



# 15th Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 am - September 21, 2025

*Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Welcome to Messiah

We are a community of grace where we live out Jesus' commandment to love God with our whole heart and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We also seek to be a welcoming community for all people. This includes people of every race, ability, sexual orientation and gender identity, ethnic background, economic grouping, religious affiliation, and political persuasion. We do this simply because God created all people in God's own image and Christ Jesus came so all people might have abundant life. We may not always be perfect, but this is our intention--all are welcome!

*Please stand as comfortable, in body or in spirit. The presiding minister will read the sections in plain text. **You are invited to read the bold portions.***

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

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. **Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

#655 "Son of God, Eternal Savior"



- 1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
- 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
- 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
- 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,  
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant-ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.  
 hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.  
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:  
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;  
 By your pa - tient years of toil-ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,  
 by your pray-ing, by your will-ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.  
 we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.  
 quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

## 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.**

## KYRIE

#157 ELW "Kyrie"



**Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have**



Lord. For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de - fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

#167 ELW "Now the Feast and Celebration"

*Refrain*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion

sings for joy to the God of life and love and free - dom;

praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has  
freed and u-nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow-er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon-or and  
glo-ry to Christ for-ev-er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of  
God; to make all things new.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### FIRST READING

Amos 8:4-7

Please  
be seat-  
ed.

- <sup>4</sup> Hear this, you who trample on the needy,  
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,  
<sup>5</sup> saying, "When will the new moon be over  
so that we may sell grain,  
and the Sabbath,  
so that we may offer wheat for sale?  
We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier  
and practice deceit with false balances,  
<sup>6</sup> buying the poor for silver  
and the needy for a pair of sandals  
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

<sup>7</sup>The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:  
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Word of God, Word of Life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 113

- <sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;  
praise the name of the LORD.  
<sup>2</sup> **Let the name of the LORD be blessed,  
from this time forth forevermore.**  
<sup>3</sup> From the rising of the sun to its going down  
let the name of the LORD be praised.  
<sup>4</sup> **The LORD is high above all nations;  
God's glory above the heavens.**  
<sup>5</sup> Who is like the LORD our God,  
who sits enthroned on high,  
<sup>6</sup> **but stoops to behold  
the heavens and the earth?**  
<sup>7</sup> The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust  
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,  
<sup>8</sup> **enthroning them with the rulers,  
with the rulers of the people.**  
<sup>9</sup> The LORD makes the woman of a childless house  
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

## SECOND READING

1 Timothy 2:1-7

<sup>1</sup> First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God;  
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,  
Christ Jesus, himself human,  
<sup>6</sup> who gave himself a ransom for all  
—this was attested at the right time.<sup>7</sup> For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

Word of God, Word of Life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please  
stand as  
you are  
comfort-  
able in  
body or  
spirit.

*Congregation:*

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

*Optional Repeat*

## GOSPEL

Luke 16:1-13

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup> So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.' <sup>3</sup> Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup> I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' <sup>5</sup> So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' <sup>6</sup> He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' <sup>7</sup> Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' <sup>8</sup> And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup> And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

<sup>10</sup> "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup> If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup> No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

Please  
be seat-  
ed.

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

#710 "Let Streams of Living Justice"

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;  
 2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,  
 3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;  
 give free-dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.  
 for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.  
 your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,  
 Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;  
 Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,  
 the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.  
 on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.  
 our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home-land bright-ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;  
 O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;  
 In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;  
 a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.  
 dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.  
 your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

Please  
stand as  
you are  
comfort-  
able in  
body or  
spirit.

### 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

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

O God, teach your church to act in solidarity with the poor, frustrating the efforts of those who trample on the needy and practicing justice in our own life and community. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty Creator, we pray for an end to the misuse of the earth and its resources, that all people may benefit from your abundant gifts and that our stewardship of creation would be marked by justice and sustainability. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Holy One, embolden elected leaders to pursue policies of economic justice for the benefit of all, especially those who are most vulnerable and marginalized. Persuade them by your example of generosity and compassion. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Compassionate God, we pray for all facing illness, those near death, or those grieving the loss of loved ones, especially... May they find comfort and strength in your love. Prepare us to surround them with your healing care. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God of love, motivate our congregation to enact economic justice through tangible action, prioritizing the needs of our community and sharing resources generously through our outreach and justice ministries. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

Gracious God, we give thanks for the saints who now join the heavenly chorus in praising your name. Lift us up from the dust of grief and remind us of your promise of new life. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

### SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Please be  
seated.

### SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM

*"Let Us Love One Another"*



Please  
stand as  
you are  
comfortable  
in body  
or spirit.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

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, our duty and our joy

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

...

God of Creation, You brought order from chaos...

...In the image of the stars you said, I am here.

And your people say, **Let it be so.**

When Jacob and his sons faced starvation...

...In mercy you declared, I am here.

And your people declare, **Let it be so.**

...

May this meal remind us that you are here.  
 ...In love, sending us out, "go and do likewise."  
 And so, we, your people, proclaim, **let it be so.**

...Bless and make holy all those who partake  
 So that we may also be in communion with Christ and one another **Amen.**

Please  
 be seat-  
 ed.

## 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.**

## COMMUNION HYMNS

"Lamb of God" ACS p. 40

*Congregation:*      *Congregation or Assistant:*



Lamb of God,      you take a - way the sin of the  
    you break the chains of ha - tred and  
    you are the way of jus - tice and  
    you are the way of mer - cy and

*Congregation:*



world:      have mer - cy on us,      mer - cy on us,  
 fear:  
 peace:  
 love.

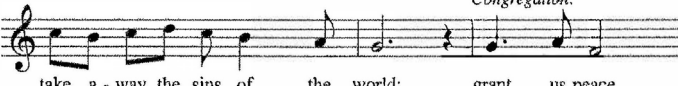
**Final Stanza**

*Congregation or Assistant:*



mer - cy      on      us.      Lamb of God,      you

*Congregation:*



take a - way the sins of the world:      grant us peace,



grant us peace,      grant us peace.

## #494 "For the Bread Which You Have Broken"



- 1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,
- 2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re - stored,
- 3 With the saints who now a - dore you, seat-ed at the heav'n - ly board,
- 4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;



for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.  
by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.  
may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.  
in the world to which you send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.

#### #482 "I Come with Joy"



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and  
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are  
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion  
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er  
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in  
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in  
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -  
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.  
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.  
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.  
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Please  
stand as  
you are  
comforta-  
ble in  
body or  
spirit.

#### POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

##### BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**Amen.**

##### SENDING HYMN

#669 "Rise Up, O Saints of God!" next page

##### SENDING

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

**Thanks be to God.**

##### POSTLUDE



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king-dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um-phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.  
 as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro-claim.  
 re - dress sin's cru - el con - se-quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.  
 stretch forth your hand of heal-ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.  
 and, quick-ened by the Spir-it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

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## Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Preacher:	Pr. Andrew Plocher
Liturgist:	Pr. Molly Hunter
Assisting Minister:	Chris Harkness
Reader:	David Echelbarger
Ushers:	Joe & Chris Harkness
Communion Assistants:	Beth Krznarich, Kathy Maynard
Greeters:	Sherry Labbe, Penny Streeter
Organist:	Jon Banitt
Senior Choir Director:	Sara Parks
Audio Technician:	Traci Zini
Livestream Technician:	Traci Zini
Nursery:	Maddie Dykema
Flower Delivery:	Jane Brow
Refreshments:	Sherry Labby, Penny Streeter

### Acknowledgements:

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**venmo**