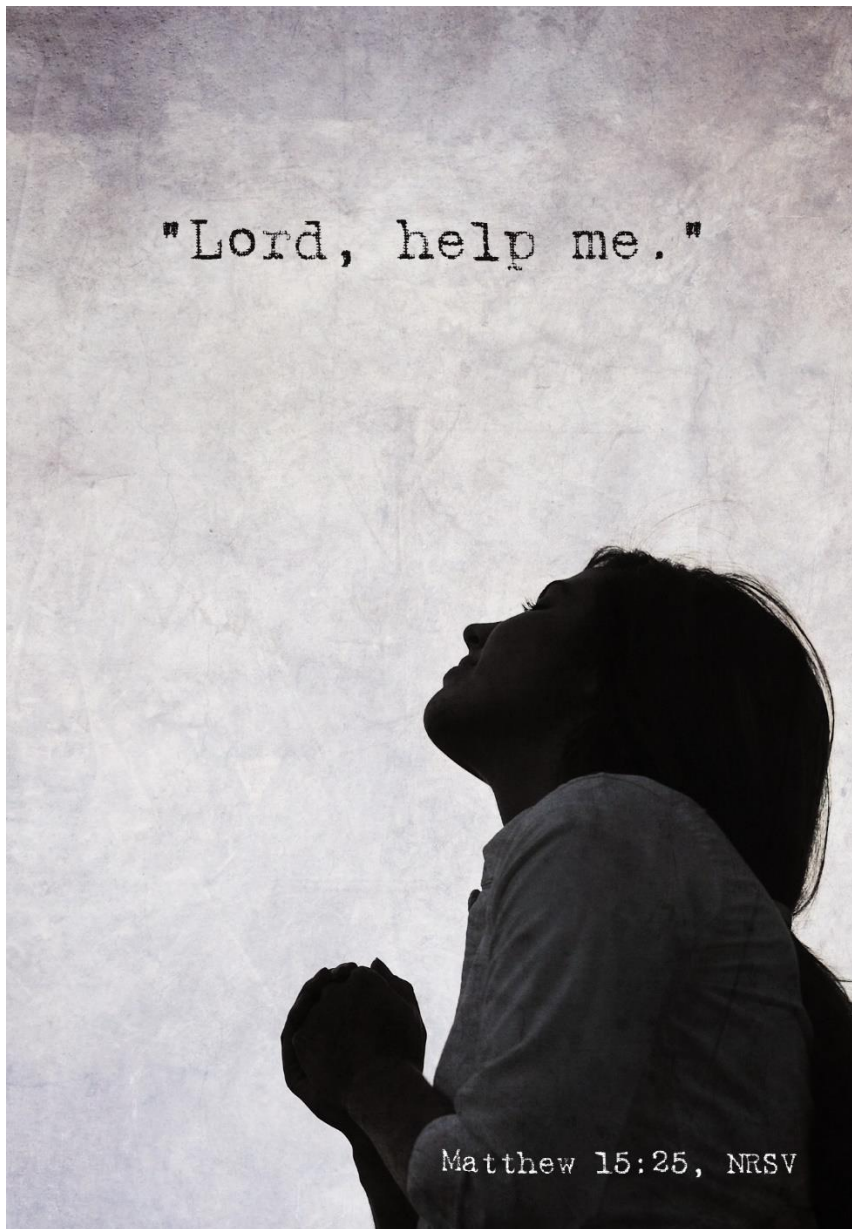


**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 16, 2026**  
**9:30 a.m.**

"Lord, help me."

