# Service of Holy Communion Eighth Sunday after Pentecost August 3rd, 2025



#### INTRODUCTION

Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.

## **GATHERING**

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The congregation stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

- P. In the name of the Father, and of the  $\pm$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
- P. Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

The congregation is seated. Silence is kept for reflection.

P. Merciful God, you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P. You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of  $\oplus$  Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.** 

Congregation stands

**GATHERING HYMN** 

God Is Here!

**ELW 526** 

(printed in the back of the bulletin)

### THE GREETING

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C. And also with you.** 

### **KYRIE**

A. In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

## C. Lord, have mercy.

A. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

## C. Lord, have mercy.

A. For the peace of the whole world, for the well being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

## C. Lord, have mercy.

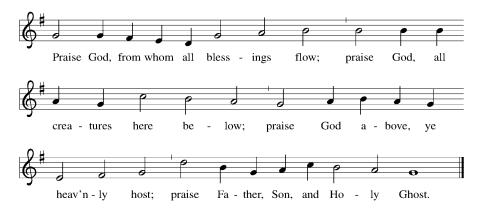
A. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

## C. Lord, have mercy.

A. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

## C. Amen

#### **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

Congregation is seated

## **WORD**

## FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14: 2:18-23

- <sup>2</sup> Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.
- <sup>12</sup> I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. <sup>14</sup> I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.
- <sup>2:18</sup> I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, <sup>19</sup> and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. <sup>20</sup> So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, <sup>21</sup> because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. <sup>22</sup> What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? <sup>23</sup> For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.
- A. Word of God, word of life. C. Thanks be to God.

## **PSALM: Psalm 49:1-12** (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup> Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

<sup>2</sup> you of high degree and low, rich and poor together.

<sup>3</sup> My mouth shall speak of wisdom, and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

<sup>4</sup> I will incline my ear to a proverb and set forth my riddle upon the harp.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Why should I be afraid in evil days,

when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

- <sup>6</sup> the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess, and boast of their great riches?
- <sup>7</sup> One can never redeem another, or give to God the ransom for another's life;
- 8 for the ransom of a life is so great that there would never be enough to pay it,
- <sup>9</sup> in order to live forever and ever and never see the grave.
- <sup>10</sup> For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish and leave their wealth to those who come after them.
- <sup>11</sup> Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation,

though they had named lands after themselves.

<sup>12</sup> Even though honored, they cannot live forever; they are like the beasts that perish.

## **SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-11**

<sup>1</sup> So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup> On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup> These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup> But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup> In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

A. Word of God, word of life.

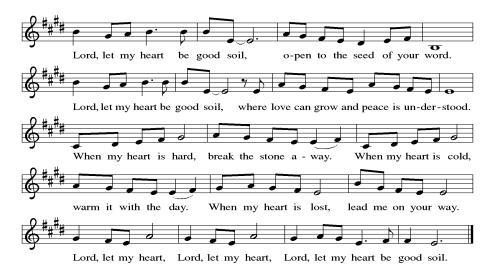
C. Thanks be to God.

## A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL

Children & Youth are invited forward for a special sermon time with Pastor.

Congregation stands

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



### GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21

P. The holy gospel according to Luke. **C. Glory to you, O Lord.** 

<sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." <sup>16</sup> Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup> And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup> Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' <sup>21</sup> So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

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

Congregation is seated

SERMON Pastor Scott

Congregation stands

HYMN OF THE DAY

Son of God, Eternal Savior

ELW 655

(printed in the back of the bulletin)

## APOSTLE'S 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 THE CHURCH

A. In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world. A brief silence.

A. Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits. Build an enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life of the world, is revealed to everyone. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

A. Revitalize and protect the treasures of wild places. Teach all people to value the earth, winds, waters, trees, and animals, the gifts that make life possible on this planet. God of grace, **hear our prayer**.

