



“...You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

~Luke 12:56

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
10th Sunday after Pentecost – August 17, 2025

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Rev. Katie McNeal, Presiding Minister

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*We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning!
Know that you are welcome here just as you are.*

If you are looking for a church to call home, why not consider making this one your own? If this is your first time worshipping at St. John, please fill out the visitor information card stapled to your bulletin.

*Everything you need to follow worship can be found in this bulletin. As you are comfortable, please rise when there is an * and join in the congregational responses, noted in **bold**. All songs are marked with numbers. The red book in the pew has all the songs. Look for the large number in the upper corner of the page to find the correct song.*

*During the time of **Peace**, you are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcomed to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.*

*At the time of **Offering**, you are invited to share a gift. Envelopes are available in the pews if you prefer. Online gifts may be made using the QR code below:*



*You may also offer updates to our ongoing prayer list using the yellow cards in the pews and placing them in the offering plates. **Visitor information cards** and member attendance cards (attached to the front of the bulletin) may also be placed in the offering plates.*

*As Lutherans, we believe Christ is truly present in the elements of the Lord's Supper. At the time of **Holy Communion**, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward via the center aisle, receive the elements, and return via the side aisles. We begin at the front of the right side, commune all on the right side, then we will invite the left side forward. When you come forward, you may receive the bread from the pastor (gluten free wafers are available), then pre-filled cups with wine or grape juice from the assisting minister. You may consume the elements after receiving them then place the empty cup in the tray held by the acolyte. Those who do not receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

*If you need a **restroom**, restrooms are located on the bottom floor at the far side of the building from the elevator. Restrooms may be accessed either via the stairs in the rear of the sanctuary, the stairs by the Greeting Area, or the elevator.*

*A **playroom** is available downstairs for children who need a break from the worship service.*

This room is by the elevator on the lower level. An adult must remain with the child.

Children are also welcome to utilize the books and puzzles available in the Greeting Area on the top level by the elevator.

You are invited to fill out the blue prayer request forms located in each pew as desired. The cards will be collected during our hymn of the day, and prayers will be offered during the prayers of intercession.

PRELUDE and ANNOUNCEMENTS

As we prepare our hearts and minds for worship, you are invited to offer a prayer for God to lead, guide, nourish, and use you in worship this morning. You can use these or other words:

“Lord, I come to honor you in worship today. I ask that all the things of this week that can crowd you out of my heart be set aside by the power of your Holy Spirit. Open my heart and mind to meet you and receive you today. Amen.”

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

*GATHERING HYMN *Faith of Our Fathers* (ELW 813)

1 Faith of our fa - thers, liv - ing still in spite of dun - geon,
 2 Faith of our moth - ers, dar - ing faith, your work for Christ is
 3 Faith of our sis - ters, broth - ers too, who still must bear op -
 4 Faith born of God, oh, call us yet, bind us with all who

fire, and sword. Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy
 love re - vealed, spread - ing God's word from pole to pole,
 press - ion's might, rais - ing on high, in pris - ons dark,
 fol - low you, shar - ing the strug - gle of your cross

Refrain

when - e'er we hear that glo - rious word. Faith of our fa - thers,
 mak - ing love known and free - dom real. Faith of our moth - ers,
 the cross of Christ still burn - ing bright. Faith for to - day, O
 un - til the world is made a - new. Faith born of God, O

ho - ly faith, we will be true to you till death.
 ho - ly faith, we will be true to you till death.
 liv - ing faith, we will be true to you till death.
 liv - ing faith, we will be true to you till death.

***GREETING**

Our faith is rich in mystery. Mystery that invites us to wonder with awe, and mystery that challenges us and fills our hearts with questions. We ponder what we do not know, opening ourselves to uncertainty, holding space for discernment. We struggle with spaces where faith is hard, where faith feels insufficient. Our questions can feel destabilizing, challenging, and uncomfortable. Yet we are emboldened by God's invitation to enter into conversation, to bring our questions, our struggles, and our uncertainties to God's abundant grace and mercy. So before we enter this searching time, let me tell you something that is unquestionably true:

God loves you. God embraces you.

And God uses everything – even the uncertain – to create love and connection.

May 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.**

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Please join me as we confess our sins together.

But first, consider: Where have you gone wrong this week?

How have you harmed your relationship with God, with your neighbor, and with yourself?

(a brief silence for reflection)

Let us pray: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Merciful God,

you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.

You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,

but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.

You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,

but we grow weary in doing what is right.

**In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life. Amen.**

Know this: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's child through faith.

