

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday August 27, 2023

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

Welcome to Lutheran Church of the Living Christ

Welcome! If you are 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 of the gospel.

Notes about our worship service: You can follow along with the service by looking at the screen in the front of the worship space. 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 Evangelical Lutheran Worship books (ELW) **Setting 3** for liturgical music. Please be mindful of others' comfort with touch. Ask before giving a handshake or hug.

PRELUDE

“God Himself is Present ”

by Michael Burkhardt

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

“Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”

ELW#645

GREETING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

FIRST READING Isaiah 51:1-6

¹Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.

²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

³For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

L: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 138

L: ¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

C: ²I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

L: ³When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

C: ⁴All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.

L: ⁵They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

C: ⁶The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.

L: ⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

C: ⁸You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

SECOND READING Romans 12:1-8

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING - *Please stand as you are able to welcome the gospel.*

P: The holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter (verses 13-20)

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Following the reading the assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Aimée Appell

RITE FOR INSTALLATION OF A CALL COMMITTEE

At this time, we install the following persons as the Call Committee of Lutheran Church of the Living Christ.

Erle Craig (Lead), Cathie Lehr (Co-Lead), Maureen Buchek, Kathy Endorf, Karen Haynes, and Marilyn Wiley.

As we install these leaders, we celebrate the power of the Holy Spirit, as it will reveal itself to us through their work as they discern candidates for the call to be a pastor of this congregation.

To the members of the Call Committee:

On behalf of this congregation and with the support of the staff of the Central States Synod, you are being charged with listening faithfully and searching diligently for the person whom God has chosen to shepherd this congregation in the coming years.

Are you now prepared to accept this responsibility and exercise your ministry faithfully and in accordance with the will of the Holy Spirit? If so, answer: We will, with God's help.

We will, with God's help.

Will you consistently search the mind of God through prayer and conversation with one another, always seeking to do God's will rather than your own?

We will, with God's help.

Will you continue to pray for this community of faith and listen diligently to the people of God as they seek to discern God's will in this process?

We will, with God's help.

Will you pledge to work with them in a spirit of joyful anticipation as you look forward to a new partnership in the gospel?

We will, with God's help.

Congregation stands

People of God, will you support and encourage these people in the ministry for which they are called this day? If so, then answer: We will, with God's help.

We will, with God's help.

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs: Creative and Redeeming God, we will call upon you to empower these leaders for the

special ministry upon which they embark this day. Grant them your Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence. Lord in your mercy...

Hear our prayer.

(Other petitions may be added here.)

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Each committee member kneels to receive a laying on of hands and blessing.

I bless you for service, in the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Let us pray. Almighty God, whose Spirit moved upon the waters and earth was created; who knit us together in our mother's womb, grant that these people of God may be strengthened for their service and empowered with your presence. Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

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 Sarah and Abraham, inspire your church to pursue righteousness in its ministry. Equip us to share your compassion that unites us as one family of faith. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Remind us that from the beginning of creation, you knit together a world meant for harmony. Protect and restore the wasted places to joy and gladness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Stir the leaders of nations and towns, militaries and courts, to respond to your teachings. Let your call for justice reach all people and bring deliverance where there is oppression. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Show your steadfast love and faithfulness to those in despair. Increase their strength, care for all who feel low, keep safe any in the midst of trouble, and protect vulnerable people from harm. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Encourage those who offer their gifts and talents in service to your church. Energize this congregation's rostered and lay leaders, musicians, teachers, greeters, and administrators so they may be transformed in sharing your grace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of all the saints, death is overcome in Christ's resurrection. We rejoice with the faithful departed (*especially*). Sustain us in hope until we come at last to our heavenly home. 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

