



## Why do we pray?

*“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.”*

*Ephesians 6:18*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – July 24, 2022**

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Rev. Katie McNeal, Presiding Minister

Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries

*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 visiting us, 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 as you are comfortable. You may also place any prayer requests for the pastor in the offering plates.*

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*As you prepare for worship, you are invited to fill out the blue prayer request forms located in each pew. The cards will be collected during our gathering song, and prayers will be offered during the prayers of the people.*

## **PRELUDE**

### **\*GREETING**

We gather today to come before God in prayer and song,  
humbly trusting in God's immeasurable love and mercy.

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.**

Hear the words of scripture:

"And this is the boldness we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us." *1 John 5:14*

Friends, we are bold to pray:

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.

**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* (ELW 742)**



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged—take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge—take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - row share?  
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness—take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

**\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful god,

**We confess that we are captive 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.**

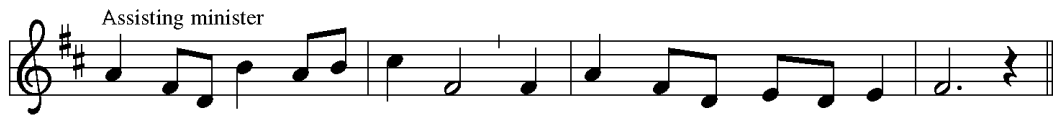
**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

# \*GLORY TO GOD

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



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.

## **\*TIME OF PRAYER**

We lift up the joys and concerns of this congregation to the Lord.

Let us pray.

**Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: James 5:13-18**

A reading from James.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up, and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth yielded its harvest.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **REFLECTION**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## \*GOSPEL READING: Matthew 26:36-44

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>36</sup> Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” <sup>37</sup> He took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee and began to be grieved and agitated. <sup>38</sup> Then he said to them, “My soul is deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and stay awake with me.” <sup>39</sup> And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me, yet not what I want but what you want.” <sup>40</sup> Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, “So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? <sup>41</sup> Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” <sup>42</sup> Again he went away for the second time and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” <sup>43</sup> Again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. <sup>44</sup> So leaving them again, he went away and prayed for the third time, saying the same words.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## \*DOXOLOGY



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all



crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye



heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

## REFLECTION

## **PSALM: Psalm 23**

**<sup>1</sup>The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

**<sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;**

**<sup>3</sup>he restores my soul.**

**He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.**

**<sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley,**

**I fear no evil,**

**for you are with me;**

**your rod and your staff,**

**they comfort me.**

**<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me**

**in the presence of my enemies;**

**you anoint my head with oil;**

**my cup overflows.**

**<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me**

**all the days of my life,**

**and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord**

**my whole life long.**

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**



**\*HYMN OF THE DAY *My Shepherd, You Supply My Need* (ELW 782)**



1 My Shep-herd, you sup-ply my need; most ho-ly is your name.  
2 When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;  
3 The sure pro-vi-sions of my God at-tend me all my days;



In pas-tures fresh you make me feed, be-side the liv-ing stream.  
one word of your sup-port-ing breath drives all my fears a-way.  
oh, may your house be my a-bode and all my work be praise.



You bring my wan-d'ring spir-it back when I for-sake your ways,  
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta-ble spread;  
Here would I find a set-tled rest, while oth-ers go and come;



and lead me, for your mer-cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.  
my cup with bless-ings o-ver-flows, your oil a-noints my head.  
no more a strang-er or a guest, but like a child at home.

