August 2, 2026 ☩

10th Sunday after Pentecost

We welcome you to First Lutheran Church!

"God's Work. Our Hands. To serve ALL people."

An asterisk * invites you to stand in body or in spirit, and you are invited to read aloud responses found in **bold.**

P: Indicates the Presider. AM: Indicates the Assisting Minister.

We Gather

Prelude –

Words of Welcome

***Gathering Hymn** - no. 843 "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**
Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God, **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**
Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

***Apostolic Greeting**

P: 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.**

***Kyrie** *– see next page*

Kyrie eleison

*__Hymn of Praise__ – no. 857 "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

*__Prayer of the Day -__

P: Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

Temple Talk - *Serve Boldly Milwaukee Participants*

We Listen to God's Word

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-5

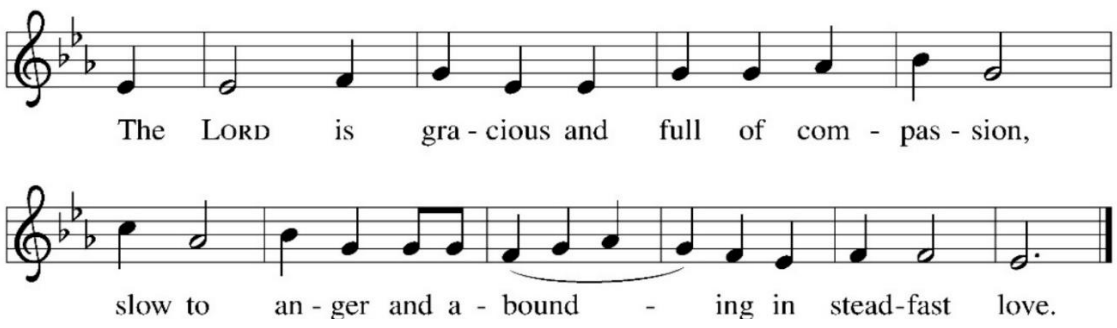
1 Hear, everyone who thirsts;
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.
2 Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
3 Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.
4 See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.
5 Now you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you."

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Assembly sings refrain (vs 8), Verses sung by cantor, Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

Psalm 145 (Refrain 3)