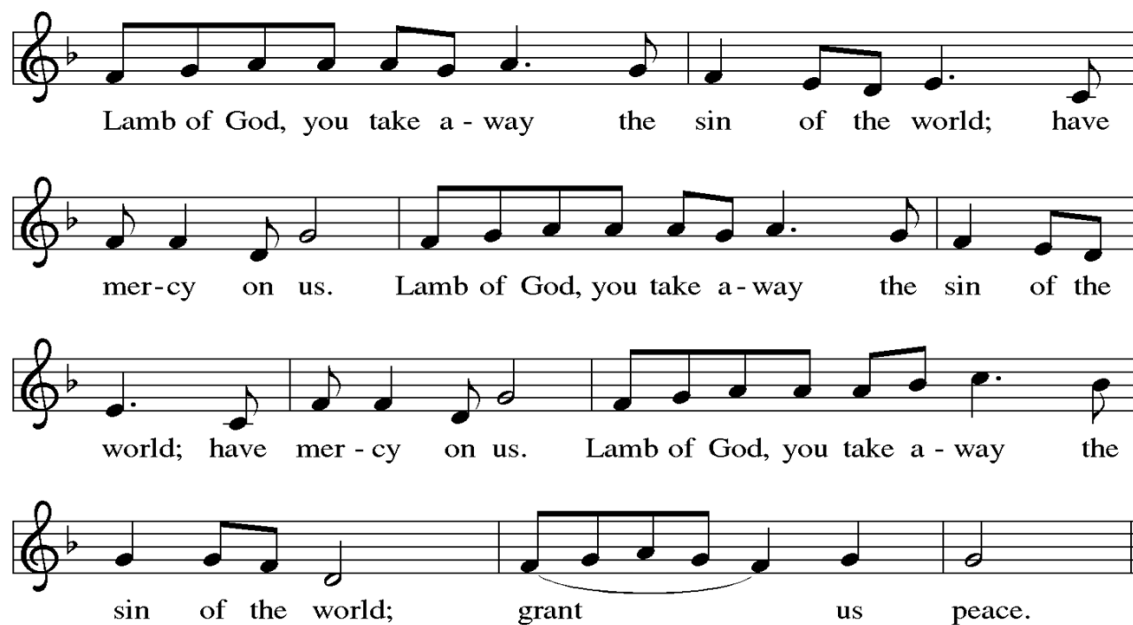
P: All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

C: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

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

Lamb of God



DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Faith of Our Fathers”

ELW#812

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

“The Church’s One Foundation”

ELW#654

DISMISSAL

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **We are earnestly seeking new members for our vocal and bell choirs. Please contact for vocal: David Eggers (314-942-9652, dossy2@att.net) and for bell: Bill Kaepfel (314-378-6308, kaepfel@sbcglobal.net).**
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. Sign Up sheet on bulletin board
3. **Tuesday Bible Studies** are canceled for the month of August. We will resume in September.
4. **Bell choir** will meet Thursdays at 6pm starting Sept. 7. Vocal choir will meet Sundays at 8am starting Sept. 10.
5. The **September Lunch Bunch** will meet at 11:30 Thursday, Sept. 14, at Chimi's Fresh Mex in Florissant Meadows Shopping Center, 520 N. Hwy 67 63131 (Lindbergh) . For reservations contact Judy Holmes at 314-355-1125 or mickey.holmes@att.net. All are welcome.
6. **FIFTY PLUS TO TOUR BUTTERFLY HOUSE SEPTEMBER 20** - tour the Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House with 50+ on Wed., Sept. 20, at 11:00. The Butterfly House is located at 15050 Faust Park in Chesterfield. A group rate of \$4 per person can be obtained if there are at least 15 people. Our hosts, Sheila and LeVaughn Smart, plan to write a check for the group, so please pay the \$4.00 in advance to the Smarts, Judy Holmes, or Joyce Wolf. The sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board by September 3. There will be carpooling from church, leaving at 10:15. The tour will begin at 11:00 and last about an hour. Following the tour, the group will go to the Mellow Mushroom Restaurant at 15525 Olive Blvd. for lunch. All are welcome.
7. New pictures from God's Helping Hand are posted at the doorway to the Conference Room, taken on Saturday the 19th. Showing their GiveAway of back to school supplies, and clothing. Our donations are posted above. THANKS TO ALL

August 27, 2023

Preaching: Pr. Aimée Appell

Presiding: Pr. Matt

Assisting Minister: Randy Henning

Lector: Terry Calderwood

Zoom & Slides: Erle Craig

Musician: David Eggers

Ushers: Levaughn & Sheila Smart

Greeter: Gloria Broderick

September 3, 2023

Preaching/Presiding: Pr. Matt

Assisting Minister: Bill Kaepfel

Lector: Gary Brown

Zoom: Gary & Laurie Brown

Musician: Greg Ott

Ushers: Randy Henning/Dave Endorf

Greeter: Levaughn & Sheila Smart

Altar Guild: Maureen Buchek & Marjorie Becker

