



11th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday August 13, 2023

Lutheran Church of the Living Christ
2725 Concord Drive
Florissant, MO 63033

Welcome to Lutheran Church of the Living Christ

Welcome! If you came as a guest today, we hope you leave as a friend. May this worship service surround you with the love of God through Christ and fills you with the Holy Spirit.

Invitation to Communion: We welcome all to commune at LCLC. It is not our table, nor this congregation's table, nor our denomination's table. It is the table of Jesus Christ. By his invitation there is a place for everyone. We believe that Jesus is present in the bread and wine that forgives sin, nourishes faith, and calls us to be witnesses to the gospel.

Notes about our worship service: You may also follow along with the service by looking at the screen in the front of the sanctuary. Guidance is printed in italics throughout. "P" indicates the speaking part of the presiding minister; "L" indicates a speaking part of a lay leader; "C" and parts in boldface indicate speaking parts of the whole congregation. We use ELW **Setting 3** for liturgical music. Please be mindful of others' comfort with touch. Ask before giving a handshake or hug.

PRELUDE

"Communion Prayer"
"We Partake"

Marc Jordan
Garrett Parker

WELCOME

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who greets us in this and every season,
whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Silence for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

C: Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"Evening and Morning"

ELW#761

GREETING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING 1 Kings 19:9-18

⁹At [Horeb, the mount of God,] [Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

L: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 85:8-13

L: ⁸I will listen to what the LORD¹ God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

C: ⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.**

L: ¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

C: ¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

L: ¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will ¹yield its increase.

C: ¹³**Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

SECOND READING Romans 10:5-15

⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say?

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.

P: The holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 14th chapter (selected verses 22-33)

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²²[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying

to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.
³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Following the reading the assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Matt Helfrich

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Jesus Savior, Pilot Me"

ELW #755

PROFESSION OF FAITH – *The 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

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

God of grace and faith, your faithfulness is never-ending, and your righteousness becomes ours through Christ Jesus. Send the church to proclaim the gospel both near and far, in church buildings and on street corners, in person and through digital means. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of sky and sea, the plants, animals, mountains, and plains proclaim your glory. Prosper the work of ecologists as they teach us new ways to care for the environment. Bring relief to areas recovering from natural disasters. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of peace and justice, you call us to live as your beloved community throughout the world. Instill in local, regional, national, and global political and civic leaders a desire to work for the well-being of all people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of care and compassion, you bring assurance when we are afraid. Bring calm to any who are anxious or fearful. Bless the work of therapists, nurses, and other health care providers. Comfort all who grieve and soothe any who are sick (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of wonder, you accompany us in both joys and sorrows. We pray for children and teachers preparing for a new school year. Make your presence known in our work and play, in lively conversation and in quiet rest. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of new life, you send people to renew both church and society. We give you thanks for their lives of faithful service (*especially nursing pioneers Florence Nightingale and Clara Maass, whom the church remembers today*) as examples of following your call. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Share God's peace in whatever way you and/or neighbors are comfortable.

Following the sharing of the peace the assembly is seated.

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

OFFERING AND PRAYER

P: God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

COMMUNION LITURGY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise. Hosanna in the highest!

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

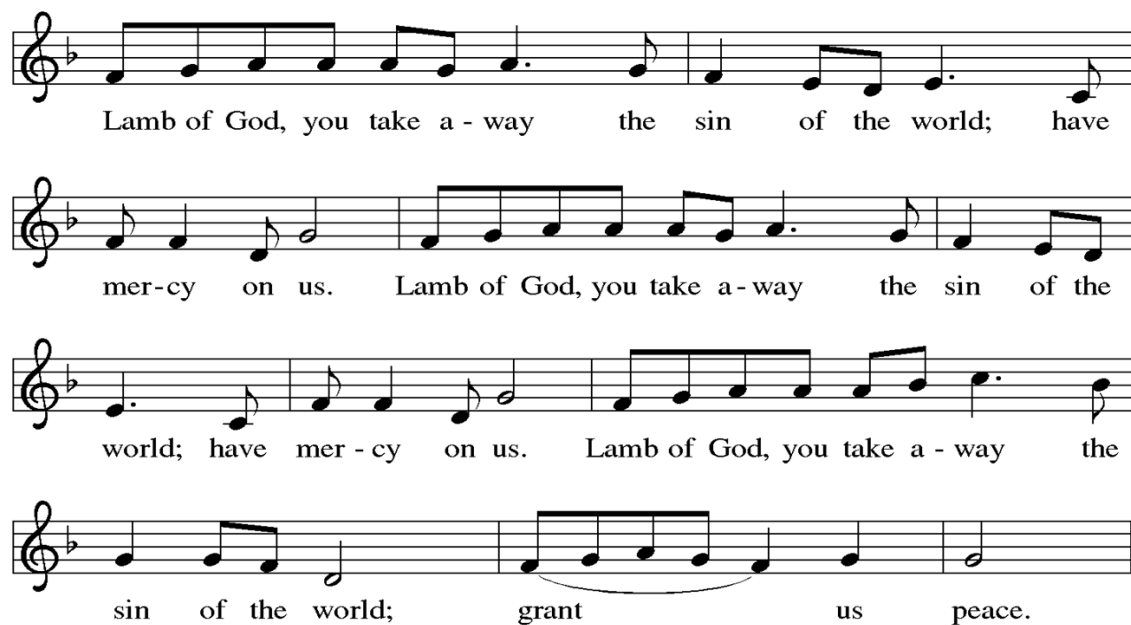
P: All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

C: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

Time is given for the sharing of bread and wine. Additional verbal directions will be given.

Lamb of God



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

ELW#773

BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you in God's grace unto eternal life.

C: Amen.

PRAYER

L: We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

**(ANNOUNCEMENTS – Please see announcements at the end of this bulletin.)*

BENEDICTION

P: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the most gentle voice ☩ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

C: Alleluia! Amen!

SENDING HYMN

"When Peace Like a River"

ELW#785

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Share the harvest. C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Flowers today in honor of Nancy Kaepfel's birthday and Kaepfel anniversary.**
2. **Car Show** - We are asking for volunteers to help with the **Car Show on September 9 10am-4pm**. Please contact Cathie Lehr or Karen Haynes.
3. **Back to School GiveAway...** God's Helping Hand, Antioch Baptist Church, St. Phillips Lutheran Church, Restorative Justice, and St. James AME Church are working together to help children going back to school and also reach out to the surrounding community with a clothing GiveAway, all on **Saturday, August 19th**. This GiveAway will have food and activities for the kids! They anticipate help with Back Packs, School Supplies, and clothing (including school uniforms).
We are also asking for money donations...then representatives will do the shopping...Easy Peazy! As Janis reminds us...what's needed most are your **PRAYERS!!!**
Questions? See or call **Bob Fayman (314) 707-7550**.
4. **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** following worship **August 20th**
5. **Tuesday 10:00 am Bible Study** is canceled for the month of August. We will resume in September.

August 13, 2023

Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt
Assisting Minister: Randy Henning
Lector: Laurie Brown
Zoom Slides: Gary & Laurie Brown
Musician: Greg Ott
Ushers: Jann & Glenn Mueller
Greeter: Joyce Meyer
Altar Guild: Karen Haynes & Sheila Smart

August 20, 2023

Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt
Assisting Minister: Angela Bennett
Lector: Dave Endorf
Zoom Slides: Rod Wallace
Musician: David Eggers
Ushers: Glenn Albers & Ann Schultz
Greeter: Jeanne Calderwood
Altar Guild: Joyce Wolf & Ann Schultz