In the cross of ✠ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, our sins are forgiven.

You can doubt this love. But you can never change the truth of it.

God knows all and forgives all.

The only question that remains is whether we can accept love so freely given.

We accept God's forgiveness, and we take our place in God's purpose. Amen!

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE *Glory to God*



¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



¡Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria en las al - tu - ras a Dios!
Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



Y en la tie - rra paz pa-ra_a-que-llos que_a-ma_el Se - ñor.
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.



Y en la tie - rra paz pa-ra_a-que-llos que_a-ma_el Se - ñor.
And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:23-29

A reading from Jeremiah.

²³ Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? ²⁴ 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. ²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" ²⁶ How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷ 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. ²⁸ 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. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 82

The psalm is chanted. The refrain is sung once through by all who wish. Then the tone by which the verses are chanted is first played by the music director, who will sing the lightly printed verses. The congregation will chant the verses printed in bold following the same chanted tone as the music director. The vertical line indicates the change in tone. The refrain is sung again by all as indicated with “R”.



- ¹ God stands to charge the divine coun- | cil assembled,
giving judgment in the midst | of the gods:
- ² **“How long will you | judge unjustly,**
and show favor | to the wicked?
- ³ Save the weak | and the orphan;
defend the hum- | ble and needy;
- ⁴ **rescue the weak | and the poor;**
deliver them from the power | of the wicked. R
- ⁵ They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander a- | bout in darkness;
all the foundations of the | earth are shaken.
- ⁶ **Now I say to you, | ‘You are gods,**
and all of you children of | the Most High;
- ⁷ nevertheless, you shall | die like mortals,
and fall like | any prince.’ ”
- ⁸ **Arise, O God, and | rule the earth,**
for you shall take all nations | for your own. R

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:29—12:2

A reading from Hebrews.

²⁹ 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. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³² 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, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ 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 ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

^{12:1} 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, ² looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

¡A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya,
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

a - le - lu - ya! ¡A - le - lu - ya!
al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*GOSPEL READING: Luke 12:49-56

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ⁴⁹ “I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze!

⁵⁰ I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is

completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but

rather division! ⁵² From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two

against three; ⁵³ 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.”

⁵⁴ 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. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. ⁵⁶ 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?”

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

CHILDREN’S SERMON

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

(and other tools of professions in the learning environment)

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY *Word of God, Come Down on Earth* (ELW 510)**

(Blue prayer cards are collected)



- 1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to
3 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, one with God be -



heav'n de-scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove



faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

For some, the Apostles' Creed is like liturgical muscle memory: You can say it without thinking about it. Today we ask you to affirm your faith by answering questions so you might truly consider what you believe. If you feel unable to affirm your faith today, listen to those around you. Borrow some faith from them as we share these ancient words.

Do you believe there is a God who made us?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe this God sent a person named Jesus, God's son, to save this world?

**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.**

Do you believe the Holy Spirit calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies us, animating our faith and empowering the church?

**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**

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

Raise up faithful leaders for your church around the world. Inspire global missionaries with a spirit of accompaniment, as they walk alongside our partners in the gospel in solidarity, interdependence, and mutuality. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Safeguard rivers and lakes from pollution. Sustain the work of conservationists, policy makers, and advocacy groups seeking to protect freshwater sources. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bridge divisions across partisan lines. Strengthen cooperative efforts among lawmakers who enact policies that protect our neighbors who are most vulnerable. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Embrace all who suffer in isolation: for those who are incarcerated or detained, those who are fleeing from unsafe environments, and those who are sick or homebound especially Bob, Geneva, Cherry, Winnie, Henry, Harry, Sally, Katie, Debi, Anne, Karen, Nan, Beverly, those on our prayer list, all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts and all who suffer in any way. Reassure them of your care in all times and places. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Guide the leaders of this congregation. In these late summer weeks, inspire their planning for a new program year ahead. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration and support for their work. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses who surround us. By the example of their faith, enable us to run with perseverance the race set before us, until that day when we join their unending praise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy three, holy one, you hear our prayers, spoken and unspoken. We do not come to honor you alone. Thank you for those with whom we worship today – both here and in eternity. We especially remember before you now those whose joys and concerns we carry with us in our worship (*blue prayer cards are read*). Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

You are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace as we prepare to receive God's grace in communion. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcome to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.).