Matthew 15:25, NRSV





*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,

**C 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 *Share a greeting of peace with those around you.*

### SERVICE OF THE WORD

#### HYMN “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

LSB 901

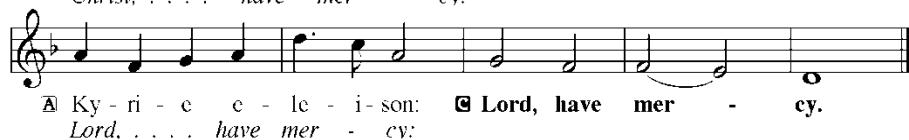
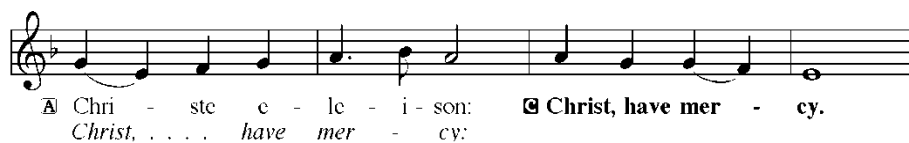
1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me  
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so  
3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is  
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy  
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be  
en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty  
un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,  
du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,  
gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;  
done in - deed. May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee  
Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed  
There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O  
Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone. So that all I  
May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing  
While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the  
is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!  
en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!  
hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.  
foun - tain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

Text and tune: Public domain

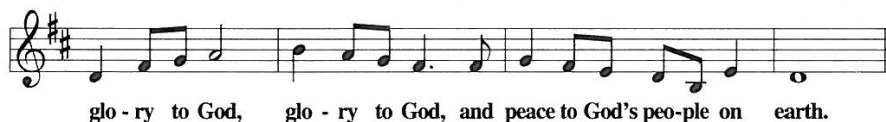
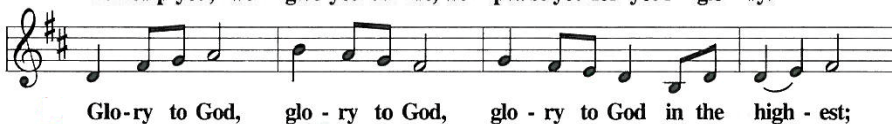
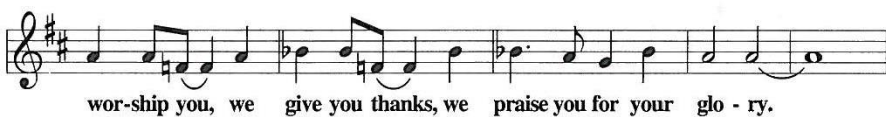
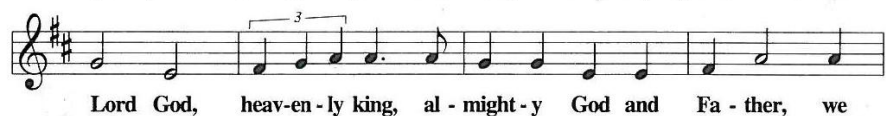
**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C** And also with you.

#### KYRIE (*Congregation sings “c” parts*)

**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy: Lord, have mer - cy.



## HYMN OF PRAISE



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the  
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.  
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;  
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.  
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.  
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;  
glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,  
and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. **P** Almighty and ever-living God, you have given great and precious promises to those who believe. Grant us the perfect faith which overcomes all doubts, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C** Amen.

*Children are invited to meet by the Cross for the Children's Lesson.*

## FIRST LESSON Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

NRSV

*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.*

**R** ' 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 prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord GOD , who gathers the outcasts of Israel: I will gather others to them besides those already gathered. '

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

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

NIV

*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.*

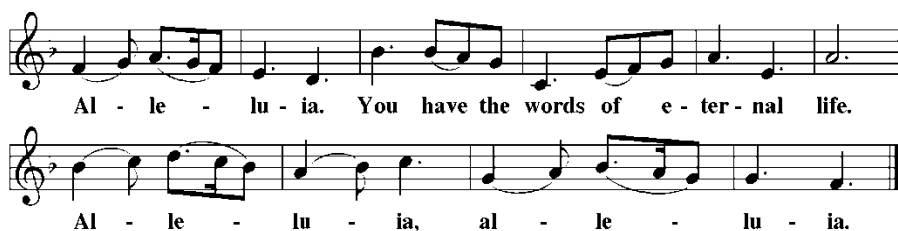
**R** 'I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew. Don't you know what Scripture says in the passage about Elijah—how he appealed to God against Israel: for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable. Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. For God has bound everyone over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all. '

