



THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 30, 2026 | 8:00 AND 10:30 AM

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH; CONCORDIA, MO

ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

These summer months take us through the heart of the Gospel according to St. Matthew (selections from chapters 11–16), and in these texts we learn more about the heart of the Good News of Jesus Christ. Our compassionate Savior invites us to “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28 ESV). What is the kind of life and rest Jesus invites us to experience with Him as He reigns as our Savior King? *This is Part 7 of a year-long series, “A Year in Matthew.”*

P Pastor

L Leader

C Congregation/All

✙ All may make the sign of the cross to remember their baptism.



Led by the Holy Spirit, we gather for worship. Today's service follows the Order of Matins. Matins, which means “of the morning,” is the name given to the service of prayer that has been used by the Christian Church at the start of a new day. “As the Christian congregation prays Matins, it receives the new day as a gift from God's hand with praise, thanksgiving, and intercession.”

PRELUDE & WELCOME

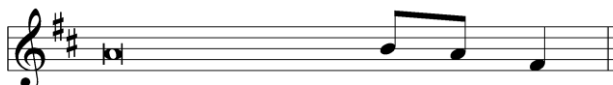
OPENING HYMN 861 “*Christ Be My Leader*”

BAPTISM OF GRACIE JO HEIMSOTH (10:30 am)

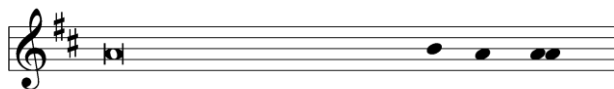
OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 51:15; 70:1*



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise. ►



L Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

VENITE | O Come, Let Us Sing *Psalm 95:1–7*

Tune: DIADEMATA ("Crown Him with Many Crowns")

C (sung) Come let us praise the LORD, with joyful noises sing;
Unto the Rock Who saves us now we come our thanks to bring.
Great is the LORD, our God: Above all gods He's King.
His hands reach to the depths of earth, His love and care to bring.

The mighty hills are His; He made and owns the sea.
He formed the dry land with His hands—to Him our praises be.
We kneel before the LORD, we worship and adore;
He is our Maker and our God, we praise Him evermore.

We are the LORD's own sheep. He holds us in His hand;
He leads us into pastures green and feeds us from the land.
All praise eternal Son, for Thy redeeming love,
With Father, Spirit, ever One, in glorious might above.

VERSE OF THE MONTH *Colossians 2:6–7*

C As you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.



We hear God's Word read and proclaimed,
and we respond with our prayers and praise, tithes and offerings.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Jeremiah 15:15–21*

The prophet Jeremiah questions himself, his mission, and God's faithful provision. In response, God commands him to repent, then encourages him and renews his call.

¹⁵O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and take vengeance for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance take me not away; know that for your sake I bear reproach. ¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. ¹⁷I did not sit in the company of revelers, nor did I rejoice; I sat alone, because your hand was upon me, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will you be to me like a

deceitful brook, like waters that fail?

¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: "If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall be as my mouth. They shall turn to you, but you shall not turn to them."

²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, declares the LORD. ²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless."

[P] O Lord, have mercy upon us.

[C] Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Romans 12:9–21*

Saint Paul explains Christian love and how it responds to attack and criticism.

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate

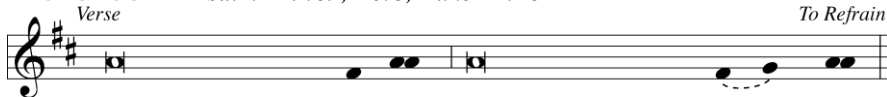
with the lowly. Never be conceited.

¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

[P] O Lord, have mercy upon us.

[C] Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY *Psalm 119:89; 26:8; Luke 11:28*

- L** 1 Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
 2 Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep— it.
 3 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it.



- C** Lord, I love
 the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 16:21–28*

Jesus foretells His death and resurrection and calls His followers to deny themselves, take up their cross and follow Him

²¹From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.”

²³But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny

himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole

world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

P O Lord, have mercy upon us.

C Thanks be to God.

SERMON HYMN 718 *“Jesus, Lead Thou On”***SERMON** *The Heart of the Gospel: “Follow Me”*

HYMN OF PRAISE 941 “*We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God*”
Hymn 941 is a version of the Te Deum (Latin for “[We praise] You, O God”), a song of praise dating from the ninth century.

GATHERING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

All may sign the friendship register found in each pew.

SECOND GRADE BIBLE MILESTONE

KYRIE | Lord, Have Mercy *Mark 10:47*



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

After each petition:

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

- 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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen.

COLLECT FOR GRACE

- P** O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C Amen.



Even as this time of worship ends, we go out of the church into the worship of our everyday lives, ready to be God's witnesses and do His will.

BENEDICTION 2 Corinthians 13:14



L Let us bless the Lord.



G Thanks be to God.



P The grace of our Lord ☩ Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



G A - men.

CLOSING HYMN 685 "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

ANNOUNCEMENTS, SENDING & POSTLUDE

P Go in peace; serve the Lord.

