

# WE are Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church (elca)

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## **Welcome and thank you for coming to worship!**

We welcome all visitors this morning to our service of Word and Sacrament. ALL are invited to receive the bread and the wine. Please know that at CELC this common meal is for all who feel moved to receive. This sacrament is God's gift to all, and is not tied to membership, doctrine or creed.

# *9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

August 7, 2022

9:00am

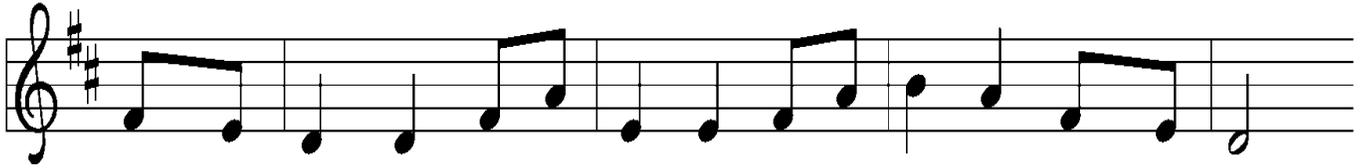
*-Service of Word and Sacrament-*

*The Gathering*

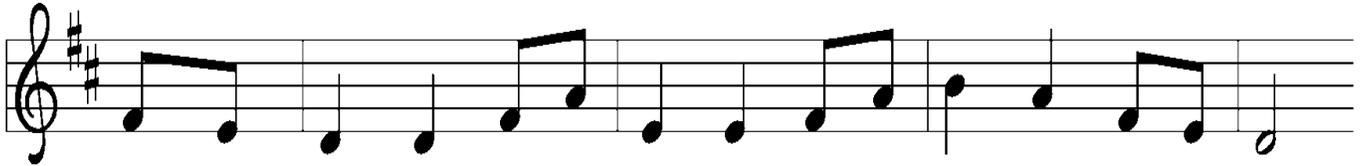
PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN: ELW 807 *"COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING"*



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea - sure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home.  
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;  
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.  
he, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed his pre - cious blood.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

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

*Silence for reflection*

P: Merciful God,  
we confess that we have not followed your path  
but have chosen our own way.  
Instead of putting others before ourselves,  
we long to take the best seats at the table.  
When met by those in need,  
we have too often passed by on the other side.  
Set us again on the path of life.  
Save us from ourselves  
and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

Hear the good news!  
God does not deal with us according to our sins  
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.  
In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
You are free to love as God loves. Amen.

#### PASTORAL GREETING

**P** The grace of our risen 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

P: Let us pray.  
**Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*[Congregation is seated.]*

## The Word

### FIRST READING: GENESIS 15:1-6

*God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.*

1After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." 2But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." 4But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." 5He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." 6And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

**Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM PSALM 33:12-22

*Let your lovingkindness be upon us, as we place our hope in you. (Ps. 33:22)*

<sup>12</sup>Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!

Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

<sup>13</sup>**The Lord looks down from heaven,  
and sees all humankind.**

<sup>14</sup>God sits firmly enthroned and watches  
all who dwell on the earth.

<sup>15</sup>**God fashions all their hearts  
and observes all their deeds.**

<sup>16</sup>A king is not saved by the size of the army,  
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

<sup>17</sup>**The horse gives vain hope for victory;  
despite its great strength it cannot save.**

<sup>18</sup>Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O Lord,  
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

<sup>19</sup>**to deliver their lives from death,  
and to keep them alive in time of famine.**

<sup>20</sup>Our innermost being waits for you, O Lord,  
our helper and our shield.

<sup>21</sup>**Surely, our heart rejoices in you,  
for in your holy name we put our trust.**

<sup>22</sup>Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us,  
even as we place our hope in you.

**SECOND READING: HEBREWS 11:1-3, 8-16**

*Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.*

1Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. 3By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

8By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. 9By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. 10For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. 11By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. 12Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

13All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, 14for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. 16But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

**Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION      “ALABARE”**

**Refrain:      Alabare, alabare, alabare a mi Senor  
                 Alabare, alabare, alabare a mi Senor**

Vs. Sing with the people, the people of God, and join creation in a joyful hymn.  
Blessing and honor and glory and might to God and to the Lamb be without end.

**GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40**

*Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.*

The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] 32“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. 33Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. 34For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

35“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; 36be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. 37Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. 38If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

39“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. 40You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

**A** With joy, let us together proclaim our faith and the faith of our church.

**We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**We 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.

We 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

**A** Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

Let your lovingkindness be upon your church. Fill all who proclaim the gospel with your Spirit. Equip your flock to speak your word of promise and hope in the midst of fear and uncertainty. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your creation. Dwell among us and sustain our earthly home. In places of famine, provide nourishment. In places of plenty, fashion us to be good stewards of your bounty. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your world. Be our helper and our shield in places torn by strife and violence. Raise up courageous leaders to govern with compassion and justice. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your children. Look upon all who wait for your steadfast love. Console those who grieve and embrace those who cry out to you (*especially*). Help us to trust your promise and not be afraid. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon this community. Fashion our hearts to strive for the way of peace. Strengthen the outreach ministries of this congregation and all who care for those in need. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

**P:** Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom. **Amen.**

# The Meal

OFFERTORY / OFFERTORY MUSIC ELW 581 "YOU ARE MINE"



1 "I will come to you in the si - lence,  
2 "I am hope for all who are hope - less,  
3 "I am strength for all the de - spair - ing,  
(4) am the Word that leads all to free - dom, I



I will lift you from all your fear.  
I am eyes for all who long to see. (2) In the  
heal - ing for the ones who dwell in shame.  
am the peace the world can - not give.



You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice. Be  
shad - ows of the night, I will be your light.  
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free, and  
I will call your name, em - brac - ing all your pain. Stand



still and know I am here. *To stanza 2*  
Come and rest in me. *To refrain*  
all will know my name. *To refrain*  
up, now walk and live! *To refrain*



Do not be a - afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by



name. Come and fol - low me, I will bring you home; I



love you and you are mine." *To stanzas 3 and 4*

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

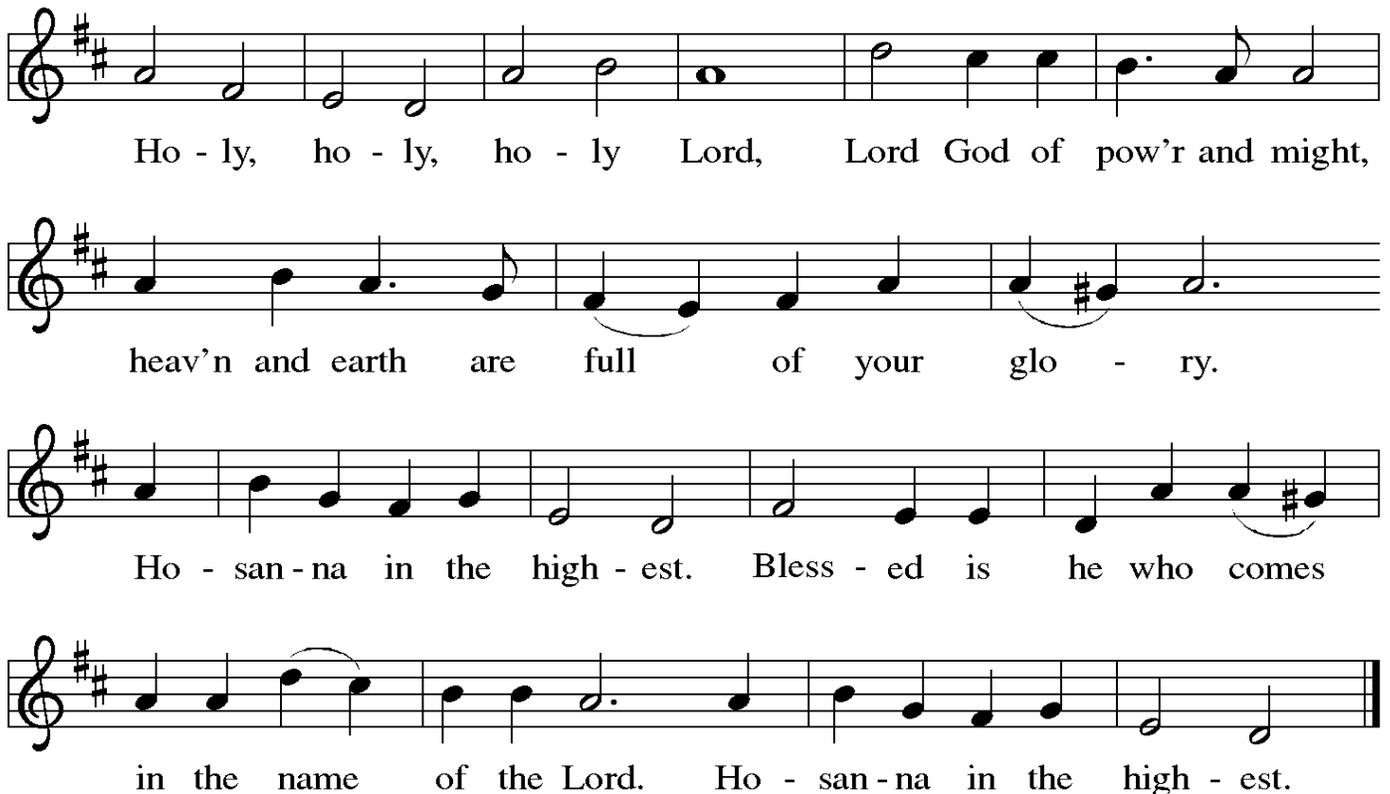
**A** Let us pray.  
God of abundance:  
**you have set before us a plentiful harvest.**  
**As we feast on your goodness,**  
**strengthen us to labor in your field,**  
**and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,**  
**in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

[THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE] (NUMBER 4)

**P** 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 and good that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you... And so with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(setting 4 of ELW)



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...

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks...

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

**Christ has died.**

**Christ has risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Remembering therefore ... may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

**To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy.

Come to the banquet.

## LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; **have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; **Have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; **Grant us peace, grant us peace.**

COMMUNION SONG: ELW 487 *"ROCK OF AGES"*

1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;  
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;  
 3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.  
 4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,  
 could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
 Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;  
 when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.  
 all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
 foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

**PASTORAL BLESSING**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P:** Let us pray.

**Life-giving God,  
through this meal you have bandaged our wounds  
and fed us with your mercy.  
Now send us forth to live for others,  
both friend and stranger,  
that all may come to know your love.  
This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

*The Sending*

**BENEDICTION:**

**P** The God of peace,  
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you, comfort you,  
and show you the path of life  
this day and always. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG: ELW 774 "BLESSED ASSURANCE"**

**DISMISSAL:**

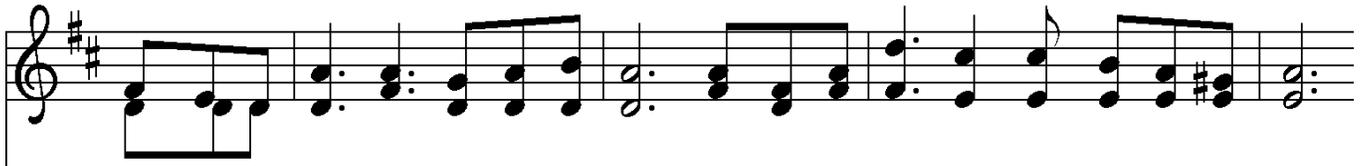
**P** Go in peace. Love your neighbor.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!  
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;  
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



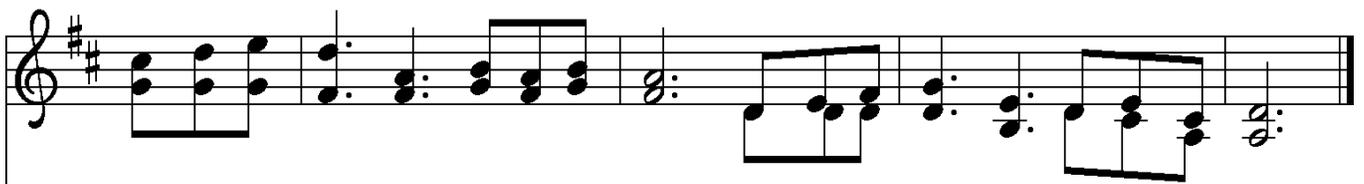
Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.  
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.



*Refrain*



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

