

August 21, 2022 + Time After Pentecost

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

Welcome to First Lutheran Church!

Gathering in God's Presence



Prelude — “Bring Them to the Lord”

Jeffrey H. Callander
Jeremiah Band

Words of Welcome

*Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**
Let us confess our sin in the presence of
God and of one another.

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 — no. 513

“Listen, God Is Calling”

Refrain
Leader All

Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,

1 2

ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All

Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.

1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All Refrain

Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.
that he came to save us and set us free.
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

*Prayer of the Day

May God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

By your power, Great God, our Lord Jesus healed the sick and gave new hope to the hopeless. Today we pray for those who want to be healed. Mend their wounds and make broken people whole again. Help us to welcome every healing as a sign that, though death is against us, you are for us, and have promised us renewed and risen life through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hearing & Responding to Scripture

A Reading from the book of Isaiah — Isaiah 58:9b-14

9bIf you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
10if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
11The Lord will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.
12Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many
generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.

13If you refrain from trampling the sabbath,
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;
if you call the sabbath a delight
and the holy day of the Lord honorable;
if you honor it, not going your own ways,
serving your own interests, or pursuing your own
affairs;
14then you shall take delight in the Lord,
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the
earth;
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor
Jacob,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

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

Psalm 103:1-8 — Spoken responsively by verse

1Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.
2Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits —
3who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
4who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

5who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
6**The LORD works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**
7He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
8**The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Hebrews — Hebrews 12:18-29

18You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, 19and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. 20(For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.") 21Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") 22But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, 23and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

25See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! 26At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.” 27This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. 28Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; 29for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

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

***Gospel Acclamation — no. 512**

“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

***Gospel — Luke 13:10-17**

The Gospel of Luke, the 13th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

10Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. 11And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. 12When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” 13When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. 14But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.” 15But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? 16And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?” 17When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*Hymn —

“Amazing Grace - Alleluia!”
By Toni Congi, Led by Jeremiah Band

Alleluia, Allelu; Alleluia, Allelu

Alleluia, Allelu; Alleluia, Allelu

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind, but now I see

Jesus loves me this I know
For the Bible tells me so
Little ones to him belong
They are weak, but he is strong

*Affirmation of Faith — 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 power of 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.

You crown your church with steadfast love and mercy. Guide us continually in our baptismal covenant to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Use our diverse gifts in service to the whole people of God. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You satisfy the needs of all creatures. Protect the habitats of fish and birds, especially in our local and regional parks and in the Minnesota River. Repair ecosystems damaged by misuse, neglect, or natural disaster, that all creation may thrive. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You make your ways known to all people. Inspire the rulers and leaders of nations with your compassion and mercy. Raise up activists and community organizers to restore places affected by violence, poverty, and inequality. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You provide justice for all who are oppressed and relief to all who are afflicted. Heal those who are bent over by addiction, depression, and anxiety. Set free all who cry out under the weight of mental, emotional, or physical distress. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You call us to delight in the sabbath. Renew our bodies, minds, and spirits in this worshiping assembly. Give rest to all who lead our congregation in worship, study, and service. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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

***Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Please use a sign of peace such as a bow, an elbow tap, a wave, a verbal greeting, and/or a peace sign!

Offering

Music at the Offering

“Jesus Shines Brighter”

Setting by Steve Kidder
Jeremiah Band

Sharing the Meal

***Great Thanksgiving & Preface** — from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Setting Six

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.**

***Words of Institution and Prayers**

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.

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.

In the name of the resurrected Christ, we pray together: **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 Communion**

This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ.

It is made ready for those who love God

and who want to love God more.

So come, you who have much faith, and you who have little.

You who have been here often

and you who have not been for a long time or ever before.

You who have tried to follow and all of us who have failed.

These are the gifts of God for the People of God.

Come, not because the Church invites you;

It is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here.

The table is ready. Come.

Distribution of Communion

Communion Blessing and Prayer

Life-giving God,
through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy.
Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger,
that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

Departing to Serve God's World

Announcements

*Sending Hymn — no. 521

“O Day of Rest and Gladness”



1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth;
3 To - day on wea - ry na - tions the heav'n-ly man-na falls;
4 New grac-es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,



O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright:
on you, for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth;
to ho - ly con - vo - ca - tions the sil - ver trum-pet calls,
we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.



on you the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,
on you, our Lord vic - to - rious the Spir - it sent from heav'n;
where gos-pel light is glow - ing with pure and ra - diant beams
We sing to you our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;



sing, “Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,” to the great God tri - une.
and thus on you, most glo - rious, a three-fold light was giv'n.
and liv - ing wa - ter flow - ing with soul - re - fresh-ing streams.
the church its voice up - rais - es to you, blest Three in One.

*Blessing & Dismissal

God almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you; God's holy angels accompany you. God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, cause grace to be mighty upon you. **Amen.**

Go in peace. Love your neighbor. **Thanks be to God.**

*Postlude — “Let's Go Out”

Song by Larry Olson
Jeremiah Band

Acknowledgements

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Worship Assistants

Pastor: Chris Culuris

Director of Music: Emily Bruflat

Audio/Video: Shanon Nowell

Musicians: Jeremiah Band - Steve Kidder, Robert Shoemaker,
Galen Bly, Tom Baumgartner

Reader: Cheryl Kautt

Ushers: Pat Pehrson, Paul Aasen

Announcements

- Hymn Festival Next Sunday: Join in a worship of music, scripture, reflection, and prayer on August 28: *The Song Goes On*. Many FLC musicians and friends will be participating in this special service: the Handbell Choir, Sanctuary Choir, Brass Ensemble, and more! Please invite your family and friends!
- Volunteers are needed for the Day of Hope at Minnesota Square Park on August 27. Please contact Betsy Paul if you can fill any of the following time slots to sit at the FLC table:
 - 12:45-2:45
 - 2:30-4:30
 - 4:15-6:15
 - 6:00 -8:00 pm (The more the merrier! Multiple volunteers are welcome!)

Prayers

- We lift up prayers for those on our long-term list: Tom and Deb Johnson, Elgene Lund, Chuck Petry, Bob Cady, Joan Williams, Myrene Bunge, Glenn Stryker, Erika Schuldt, Nancy Maag, Claire Cardwell, Ursula McRostie, Nancy Timm, and Betty Gustafson.
- We pray for the family of long-time member Maralyn Flinner, who died last Sunday.
- We pray for Kathryn Christenson whose daughter Abigail died on Monday.
- We pray for Ben Johnson and Hannah Kleschult who will be married at FLC on Saturday, Aug. 27th.
- We pray for peace in our hearts, in our homes, across America and around the world; the families of those affected by recent floods, fires, and other disasters; and for healing and wholeness in the lives of all who are ill.