

8th Sunday after Pentecost

August 3, 2025

PRELUDE

Becky Retherford

Gathering

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

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.**

You belong to Christ Jesus

and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of † Christ,

and through the power of the Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW #768 "Lead Me, Guide Me"

1 I am weak, and I need Thy strength and power
 To help me over my weakest hour;
 Let me through the darkness Thy face to see,
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

**Refrain: Lead me, guide me along the way;
 For if You lead me, I cannot stray;
 Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.**

2 Help me tread in the paths of righteousness;
 Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
 I am putting all my trust in Thee,
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *To Refrain*

3 I am lost, if you take your hand from me;
 I am blind, without Thy Light to see;
 Lord, just always let me Thy servant be,
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me. *To Refrain*

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Benevolent God, **you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Word

PSALM Psalm 49:1-12 *(read responsively)*

Hear this, all you peoples;
 give ear, all you who dwell in the world,
**You of high degree and low,
 rich and poor together.**
 My mouth shall speak of wisdom;
 and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

**I will incline my ear to a proverb;
 and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

Why should I be afraid in evil days,
 when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,
**The wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess
 and boast of their great riches?**

One can never redeem another,
 or give to God the ransom for another's life;
**for the ransom of a life is so great
 that there would never be enough to pay it,**
 in order to live forever and ever
 and never see the grave.

**For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation
to generation, though they had named lands after themselves.

**Even though honored, they cannot live forever;
they are like the beasts that perish.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW #172 "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"

Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah.
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah.
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah.
Hallelujah. Hal-le-lu-jah. *(Repeat)*

GOSPEL Luke 12:13-21

SERMON

Rev. Rick Biedermann

HYMN OF DAY *(Sung to tune of ELW #561)* "Son of God, Eternal Savior"

- 1 Son of God, eternal Savior,
 source of life and truth and grace,
 Word made flesh, whose birth among us
 hallows all our human race,
 you our head, who, throned in glory,
 for your own will ever plead:
 fill us with your love and pity,
 heal our wrong, and help our need.

- 2 As you, Lord, have lived for others,
 so may we for others live.
 Freely have your gifts been granted;
 freely may your servants give.
 Yours the gold and yours the silver,
 yours the wealth of land and sea;
 we but stewards of your bounty
 held in solemn trust will be.

- 3 Come, O Christ, and reign among us,
 King of love and Prince of peace;
 hush the storm of strife and passion,

bid its cruel discords cease.
 By your patient years of toiling,
 by your silent hours of pain,
 quench our fevered thirst of pleasure,
 stem our selfish greed of gain.

- 4 Son of God, eternal Savior,
 source of life and truth and grace,
 Word made flesh, whose birth among us
 hallows all our human race:
 by your praying, by your willing
 that your people should be one,
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fruition:
 here on earth your will be done.

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

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

Response: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE PEACE

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

Meal

OFFERING & HYMN ELW #679 “For the Fruit of All Creation”

- 1 For the fruit of all creation,
 thanks be to God.
 For these gifts to ev'ry nation,
 thanks be to God.
 For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
 silent growth while we are sleeping,
 future needs in earth's safekeeping,
 thanks be to God.

- 2 In the just reward of labor,
 God's will is done.
 In the help we give our neighbor,
 God's will is done.
 In our worldwide task of caring
 for the hungry and despairing,
 in the harvests we are sharing,
 God's will is done.

- 3 For the harvests of the Spirit,
 thanks be to God.
 For the good we all inherit,
 thanks be to God.
 For the wonders that astound us,
 for the truths that still confound us,
 most of all, that love has found us,
 thanks be to God.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Creator God, **in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION & HYMN ELW #472 “Eat This Bread” (*repeats*)

Eat this bread, drink this cup,
come to me and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
trust in me and you will not thirst.

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Mothering God, **you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

Sending

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

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 HYMN ELW #536 “God Be With You Till We Meet Again”

- 1 God be with you till we meet again;
by good counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

**Till we meet, (till we meet,
till we meet, (till we meet again,
till we meet at Jesus' feet; (till we meet,
till we meet, (till we meet,
till we meet, (till we meet again.)
God be with you till we meet again.**

2 God be with you till we meet again;
holy wings securely hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again. *To Refrain*

3 God be with you till we meet again;
when life's perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you;
God be with you till we meet again. *To Refrain*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**