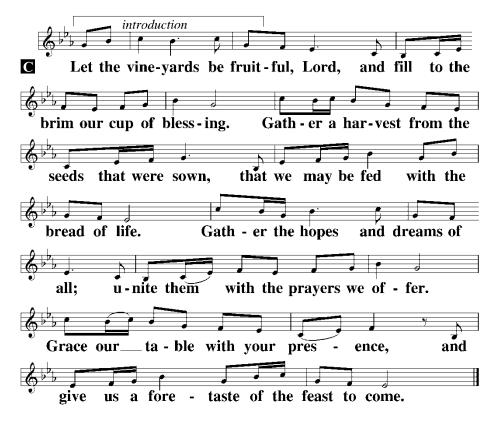
You may contribute online using the QR code or place a gift in the offering plate at the door along with the interest sheet.



OFFERTORY MUSIC

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand



P Let us pray. Gracious God,

you open your hand, filling our lives with all good things and renewing the face of the earth. We offer these gifts in thanksgiving for all that we have received from your bounty. Accept them for the sake of him who offered his life for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PREFACE

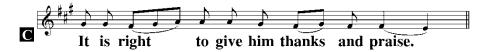
P The Lord be with you.



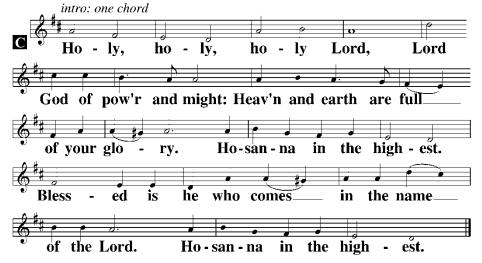
P Lift up your hearts.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



P It is indeed right and salutary that we should ... and so 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.

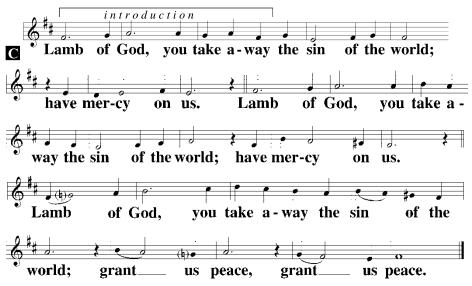
P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.

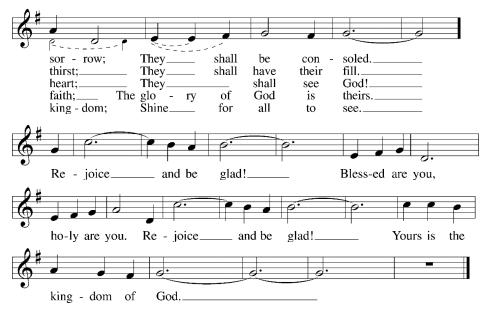
LAMB OF GOD



Sit

THE DISTRIBUTION You are invited to approach the altar to receive communion elements along with an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Gluten-free available.

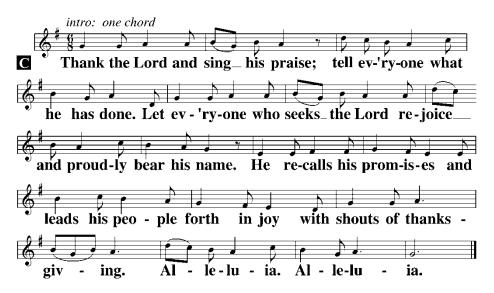




Text (sts. 1, ref, 2–5) and Tune: © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, number 100012401.Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

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

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT AND PRAYER



P Let us pray. Giver of all good gifts, we give you thanks for the great mystery of Christ's body and blood in which we have shared. Through this meal strengthen our faith, so that our lives may reflect your love and grace until we come to your heavenly city, to the banquet prepared for all your people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P 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.

CLOSING HYMN "Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng" LSB 813: v 1, 2, 3, 7





△ 7 Praise Him who reigns on high, The Lord whom we adore: The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, One God forevermore.

Refrain

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821-91, alt. Tune; Arthur H. Messiter, 1834-1916; setting; Service Book and Hymnal, 1958 MARION S M and refrain

POSTLUDE

Our Confession about Communion

- 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. has 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. is 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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