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

Stand

## ALLELUIA





**HOLY GOSPEL** **P** The Holy Gospel of Matthew, chapter 15, beginning at verse 10.

**C** **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** 'And he called the people to him and said to them, "Hear and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but what comes out of the mouth; this defiles a person." Then the disciples came and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be rooted up. Let them alone; they are blind guides. And if the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain the parable to us." And he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth passes into the stomach and is expelled? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this defiles a person. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person. But to eat with unwashed hands does not defile anyone." And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 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 masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you desire." And her daughter was healed instantly.'

ESV

**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 Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **MESSAGE**

Stand

## HYMN "In Christ There is No East or West"

LSB 653



1 In Christ there is no east or west,  
2 With God there is no tribe or race;  
3 So, broth - ers, sis - ters, praise His name  
4 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith,  
5 In Christ now meet both east and west;



In Him no south or north, But one great fel - low -  
In Him we all are one. He loves us as His  
Who died to set us free From sin, di - vi - sion,  
What - e'er your race may be; Who serves my Fa - ther  
In Him meet south and north. All Chris - tian souls are



ship of love Through - out the whole wide earth.  
chil - dren through Our faith in His dear Son.  
hate, and shame, From spite and en - mi - ty!  
as His child Is sure - ly kin to me.  
one in Him Through - out the whole wide earth.

Text (st. 2): © 1993 Mark A. Jeske; (st. 3): © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002511  
Text (sts. 1, 4–5) and tune: Public domain

## 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:*

**P** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C Amen.**

Sit

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

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



Give Now

## OFFERTORY SONG AND PRAYER

*Stand*



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,  
Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

**P** Let us pray. Merciful Father,

**C** 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. **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.

**C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**P** It is indeed right ...

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

- P** 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  $\text{✙}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P** 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  $\text{✙}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in 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.*

**C** 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

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, grant us peace.

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.*

HYMN “God Loved The World so He Gave” LSB 571

1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly  
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made  
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with  
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all  
Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in  
sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the  
sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by  
Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

Continued on next page

5 If you are sick, if death is near,  
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;  
That is the firmest ground of faith.

Text and tune: Public domain

6 Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To You, O blessed Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally!

*Stand*

**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** 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

### "Jesus Shall Reign"

LSB 832



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun Does its suc -  
 2 To Him shall end - less prayer be made, And end - less  
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue Dwell on His  
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er He reigns: The pris - 'ners  
 5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring Hon - ors pe -



ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from  
 prais - es crown His head; His name like sweet per -  
 love with sweet - est song; And in - fant voic - es  
 leap, un - loose their chains, The wea - ry find e -  
 cu - liar to our King; An - gels de - scend with



shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.  
 fume shall rise With ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
 shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on His name.  
 ter - nal rest, And all who suf - fer want are blest.  
 songs a - gain, And earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text and tune: Public domain

## POSTLUDE

**\*A note about the lessons**

The Second (Epistle) Lesson for the summer will be taken from Paul's letter to the Romans. Each Sunday we will be reading another selection of the letter, ending with chapter 14 on September 13.

The New Revised Standard Version is our usual translation for Scripture reading in worship. In the weeks ahead, however, we will use other versions and translations to highlight selected passages. No English Bible version is 'perfect' - though they all strive to be faithful to the original. Using a variety of translations will help us get a different perspective on what the original Greek text is trying to convey.

## ***Thank you for worshiping with us!***

---

### 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.

---

© 1998, and © 1995, by Augsburg Fortress Reprinted with permission under CCLI #1534397; One License A-703166.



***"Christ- Students- Community Coming Together"***

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

[www.martinlutherchapel.org](http://www.martinlutherchapel.org)