

# Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Service of the Word  
July 26, 2020

**PRELUDE** Rosae from *Esquisses Byzantines* (The Rose Window from *Byzantine Sketches*) | Henri Mulet

## Gathering

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

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.**

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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### ENTRANCE HYMN #771 God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens



1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,  
2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;  
3 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new:



flung the suns in burn-ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space;  
known the ec - sta - sy of wing-ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;  
chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - 'ring you.



we, your chil - dren in your like-ness, share in-ven-tive pow'rs with you;  
probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield-ing un - i - mag - ined pow'r,  
May our dreams prove rich with prom-ise; each en-deav-or well be - gun;



great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.  
fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.  
great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.**

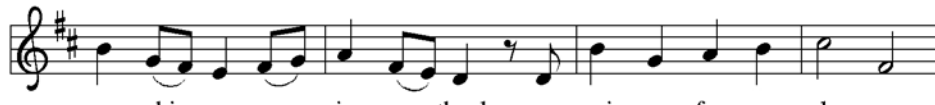
## GLORIA



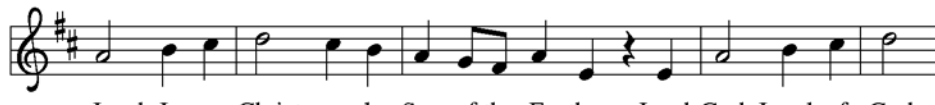
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



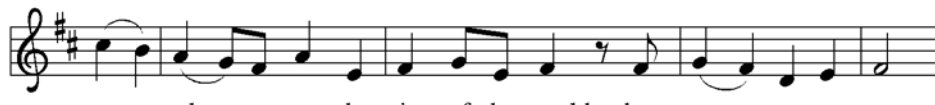
Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



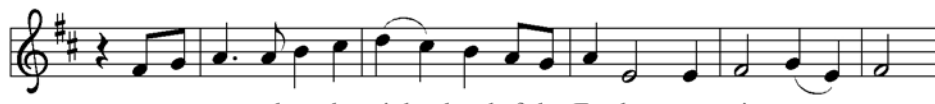
wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



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



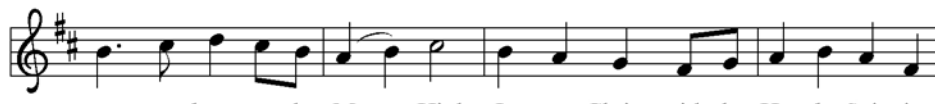
you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



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.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, Lord of judgment and grace: through the death and resurrection of your beloved Son you reveal your power in weakness. By your Spirit, turn us from our pretense of strength, that we might live in the power of your weakness and so embody your justice in mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

# Word

## **FIRST READING** *1 Kings 3:5–12*

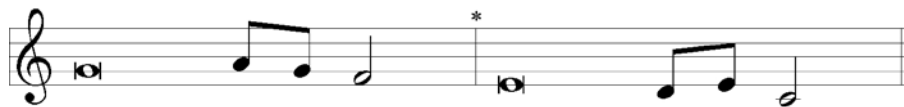
At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?”

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you. The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 119:129–136**

*The cantor and congregation alternate in the singing of psalm verses, beginning with the cantor.*



Your de- | crees are wonderful;\*

therefore I obey them with | all my heart.

**When your word is opened | it gives light;\***

**it gives understanding | to the simple.**

I open my | mouth and pant\*

because I long for | your commandments.

**Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,\***

**as you always do to those who | love your name.**

Order my footsteps | in your word;\*

let no iniquity have dominion | over me.

**Rescue me from those | who oppress me,\***

**and I will keep | your commandments.**

Let your face shine up- | on your servant\*

and teach | me your statutes.

**My eyes shed | streams of tears,\***

**because people do not | keep your teaching.**

## **SECOND READING** *Romans 8:26–39*

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring

any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia sung by all:*

The image shows a musical score for the Alleluia acclamation. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system also ends with a double bar line.