A. Speak wisdom to any in positions of power, that they cease practices of divisiveness, insult, and oppression. Clothe all people in your image, and establish equity and peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

A. Reveal your loving presence in the lives of people suffering hunger and need, illness and grief, pain and fear. We pray especially for.....those we now say aloud...and those we hold in our hearts... Give strength to those who give care, and equip them with compassion as they make your love known. God of grace, hear our prayer.

A. Store up in this congregation a full measure of gratitude and generosity. Guide the work of treasurers and all who attend to financial matters. Support those whose work in our community is difficult and demanding; make us mindful of the toil that goes unnoticed. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

A. Receive our thanks for the lives of your saints who now rest from their labors. Give us wisdom through their witness and encourage us in love as we continue our lives in the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

P. Trusting in your loving kindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.** 

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

- P. The Peace of Christ be with you always.
- C. And also with you.
- P. Let us share with each other a sign of Christ's peace.

Congregation is seated

## **MEAL**

## OFFERTORY INVITATION

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Offering can be given by putting it in the offering plate when it is passed, online directly via the QR codes for Tithely or Venmo, or by requesting your bank to send a check to the church. Find more details on our website.

Thank you for your generous gifts!

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Congregation stands

#### OFFERTORY SONG



#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

A. Let us pray... Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen**.

## **DIALOGUE & PREFACE OF THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

- 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.
- P. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that

beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so with all the choirs of angels, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **Holy, Holy, Holy** (Sing 2x—English 1st time; Spanish 2nd time)





Text: Argentine traditional

Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional

## Congregation kneels or sits

#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P. Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, 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.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen.** 

## **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.

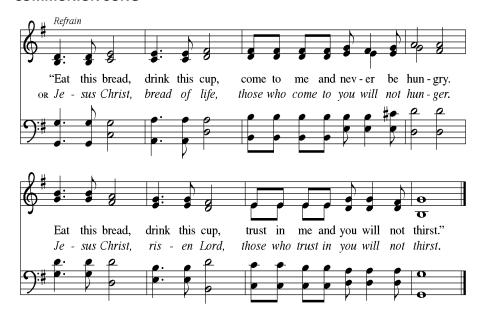
#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we practice Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcome to Communion this morning. Please come forward, guided by the Ushers, to receive the bread and wine. Children are invited to the table for a blessing.

Gluten free and traditional wafers are available, please note this to Pastor Peggy when you come up. The bread is dairy and egg free. Grape juice is available in the second communion plate. As you return to your seat via the side aisles you can place your empty cup in the baskets on either side.

P. The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

### COMMUNION SONG



Text: Taizé Community

Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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#### DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

After all have received Communion the congregation stands.

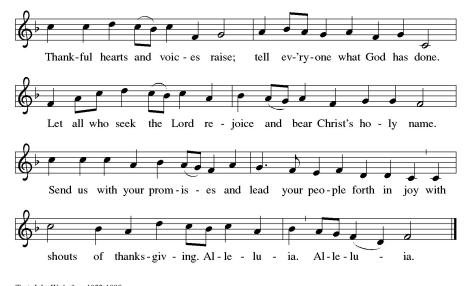
#### TABLE BLESSING

P. The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

Congregation is seated

#### SONG AFTER COMMUNION

## Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A. Let us pray... Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.** 

#### **SENDING**

### BENEDICTION

P. The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts and the life of the Spirit  $\oplus$  bless you and give you peace. **Amen**.

SENDING HYMN

Take My Life, That I May Be

**ELW 583** 

(printed in the back of the bulletin)

#### DISMISSAL

A. Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. C. Thanks be to God.

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## **Announcements for August 3rd, 2025**

Welcome to Holy Counselor Lutheran Church. May you experience the joy of God's presence in our worship!

If today is your first time worshiping at Holy Counselor, please be sure to fill out the "Guest Book" on the table in the narthex and take a welcome bag.

Please ask our ushers any questions you may have regarding worship this morning. Large print bulletins are available.

Worship is live streamed to our church Facebook page, but the camera is pointed away during Communion and is not on the children when they come forward during A Time for the Child in Us All.

