

# Welcome to Moe Lutheran Church

Pentecost 7 ~ July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025



*Persistence in prayer is encouraged by Jesus and wins the attention of God when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus—is to be nurtured with prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God's own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GATHERING SONG: "Great is Thy Faithfulness"**

*ELW 733*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls us to worship, and we come,  
**Some with laughter and hopefulness.**

God calls us to worship, and we come,  
**Some with hearts that feel sad and alone.**

God calls us to worship, and we come,  
**Some with worry and distraction.**

As God's dearly loved children, we come,  
bringing our joy and pain, our hurt and hope.

**We come to pray, and praise, and heal!**

**Let us sing praise to the One who knows and loves us!**

**SONG OF PRAISE: *ELW Holy Communion Setting 10, page 205***

*(Tune: Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee)*



Glory be to God in heaven; peace, good-will to all the earth.  
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:  
We exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.



Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;  
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:  
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.  
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

## **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:**

**Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Genesis 18:20-32**

<sup>20</sup>Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! <sup>21</sup>I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

<sup>22</sup>So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. <sup>23</sup>Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup>Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup>Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" <sup>26</sup>And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." <sup>27</sup>Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup>Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." <sup>29</sup>Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." <sup>30</sup>Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." <sup>31</sup>He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." <sup>32</sup>Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 138

<sup>1</sup>I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I sing your praise;

<sup>2</sup>**I bow down toward your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name  
for your steadfast love and your faithfulness;  
for you have exalted your name and your word  
above everything.**

<sup>3</sup>On the day I called, you answered me,  
you increased my strength of soul.

<sup>4</sup>**All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD,  
for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

<sup>5</sup>They shall sing of the ways of the LORD,  
for great is the glory of the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>**For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly;  
but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;  
you stretch out your hand,  
and your right hand delivers me.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.  
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

*ELW Holy Communion Setting 10, page 205*



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## **GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13**

**L:** The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the 11th chapter.

**C:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."<sup>2</sup>He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. <sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread. <sup>4</sup>And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."

<sup>5</sup>And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' <sup>7</sup>And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' <sup>8</sup>I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

<sup>9</sup>"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup>Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup>Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

**L:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON SONG: "What A Friend We Have in Jesus"**

*ELW 742*

## **SERMON**

### **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.

## OFFERING

**OFFERTORY:** *Sing as gifts are brought forward to the altar.*

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

## PRAYERS:

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

We pray for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Embolden and equip us to share your extravagant love for the life of the world. Especially we pray those attending Churchwide Assembly this week. Give wise discernment for the election of a new ELCA bishop so that our Church may be strengthened in its Gospel mission.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Bless the ministry of our Moessiah youth and adults working and serving in Belize this week. With joyful desire to serve in their hearts, give them safe travels, a deepening of relationships, and an enriching of their faith.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Persistent in prayer, we pray for our neighbors in need. To all who have hunger, give daily bread. To all who have bread, give hunger for justice. Open us to the cries of those who suffer.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*Continued ...*

You weep when we weep. Be present with those who are troubled by illness or grieve the loss of loved ones (*especially those we name in our hearts before you...*) You hear us when we call to you. Deliver us from our despair, and free us from worries that bind us.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Abounding in thanksgiving, we pray for this congregation. Bless the prayers and fellowship of this place. Call us together in times of praise and blessing, trouble and sorrow, in your holy name.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and hold us always in your steadfast love as together we pray the prayer you 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.**

#### **BENEDICTION:**

The Lord bless you and keep you,  
the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you,  
the Lord look upon you with favor and give you his peace.  
**Amen.**

**CLOSING SONG: “On Our Way Rejoicing”**

*ELW 537*

#### **DISMISSAL:**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Thank you, Janet Johnson*  
for leading us in worship and giving today's message!

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July 28 – August 2

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

*This week, July 28–August 2, the ELCA  
will meet in Phoenix, Arizona for Churchwide Assembly.*

*Quick facts:*

- The Churchwide Assembly convenes every three years.
- The bishops, synod staff, and elected voting members from the ELCA's 65 synods will be in attendance.
- Elected voting members are determined at synod assemblies by electing one clergy and one lay voting member from each of their synod's conferences.
- Pastor Dave was our conference's clergy representative to the Churchwide Assembly in 2022! It took place in Columbus, Ohio.
- With the retirement of Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, the 2025 Churchwide Assembly will elect a new bishop to ELCA Churchwide leadership.

*Over the course of the assembly, voting members:*

- Hear reports and review the work of churchwide officers, leaders and units.
- Receive and consider proposals from synod assemblies.
- Elect officers, board members and other leaders as specified by the constitution or bylaws.
- Establish ELCA churchwide policy.
- Worship together.
- Adopt a budget.
- Conduct other business related to the ELCA churchwide organization.