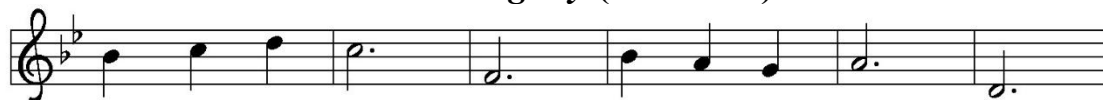
MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

COLLECTION OF THE OFFERING

You are invited to support the ministries of this congregation through gifts and prayers at this time. Ongoing prayer requests, connection cards, communion records, and financial gifts are collected in the plates as we remember that we offer all of ourselves to God.

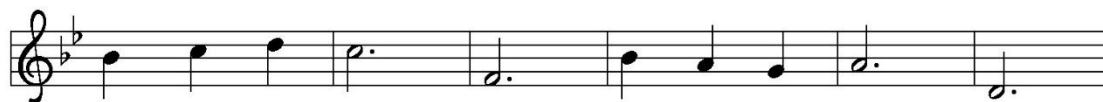
OFFERTORY HYMN *Touch the Earth Lightly* (ELW 739) *Rise on verse 4*



1 Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,
2 We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,
3 Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,
4 God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,



nour-ish the life of the world in our care:
a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,
wa - ter that bless - es, and air that is sweet,
God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,



gift of great won - der, ours to sur - rend - er,
we who would fos - ter clouds of dis - as - ter—
health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,
teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,



trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.
God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!
re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.
us - ing us gent - ly, and mak - ing us one.

*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of life, we may never know what you will do with these gifts. But we carry a faith passed to us through generations. We set the table with food and drink harvested by many hands. We break the bread of answered prayers. Use the gifts we give today to grow tomorrow's mercy. **Amen.**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



San - to, san - to, san - to es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . God,

Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . God,

Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

Ho - san - na en el cie - lo, ho - san - na en la
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on

tie - rra. Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en el
earth. Blest is he who comes in the

nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho - san - na en el
name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

cie - lo, ho - san - na en la tie - rra. Ben -
high - est, ho - san - na here on earth.

di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor.
Blest is he who comes in the name . . . of the Lord.

Gracious God, out of your unflinching *yes* for our salvation, you sent to us Jesus.
People had their doubts, but Jesus' faith compelled them to ask,
"Is this really the one who will save us from our sins?"

Christ's abundant forgiveness to sinners, humiliating death at the hands of the state,
and glorious resurrection from the depths of the tomb
all told us and showed us the answer: yes! In Christ we can know forgiveness and salvation!

The night before Jesus died, the people who knew Jesus best were hungry for answers.
When Jesus gathered them for one last meal, uncertainty swirled in their hearts.

So to explain God's love, to show it and share it,
in the night in which our Lord Jesus was betrayed,
he 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.

When we eat this bread and drink this cup
we never have to question your love for us, Great God.

Now send the Spirit into this meal and into our hearts.
Blend this food and drink with holiness.

**Fuse our searching souls with your perfect love,
and we will become people who delight in what you have done
and joyfully wonder what you shall make of us today.**

To you, Holy God, Holy One, Holy Three be all praise today, tomorrow, and forever. **Amen!**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray:

**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**

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of grace; receive the gift of new life. You are invited. Bring your unanswered questions with you, because the Spirit unquestionably beckons you to taste the truth of God's love. God's love is for you!

Thanks be to God!

Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life, and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. In response to Jesus' invitation, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine. Those who do not receive the bread and wine are invited to come forward for a blessing.

Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available upon request. Communion may also be brought back to the pews for those who are unable to come forward.

COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God*



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, have . . mer-cy up - on us, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros. have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

ten pie-dad de no - so-tros, have . . mer-cy up - on us, ten pie-dad de no - so-tros. have . . mer-cy up - on us.

Cor-de - ro de Dios, tú que qui-tas el pe-ca-do del mun-do;
O Lamb of . . God, you . . take a-way the sin of the world; . .

da - nos tu paz, grant us your peace, da - nos tu paz. grant us your peace.

COMMUNION HYMN *Give Thanks for Saints* (ELW 428)



1 Give thanks for those whose faith is firm when all a -
 2 Give thanks for those whose hope is clear, be - yond mere
 3 Give thanks for those whose love is pure, a spar - kling
 4 Give thanks for saints of a - ges past and saints a -



round seems bleak: on God's good prom - ise they re - ly, so
 mor - tal sight: who seek the cit - y God has planned, the
 pre - cious stone: they show by what they say and do an
 live to - day: though of - ten by this world de - spised, their



while they live and when they die how force - ful -
 true, e - ter - nal prom - ised land, and steer on -
 in - ward beau - ty, warm and true, for God's con -
 hearts by God are rich - ly prized. Give thanks that



ly they speak— the strong, who once were weak!
 toward that light, a bea - con ev - er bright.
 cerns they own— God's love through them is known.
 we may say we share their pil - grim way.