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess 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.**



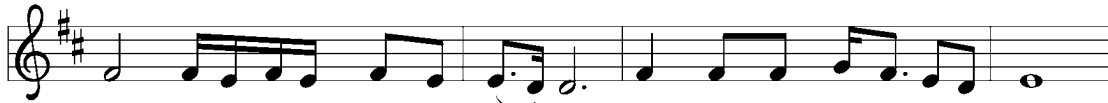
**\*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

As we come near to the Holy One in prayer, we pray with the words of the psalmist: “But as for me, my prayer is to you, O LORD. At an acceptable time, O God, in the abundance of your steadfast love, answer me.” *Psalm 69:13*

*A brief silence.*

Rooted in Christ, we pray for the church. Embolden church leaders to take risks for the sake of the gospel, and equip the baptized to proclaim your extravagant love for the whole world. Interceding on behalf of the vulnerable, we pray for the peoples of the world. Inspire all rulers and governing authorities with your justice. Guide the work of legislators and public officials, that they advocate for the well-being of those they serve. Hear us, O God,

**Sung response: *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying (ELW 752)***



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

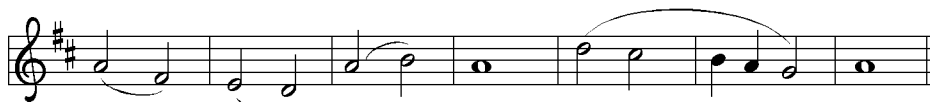
Rejoicing in the works of your hands, we pray for the natural world. Protect water sources and strengthen those who defend them. Abounding in thanksgiving, we pray for this congregation. Bless the prayer and fellowship ministries in this place. Call us together in times of praise and blessing, trouble and sorrow, in your holy name. Hear us, O God,

***Sung Response: Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.***

Buried with Christ in baptism and raised with him to new life, we give thanks for your saints who rest in your eternal presence. Persistent in prayer, we pray for our neighbors in need. To all who have hunger, give daily bread. To all who have bread, give hunger for justice. Open us to the cries of those who suffer especially Jeff, Bob, Katie, Marcia, Geneva, Cherry, Winnie, Chuck, Henry, Harry, Roy, Pastor Storm, Karen, Ellen, Ruth, Sally, Ruth Ann, Denise, those on our prayer list, and all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts. Hear us, O God,

***Sung Response: Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.***

Confident of your holy presence in our midst, we lift up the prayers on the hearts of this congregation this day (*received prayer cards are read*). Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

## \*SHARING THE PEACE

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

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY HYMN *We Praise You O God* (ELW 870)

*Rise on 3<sup>rd</sup> verse*



1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;  
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and mo - thers;  
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.  
through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.  
and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;  
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,  
With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.



we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.  
and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.  
To you, our great re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

## \*OFFERING PRAYER

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

**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:

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might, heav'n 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." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some phrases ending in a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n 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.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.



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**

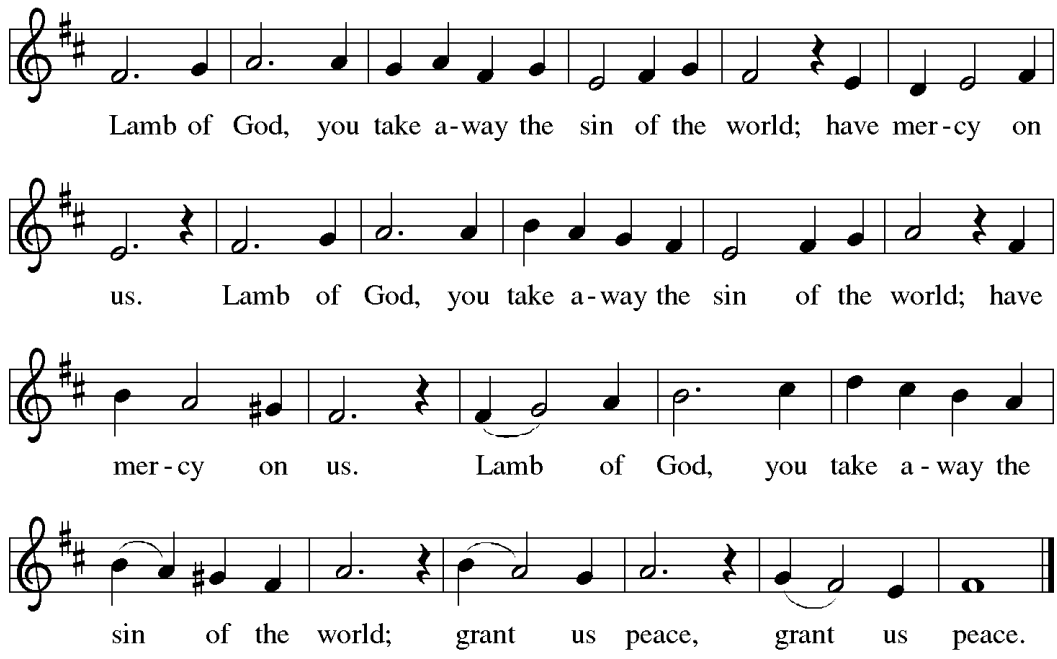
## \*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
Come for all is now ready.

*Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life, and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. In response to Jesus' invitation, all 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*



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.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION



## COMMUNION HYMN *Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil* (ELW 512)

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.

### **\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Our spirits are nourished with the heavenly food of bread and wine, body and blood, we enter into a time of silent prayer, hearing the voice of the gospel: “Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

*Matthew 25:41*

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

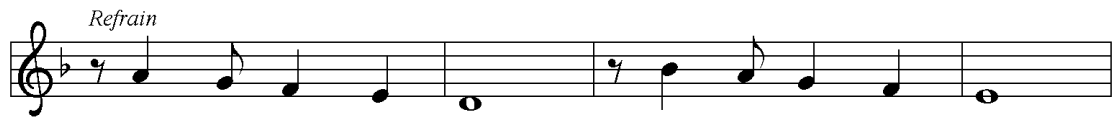
**Amen.**

### **\*BLESSING**

The God of peace,  
Creator, ✠ Redeemer, and Sustainer,  
bless you, comfort you,  
and show you the path of life  
this day and always.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG *Have You Thanked the Lord* (ELW 829)**



Have you thanked the Lord? Have you praised God's name?



Don't you know that no to-mor-row is quite the same?



Have you thanked the Lord? Have you knelt in prayer,



and re-joyced that, rain or sun-shine, our God is there?



- 1 Hal-le-lu-jah! Thank the Lord for sun, sand, and sea,
- 2 Hal-le-lu-jah! Par-a-dise we taste where we are;
- 3 Hal-le-lu-jah! Joy and peace the Sav-ior will bring.



ev-'ry star at night that shines for you and me.  
 sum-mer breez-es, win-ter warmth are nev-er far.  
 Grace a-maz-ing! So we lift our voice and sing,



Bless-ings so man-y come our way:  
 God's love is ev-er on dis-play:  
 grate-ful when clouds are bright or gray:



have you thanked the Lord to-day?  
 have you thanked the Lord to-day?  
 have you thanked the Lord to-day?

*Refrain*

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

**The flowers on the altar today are from Dave & Cindy Knauff to the Glory of God.**

**Assisting in worship today:**

**Assisting Minister: Denise Hager**

**Acolyte: Nick Claus**

**Ushers: Cardinal Family**

**Offering: Dominic & Abigail Cardinal**

**Attendance last week: 45 + 5 zoom**

*Notes for the day's texts:*

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other. The passage from James impels us to examine our practice of prayer, which here is focused on communal healing, not on personal situations. The Elijah reference reflects early monotheistic beliefs, according to which any cosmic event, even weather, is produced directly by God.

Today's Music

*What a Friend We Have I Jesus.* Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886

Music: Charles C. Converse, 1832-1918. Public Domain.

*My Shepherd, You Supply My Need.* Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt., based on Psalm 23

Music: North American traditional. Public Domain.

*Doxology (Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow).* Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711. Public Domain.

*We Praise You O God.* Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882-1963, Music: A. Valerius, *Nederlandtsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626. Public Domain.

*Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil.* Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950, Music: Handt Hanson. Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church Forum, Inc.

*Have You Thanked the Lord?* Text: Bill LaMotta, 1919-1980, Music: Bill LaMotta.

Joyce A. Lamotta.

*Lord, listen to Your Children Praying.* Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943 Music: Ken Medema. Hope Publishing Company (ASCAP)

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