## Altar flowers are in memory of Woody, from Dawn McCormick

HCLC wishes to express our gratitude to Pastor Scott for leading our congregation during Pastor Peggy's absence. Your guidance & sermons have had a positive impact and have been a blessing to us all. Thank you!

Thank you, Diane Rossi, for this morning's refreshments

## \*\*\*\*\* Join us for refreshments after worship\*\*\*\*

## Volunteers for today's Worship

Lay Asst. Volunteer needed

Ushers Diane Rossi
Comm. Asst Debbie Lennon
Tech Mark Rossi

**Tellers** Volunteer needed

**Refreshments** Diane Rossi

Outdoor Setup Diane & Mark Rossi

## Volunteers for next Sunday, August 10th

Lay AsstDebbie LennonUshersVolunteer neededTechVolunteer neededTellersVolunteer neededRefreshmentsVolunteer neededOutdoor SetupVolunteer needed

## THIS WEEK AT HOLY COUNSELOR

**Sunday, August 3:** Outside Worship, w/Communion, 9:30am **Sunday, August 10:** Outside Worship, Service of the Word, 9:30am

<u>Lutheran Disaster Response</u>: There are ongoing efforts for care near and far and Lutheran Disaster Response helps with all of them. For more information on response support <u>visit their website here.</u>

<u>Adult Ed:</u> We will resume Adult Ed in mid-September with Isaiah Study. Please reach out to Pam Kucks by August 22<sup>nd</sup> if you plan to attend.

<u>Vernon Day:</u> Mark your calendars for September 6<sup>th</sup> (rain date is Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>) for the church booth.

<u>UPDATE:</u> Vacation Bible School will not take place this summer at HCLC. Hopefully we can offer it next summer.

<u>Outside Worship:</u> Our Sunday morning worship services are held outside at 9:30am, weather permitting through Labor Day weekend. Please dress appropriately for the temperature. If you are available to help set up the equipment (electric piano, amplifier, speakers, canopy tents, etc.) please talk to Diane Rossi.

<u>Food Pantry:</u> The Food Pantry is low on canned chili, pasta, pasta sauce, canned soup, canned baked beans, mayonnaise, tuna helper, cereal, instant pudding & jello, snacks and juice packs for kids, deodorant, body wash, toothpaste, and 4-pack toilet paper. You can always bring donations of canned goods, paper goods, and hygiene products. All donations can be placed in the blue bin by the sanctuary doors. Thank you!

**GATHERING HYMN ELW 526** 

## God Is Here!



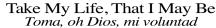
Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991
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## Son of God, Eternal Savior



SENDING HYMN ELW 583





- 2 Que mis pies tan sólo\_en pos de lo santo puedan ir, y que\_a ti, Señor, mi voz, se complazca\_en bendecir. Estribillo
- 3 Que mis labios al hablar hablen sólo de tu amor; que mis bienes dedicar yo los quiera a ti, Señor. Estribillo
- 4 Que mi tiempo todo\_esté consagrado\_a tu loor; que mi mente\_y su poder sean usados en tu honor. Estribillo

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vincent Mendoza, 1875–1955 Music: TOMA MI VOLUNTAD, William Dexheimer Pharris, b. 1956 Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.



## **Contact Information**

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## MISSION STATEMENT

As Children of God, we are called to share and serve Christ's love and bring God's word to all.

## **CHURCH COUNCIL**

Pastor Rev. Peggy Ludlow
President Nancy Knecht
Vice President Frank Urbaniak
Treasurer Claire Speroni
Recording Secretary Dawn McCormick
Financial Secretary John Heeren
Outreach Coordinator Francine Vince
Nurture Coordinator Fred Schoenagel
Administration Coordinator Diane Rossi
Youth Representative Kevin Drache

## PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Kristina Heeren Pam Kucks Matt Moller Aileen Donovan

Holy Counselor is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Munsee people, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