COMMUNION HYMN *We Place upon Your Table, Lord* (ELW 467)



1 We place up - on your ta - ble, Lord, where you by
2 With - in these sim - ple things there lie the height and
3 Ac - cept them, Lord; they come from you; we take them



grace have bid us dine, these to - kens of our dai - ly
depth of hu - man life: our pain and tears, our thoughts and
hum - bly from your hand; put these your gifts to high - er



work, the food of life, the bread and wine.
toils, our hopes and fears, our joy and strife.
use: the ho - ly meal that you com - mand.

***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you in grace.
Amen

***POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

***BLESSING**

The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✠ bless you and give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *Listen Now for the Gospel (ACS 972)

[A leader sings the words in parentheses]

Refrain

(Listen now for the gospel!) **Alleluia!**
(It is God's word that changes us!) **Alleluia!**

**1 Come, Holy Spirit, melt and break our hearts of stone,
until we give our lives to God, and God alone. *Refrain***

**2 Come, Holy Spirit, root in us God's living word,
that we may show the faithfulness of Christ our Lord. *Refrain***

**3 Come, Holy Spirit, bind the broken, find the lost,
confirm in us the fire and love of Pentecost. *Refrain***

***SENDING PRAYER**

Holy One, we thank you for all that you have given us. We thank you for the relationships with which you have blessed us, the guidance you have given us in your word, and the support, healing, and love you have fed us with at your table. Take away our sin and carry us into the week with the new beginning we have in your promised forgiveness. Lead us this week to be your hands, your feet, and your voice in the world. **Amen.**

***DISMISSAL**

[Jesus said,] “Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.”

Mark 16:15

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Assisting in worship today:

Assisting Minister: David D

Acolyte: Ava N

Young Reader: Abby C

Offering: Carissa M and Ella N

Greeters: Ruth Ann T

Attendance from last week: 69 +3 zoom

Notes for the day's texts:

Throughout the Gospel of Luke, Jesus calls on his hearers to turn their hearts away from greed and instead to generosity, to turn away from anxious self-preservation and instead to faithful self-giving. But such practice rubs against humanity's deepest-seated sin, so conflict is born out of Jesus' peace-filled activity. Jesus' words and actions had already pitted him against the religious leaders and will lead him to the cross. Now, in today's gospel, Jesus speaks to the reality of that division.

His words unsettle us, yet they are spoken for a reason. In the reading from Jeremiah, God challenges the prophets who dole out lies and deceit and asks, how long until they turn their hearts back to me? This is a question of compassion and yearning for a restored relationship.

Likewise, although Jesus' words are incendiary and speak of broken relationships, they are meant to prompt the people's faithful response: to lay aside anxiety and greed and to turn their hearts to the treasures of God's promised kingdom, where Christ takes division upon himself on the cross.

While fully aware of the realities of conflict and division, we are to live as hopeful people, praying fervently for God's compassion and for the restoration of right relationships.

Today's Music

Faith of Our Fathers. Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, st. 1, alt.; Joseph R. Alfred, b. 1947, sts. 2-4. Augsburg Fortress.

Word of God, Come Down on Earth. Text: James Quinn, SJ, b. 1919, Music: Johann R. Ahle, 1625-1673. Selah Publishing Co., Inc. / Public Domain.

Touch the Earth Lightly. Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931, Music: Colin Gibson, b. 1933. Hope Publishing Company (ASCAP).

Give Thanks for Saints. Text: Martin E. Leckebusch, b. 1962, Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918. Kevin Mayhew Publishers/ Public Domain.

We Place upon Your Table, Lord. Text: M. F. C. Wilson, 1884-1944, alt., Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835. Public Domain.

Listen Now for the Gospel. Text: Zimbabwean traditional; tr. John L. Bell, b. 1949, Music: Zimbabwean traditional. GIA Publications, Inc..

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Next Week's Readings

Isaiah 58:9b-14 *Do not trample the sabbath, but feed the hungry*

Psalms 103:1-8 *The lord crowns you with mercy and steadfast love*

Hebrews 12:18-29 *You have come to the city of the living God and to Jesus*

Luke 13:10-17 *Jesus heals a crippled woman on the sabbath and is condemned*