G Thanks be to God!

This week's takeaway: In today's Gospel Jesus states, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." He is getting to where true life is found, ultimately, only in Him, through His suffering and death on the cross--that is the only way of life. But the world and our own sinful natures tell a different story that seeks to lure us away from the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Here Jesus warns us to beware those deadly lies and promises that His cross-shaped life for you is far better and lasting than anything this world has to give.

SERVING IN THIS SERVICE

Rev. Michael Pottschmidt, *Liturgist*

Rev. Andrew Lehenbauer, *Preacher*

Katie Drefs, *Organist*

Truman Eckhoff, Henry Mills, *Acolytes (8:00 am)*

Lane Brackman, Lillie Todd, *Acolytes (10:30 am)*

Deb Robinson, *Greeter (8:00 am)*

Roger & Carolyn Flandermeyer, *Greeters (10:30 am)*

John Beerman, Jeff Bingham, Chris Gerdts, Andy Jones, *Elders on Duty*

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please contact the church office to keep our prayer list up-to-date.

Our pastor "on call" number in case of emergency is (660) 580-5483.

New: Sharon Bobzin, Chet Fiene, Kevin Crawford, Mark Oetting, Gloria Driver, Debbie Woodall, Brenda Frerking, Mark Talias, Ruth Rodewald, Rebecca Camp, Sandy Alvey, Ann Wolters, Wilmer Ziegelbein, Arleen Fiene, Trisha Boland, Annette Kirchhoff, Konner McKnight, Sarah McDaniel, Royce Herndon, Hudson Kloos, Nicole Maxwell, Lisa Arnett, Joyce Kroll, Rev. Dr. Les Mitkos

Ongoing: Susan Reeves, Donald Dedeke, Richard Cordes, Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan, Diane Stumpenhous, Les Bruns, Wilmer Bredehoeft, Melba Poese, Paul Brackman, Baby Felix, Gene Virus, Harry Rehkop, Jon Spells, Roger Kammeyer, Ledrue Brandt, Alyssa Pfannkuch, Alice Hildebrand, Donnie Fiene, Rev. Perry Copus, Darla Wolters, Vickie Greene, Amy Gerdts, Tim Bergman, Amy Backus, David Rehmsmeyer, Lari Huntze, Kelly Meyer, Shirley Kimball

Death: Marlene Meyer

Nation and World: the people Uruguay; those affected by earthquakes, wildfires, and flooding

Partners in Mission: Jesus El Buen Pastor Lutheran Church; Kansas City, MO; LCMS Missouri District

Birthdays: (8/30) Betty Umbach; (8/31) Aiden Frerking, Blakely Frerking, Kelly Meyer, Sharon Oetting, Wesley Schemmer, Tucker Strobel, Peyton Woods; (9/1) Sharla Heimsoth, Braden Hemme, Kent Kunkel; (9/2) Julie Dieckhoff, Karen Duenning; (9/3) Cooper Hamilton, Kevin Hemme, Mark Petersen, Deborah Woodall; (9/4) Wyatt Jones, Clarissa Merritt, Erin Moore; (9/5) Angela Beerman, Mitchell Close, Kenneth Frerking, Addilyn Meineka, Jordan Murray

Anniversaries: (9/1) Cass & Kendra Hemme, Mike & Cindy Rodewald; (9/2) Dale & Julie Dieckhoff, Randy & Brenda Frerking; (9/3) Jeff & Gina Martens; (9/4) Logan & Lindsay Estes

FAMILY FOOTNOTES

Gina Martens, Family Life Director

I have read several books over the summer on various topics. One dealt with positive reinforcement and encouragement and about how to get people to ride along with you on that energy bus. Energizing! The other talked about the science of exercise and the brain and how physical exercise sparks our brain to function at peak performance. Amazing! The other book was about a man's experience on the Appalachian Trail. One of the quick facts that I learned is that a large tree can lift several hundred gallons of water from its roots to its leaves in one hot day. Incredible! What do all of these books have in common? Seemingly, not too much. And then the connections all came crashing together for me. Where is God in all of this? Right in the very middle of course! He created the complexities of everything from our brains to the tallest trees to function in ways that we simply take for granted. Yes, He created the universe. Yes, He is in the heavens. But do you know what? He is also with us right in the middle of where we are in our earthly lives today, this very instant. He is in our day to day. Believe it! He has all power, no doubt. He is the Creator, but He also feels our sorrow, grief, and pain because He suffered God's abandonment on the cross...for us. Don't think for one minute that our Lord, the ruler of the universe, is removed from our sufferings. He hears our pleas for mercy and He is there in the thick of it. He knows. He's been there. He is in all things.

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP

Ezekiel 33:7-9; Romans 13:1-10; Matthew 18:1-20

Hymns (*Lutheran Service Book*): 864, 843, 605 (*My First Hymnal* 116), 609, 616, 686



"Making a Christ-centered difference in our community and world today and for eternity."

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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