

**August 31, 2025 8:30/10:00am**

**Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

## **WELCOME AND INVOCATION**

### **OPENING HYMN**

### **"Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"**

**LSB 851**

Lord of glory, You have bought us  
With Your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones  
That tremendous sacrifice;  
And with that have freely given  
Blessings countless as the sand  
To th'unthankful and the evil  
With Your own unsparing hand.

Wondrous honor You have given  
To our humblest charity  
In Your own mysterious sentence,  
"You have done it all to Me."  
Can it be, O gracious Master,  
That You deign for alms to sue,  
Saying by Your poor and needy,  
"Give as I have giv'n to you"?

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You  
Gladly, freely of Your own.  
With the sunshine of Your goodness  
Melt our thankless hearts of stone  
Till our cold and selfish natures,  
Warmed by You, at length believe  
That more happy and more blessed  
'Tis to give than to receive.

Lord of glory, You have bought us  
With Your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones  
That tremendous sacrifice.  
Give us faith to trust You boldly,  
Hope, to stay our souls on You;  
But, oh, best of all Your graces,  
With Your love our love renew.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 151

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

**Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Pastor: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

**C** 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.

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by Your Holy Spirit to follow the example of Your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Proverbs 25:2–10**

It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out. As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth, so the heart of kings is unsearchable. Take away the dross from the silver, and the smith has material for a vessel; take away the wicked from the presence of the king, and his throne will be established in righteousness. Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble. What your eyes have seen do not hastily bring into court, for what will you do in the end, when your neighbor puts you to shame? Argue your case with your neighbor himself, and do not reveal another's secret, lest he who hears you bring shame upon you, and your ill repute have no end.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

**"How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord"**

**LSB 853, vv. 1, 2, 4**

*All verses sung by soloist*

How clear is our vocation, Lord,  
When once we heed Your call:  
To live according to Your Word  
And daily learn, refreshed, restored,  
That You are Lord of all  
And will not let us fall.

But if, forgetful, we should find  
Your yoke is hard to bear;  
If worldly pressures fray the mind,  
And love itself cannot unwind  
Its tangled skein of care:  
Our inward life repair.

In what You give us, Lord, to do,  
Together or alone,  
In old routines or ventures new,  
May we not cease to look to You,  
The cross You hung upon—  
All You endeavored done.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000, Text: © 1982 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: CCLI no. 491876

## **EPISTLE**

## **Hebrews 13:1–17**

Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” So we can confidently say, “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?” Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 156



## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 14:1–14

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

### Glory to You, O Lord.

One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?” But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. And he said to them, “Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?” And they could not reply to these things. Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, “When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” He said also to the man who had invited him, “When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY “Love in Christ Is Strong and Living”

LSB 706

Soloist will sing verse 1



Soloist 1 Love in Christ is strong and liv - ing, Bind - ing faith - ful  
All 2 Love is pa - tient and for - bear - ing, Clothed in Christ’s hu -  
3 Love in Christ a - bides for - ev - er, Faint - ing not when



hearts in one; Love in Christ is true and giv - ing.  
mil - i - ty, Gen - tle, self - less, kind, and car - ing,  
ills at - tend; Love, for - giv - ing and for - giv - en,



May His will in us be done.  
Reach - ing out in char - i - ty.  
Shall en - dure un - til life’s end.

Text: Dorothy R. Schultz, 1934, Tune: Ralph C. Schultz, 1932–2024, Text and tune: © 1979 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. A-710094

SERMON

“Gathered Guests”

Pastor Barry

## **SERMON RESPONSE HYMN “Where Charity and Love Prevail” LSB 845, vv. 1-4**

Where charity and love prevail  
There God is ever found;  
Brought here together by Christ’s love  
By love are we thus bound.

Forgive we now each other’s faults  
As we our faults confess,  
And let us love each other well  
In Christian holiness.

With grateful joy and holy fear  
His charity we learn;  
Let us with heart and mind and soul  
Now love Him in return.

Let strife among us be unknown;  
Let all contention cease;  
Be God’s the glory that we seek;  
Be ours His holy peace.

Text: Latin, c. 9th cent.; tr. Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, alt., Text: © 1960 World Library Publications. Used by permission: OneLicense no. A-710094

## **APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

With humble hearts made bold by Your invitation to pray and Your promise to hear and answer, we come to You today with the prayers and petitions of our heart.

Gracious God, send Your Holy Spirit on Your whole Church on earth to make her a dwelling of welcome to the poor and the humble. Bless the labor of our hands. May the fruit of our labor bring glory and honor to Your name. Transform our Sunday assemblies to be reunions of celebration in brotherly love. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Send Your Holy Spirit on all church leaders, all pastors, teachers, and servants of Your Church. Help us to be of aid and encouragement to them that they may extend the blessings of Your kingdom to all. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

We give thanks for the beginning of the new school year. We pray that staff and students are protected by Your Mighty hand. Bless their preparation and studies so that their accomplishments might be to Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Guard and guide all elected officials in our land, that they may perform their duties faithfully and promote policies to preserve peace, that Your Church may care for the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Give Your grace to the sick and the suffering, those struggling with mental illness, the grieving, and to the dying... Give them faith and hope in Your everlasting grace and grant them healing and strength. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **OFFERING**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

## **BENEDICTION**

**LSB 166**

## **CLOSING HYMN      “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”**

**LSB 924**

Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing,  
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
Let us each, Your love possessing,  
Triumph in redeeming grace.  
O refresh us; O refresh us,  
Trav’ling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration  
For Your Gospel’s joyful sound.  
May the fruits of Your salvation  
In our hearts and lives abound.  
Ever faithful, ever faithful  
To Your truth may we be found.