*Verse sung by cantor:* Many will come from east and west and will eat in the kingdom of heaven.

*Repeat Alleluia.*

### **GOSPEL** *Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52*

#### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Have you understood all this? They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has

been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### SERMON

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

### HYMN OF THE DAY #775 Jesus, Priceless Treasure



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, source of pur - est plea - sure,  
2 In thine arm I rest me; foes who would mo - lest me  
3 Hence, all fears and sad - ness, for the Lord of glad - ness,



tru - est friend to me: ah, how long I've pant - ed, and my heart has  
can-not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing, ev - 'ry heart be  
Je - sus, en - ters in. God, who dear-ly loves us, from all tri - al



faint - ed, thirst - ing, Lord, for thee! Thine I am, O spot - less Lamb;  
quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear. Light-nings flash and thun - ders crash;  
saves us, gives sweet peace with-in. I have borne this world - ly scorn;



no - thing in this world can hide thee, naught I ask be - side thee.  
yet, though sin and hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.  
still in thee lies pur - est plea - sure: Je - sus, price-less trea - sure!

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: JESU, MEINE FREUDE, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

### 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 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**

.... Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

**LORD'S PRAYER** *Sung by all*



Our Fa-ther, who art in heav- en, hal- low- ed be



thy name, thy king-dom come, thy will be done,



on earth as it is in heav- en. Give us this day our



dai- ly bread; and for- give us our tres- pass- es,



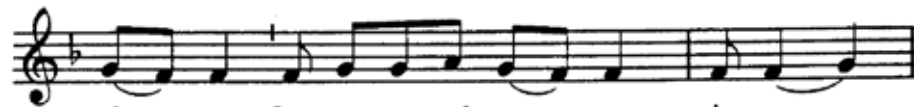
as we for- give those who tres- pass a- gainst us; and lead us



not in- to temp- ta- tion, but de- liv- er us from e- vil.



For thine is the king- dom, and the pow- er, and the



glo- ry, for- ev- er and ev- er. A- men.

# Sending

## BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN #705 God of Grace and God of Glory



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -  
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;  
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.  
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE God of Grace and God of Glory | arr. Paul Manz

*Our thanks to Bruce Curtis, who serves as cantor today.*

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## Today

from the life of the church

O Lord Jesus Christ, who midstream first loved us, who until the end didst love them whom Thou didst love from the beginning, who unto the end of days dost continue to love him who would belong to Thee; Thy faithfulness cannot deny itself — oh, only when a man denies Thee can he compel Thee as it were to deny him also, Thou loving One. So be this our comfort when we must accuse ourselves of the offenses we have committed and of the things we have left undone, of our weakness in temptation, of our slow progress in the good, in short, of our unfaithfulness to Thee, to whom once in early youth and oftentimes again we promised faithfulness — this be our comfort, that even if we are unfaithful, Thou does remain faithful, Thou canst not deny Thyself. Amen.

*Soren Kierkegaard*  
(1813 – 1855)

### **Luther Memorial Church staff**

The Rev. Brad Pohlman, *Senior Pastor*  
The Rev. John Worzala Dumke, *Associate Pastor*  
The Rev. Rebecca Ninke, *Visitation Pastor*  
Vicar Leif Kratzke Nelson, *Seminary Intern*  
Sarah Brinkman, *Office Coordinator*  
Kim O'Leary, *Church Administrator*  
Chelsie Propst, *Compline Director*  
Andrew Schaeffer, *Director of Music*  
Suelyn Swiggum, *Director of Shared Ministry*  
Robin Wagner, *Communication Coordinator*  
Dan Zerger, *Custodian*

### **Lutheran Campus Ministry**

The Rev. Emily Tveite, *Campus Pastor*

### **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, *Presiding Bishop*  
The Rev. Peter Rogness, *Interim Synod Bishop*



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