Mark Mummert

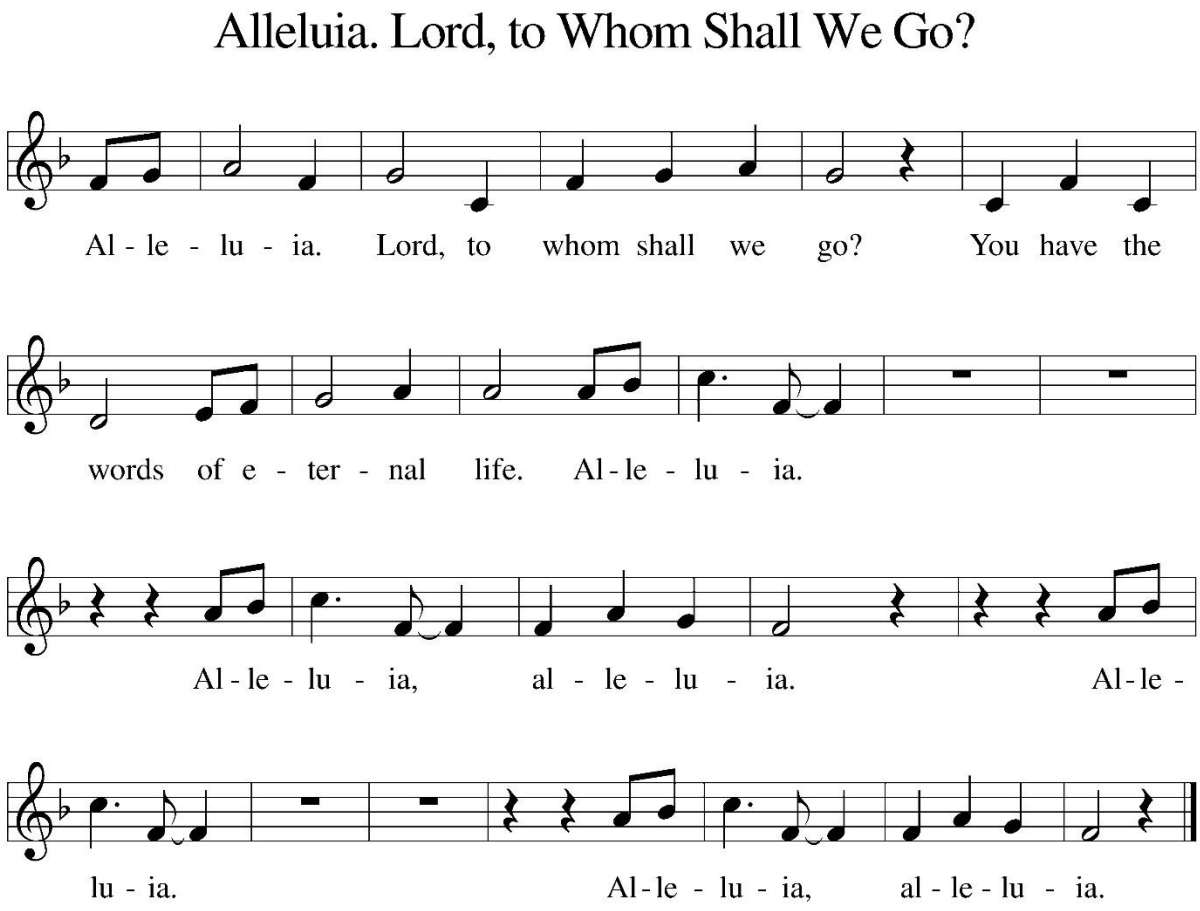


Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5

[1] I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy
Spirit—[2] I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. [3] For I could wish that I myself
were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh
and blood. [4] They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the
giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; [5] to them belong the patriarchs, and from
them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation –**



*Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

The Gospel of Matthew, the 14th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

13 Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a
boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot
from the towns. 14 When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them
and cured their sick. 15 When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a
deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the
villages and buy food for themselves." 16 Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give
them something to eat." 17 They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two
fish." 18 And he said, "Bring them here to me." 19 Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the
grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the
loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. 20 And all ate
and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets
full. 21 And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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

Sermon - Pastor Chris Culuris

Hymn –no. 658 "O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts"

*The Apostles' Creed –

Together let us profess our faith:

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**
AM: With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. *After each petition:* Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**
AM: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Sign of Peace** P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**
Please offer one another some sign of Christ's peace.

Offering -For electronic giving please scan the QR on acknowledgement page and ***Thank you!***

Offering Music -

***Offering Prayer**

AM: Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

We Share God's Holy Meal

***Great Thanksgiving and Preface** (spoken)

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

***Holy, Holy, Holy** – (next page)

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

***Words of Institution** – page 108-109, *ELW Setting One*

*The Lord's Prayer –

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

***Invitation to the Table** –

P: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

Distribution of Communion – *Communion will be served at the rail today*.

Hymn – no. 484 "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"
Hymn – no. 479 "We Come to the Hungry Feast"

Prayer After Communion

P: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

We Go in Peace

Announcements

***Sending Hymn** – no. 535 "Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises"

***Blessing & Dismissal**

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **Amen.**
AM: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

***Postlude**

In Worship Today

Pastor: Chris Culuris
Organist: Deacon Brenda Handel-Johnson
Assisting Minister: Rebekah Roemhidt
Ushers: John Nadeau
Communion Preparers: Krisy Larson
Communion Servers: Cindy Nadeau
Tech: Brett Petersen
Bread Baker: Betsy Bolint

Prayers: We pray for those on our long-term list: Betty Gustafson, Paul Aasen, Karen Handel, Erika Schuldt, Ruth Edberg, Bob Lamb, Dorothy and Paul Lutz, Steve Erickson, Barbra Grabowski (Ted Kunze's sister), Garrett Paul, Mary Ann Scharf, Kay Moline, Kevin Nicholson (Betty Thompson's nephew), Leah Crosby and baby (niece of Aileen Bipes), Hazel Adelman (niece of Mary Gaebler), Lisa Handel-Dalvand, family of Barb Moss (friend of Deacon Brenda).

Acknowledgments

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FLC Refrigerator Page

Worship, Education and Service:

- **Fellowship** will be provided and served by Carla Demers and Carol Solberg.
- **FLC Director of Choirs and Handbells position is open.** If you are interested in applying for this position to lead Youth and Adult Choirs, or Handbells, please contact Kaari Bly, Pastor Chris, or Deacon Brenda.
- **Rental Assistance:** The need for emergency funds continues as many of our immigrant neighbors who have been recently released were told NOT to return to work. All money collected will be dispersed through the Good Neighbor Diversity Council's Emergency Fund.
- **Personal care donation for SPAF:** FLC is collecting toothbrushes during August. Place any donations in the grocery cart in the Gathering space. Thank you!

Events at FLC and around the area:

- **Vacation Bible School** will be held at FLC starting tonight and running from August 2 – 6, from 5:30 – 8 pm, for youth Age 4 – Grade 6. Staffers from Camp Shetek will lead the week themed "Wear Love." FLC youth and adult helpers are needed. Service Hours will be given to any NHS or Confirmation students who assist. To register go to: flcstp.org
- **Are you available to serve as a teacher for our Education Hour this coming school year?** Deacon Brenda is building teams of teachers for our student classes which meet on Wednesday nights. Contact her if you can assist in team teaching this fall.
- **Next Hymn Sing Sunday:** August 30. Place titles of your favorite hymns in the basket on the sign-up table.
- **Pastor Chris will be away from August 3 – 16.** One week of vacation and one week of continuing education. If you have an emergency, please call the church office: 507-934-3060.
- **Deacon Brenda will be away on vacation from August 7 – 11.**