Savior, when Your love shall call us  
From our struggling pilgrim way,  
Let not fear of death appall us,  
Glad Your summons to obey.  
May we ever, may we ever  
Reign with You in endless day.

Text (sts. 1–2): attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.; (st. 3): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt., Text: Public domain

## **SENDING**

Go in peace, serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God**

**THANK YOU FOR WORSHIPING WITH ST. JOHN’S TODAY! If this is your first time at St. John’s, we encourage you to fill out a CONNECTCard located on the Welcome Desk. We want an opportunity to get to know you.**

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## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Elders: 8:30 Paul DeRocher/10 Paul DeRocher

Usher Team: 8:30 Josh Kulzer/10 Andrew Tesch

Welcome Team: 8:30 Gary Herber, Bonnie Schaefer/10

Tech Crew: 8:30 Sara Buesgens/10 Bennett Mcglothlin

UPCOMING WEEK	
Sunday, August 31	Worship 8:30/10:00am
	Parents in the Word Bible Study 9:30am
Monday, September 1	Labor Day – NO SCHOOL, No Monday Night Meal
	Men's Bible Study 6:30am
	AA 7:00pm
Tuesday, September 2	Trustees Meeting 6:30pm
Wednesday, September 3	Messengers of Praise Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm
Thursday, September 4	Ladies Aid Meeting 1:30pm
	Welcome Team Monthly Meeting 6:30pm
	Trail Life Troop Meeting 6:30pm
Friday, September 5	AA 6:30pm
Saturday, September 6	Trail Life Leader's Meeting 9:00am
Sunday, September 7	Worship 8:00/9:30/10:45am
	Meet the Pastors Event 9:00am

**Worship schedule returns to 8:00am, 9:30am, and 10:45am on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> (Livestream at the 8:00am Service)**

## Celebrating Birthdays

8/31	9/2	9/4
Sandra Hakel	Sophie Quist	Brad Willmsen
Roland Olson	Avery Herelle	9/5
Hope Vosika	9/3	Patti Werning
9/1	Emily Bauer	9/6
Pete Siedelman	Henry Feltmann	Katelyn Olson
Josh Miller	Elizabeth Fredrickson	Cole Kirchoff
9/2	Kathy Hedberg	Reese Dubbe
Heather Sandvig	Ethan McCarty	Anna Barry
Mary Huge	Nancy Rasmussen	Jerry Griffin
Elizabeth Hennen	Randy Sefkar	

## **Celebrating Anniversaries**

8/31 Steven and Kristi Moser	9/2 Sean and Stephanie Henderson
8/31 Amanda and Angelo Katasse	9/3 Michael and Lacey Sand
8/31 Dan and Evy Trost	9/3 Andrew and Erin Wendorf
8/31 Luis Alberto Sanchez and Kelsey Fuhrman	9/3 Sid and Merna Fjelstad
9/1 Lloyd and Pat Haack	9/3 Alan and Christine Bates
9/2 Jill and Seth Larson	9/4 Brandon and Sonya Butorac
9/2 Amanda and Kevin Milbrandt	9/6 Steve and Mindi Baker
	9/6 Jim and Jessica Sutherland

## **Expectant Moms**

Jessica Lewis	Anna Jeurissen	Katelyn Olson
Nicole Thuenta	Hailey Busker	Amy Peterson

## **Prayers for Healing and Strength**

Gary Anderson	Orma Kraai	Doris Rossow
Jack Boman	Joann Mueller	Tyler Trost

## **Ongoing Prayers**

Carol Affeldt	Bernie Gnan	Steve Pond
John Barney	Pearl Gray	Austin Rannow
Angel Benes	Hilde Grev	JoAnn Schesso
Jimann Campbell	Eugene Henke	Val Schlefsky
Julie Carver	Suzanne Honebrink	Larry Smith
Marguerite Craighead	Carol Jones	Cliff Waller
Sunnie Deis	Len Kallsen	Lisa Neitzel
Bob DeMaris	Gretchen Laubach	Deb Wold
Anita Doss	Jeanette Lieske	Merlin Bentz
Sid & Merna Fjelstad	Melinda Meuwissen	Ruth Harms
Dennis Gaarder	Gina Niesche	

## **In Sympathy**

Pastor Toby Schmidt and family upon the death of their son, Rueben.

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

For the birth of a daughter, Zoe Jane, to Rachel and Mike Hubley