

Order of Worship
9th Sunday after Pentecost
August 10, 2025

“Consider the lilies...”

Luke 12:27



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church
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9th Sunday after Pentecost. Jesus says, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” It is God’s promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the “little flock” of which we are a part in today’s assembly. Faith, God’s baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

***=ALL STAND for this part of worship**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Here I Am to Worship

Tim Hughes

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who looks upon us in compassion,
forgives our sin,
and heals our lives.
Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Have mercy, O God,
against you, you alone,
we have sinned.
In your compassion,
cleanse us from our sin
and take away our guilt.
Create in us a new heart
and give us a steadfast spirit.
Do not cast us away,
but fill us with your Holy Spirit
and restore your joy within us.
Amen.

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God’s compassion for you.
As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God’s love for you.

As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you,
renewing your life through Jesus Christ.

Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

Blessed be God forever.

***GATHERING HYMN**

Voices Raised to You

ELW 845



1	Voic - es raised to	you	we	of - fer;	tune them, God, for
2	All cre - a - tion	joins	to	praise you;	earth and sky your
3	Christ, the song of	love	in - car - nate,	touch - ing	earth with
4	Spir - it, flam - ing	through	cre - a - tion,	kin - dle	faith with -
5	How can an - y	praise	we	of - fer	mea - sure all the



songs of praise.	Hearts and hands we	bring in trib - ute
works dis - play.	Art and mu - sic,	gifts you lend us,
heav - en's grace,	for your liv - ing,	suf - f'ring, dy - ing,
in each heart.	Lift our voic - es	high in cho - rus;
thanks we owe?	Take our hearts and	hands and voic - es—



for your gifts through	all our days.	Al - le - lu - ia!
we re - turn to	you to - day.	Al - le - lu - ia!
for your ris - ing,	hear our praise!	Al - le - lu - ia!
through our hands	your love im - part.	Al - le - lu - ia!
gifts of love we	can be - stow.	Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia!	Tri - une God, to	you	we	sing!
Al - le - lu - ia!	God, cre - a - tor,	source	of	life!
Al - le - lu - ia!	Christ, re - deem - er,	Lord	of	life!
Al - le - lu - ia!	Spir - it, help - er,	breath	of	life!
Al - le - lu - ia!	Tri - une God, to	you	we	sing!

*APOSTOLIC 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.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Glory to You Lord

ACS Setting 12

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together.

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.

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6

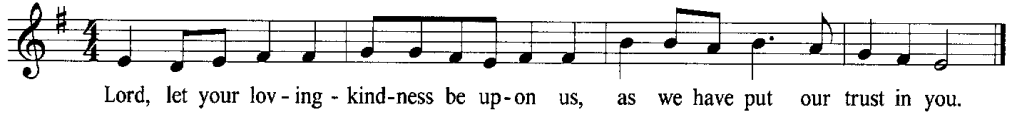
⁶¹ After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ² But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴ But 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.” ⁵ He 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.” ⁶ And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 33:12-22 (Sung)

PSALM REFRAIN



PSALM TONE



- ¹² Happy is the nation whose God | is the Lord!
Happy the people chosen to | be God's heritage!
- ¹³ **The Lord looks | down from heaven,
and sees all | humankind.**
- ¹⁴ God sits firmly en- | throned and watches
all who dwell | on the earth.
- ¹⁵ **God fashions | all their hearts
and observes | all their deeds. R**
- ¹⁶ A king is not saved by the size | of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by | their great strength.
- ¹⁷ **The horse gives vain | hope for victory;
despite its great strength it | cannot save.**
- ¹⁸ Truly, your eye is upon those who fear | you, O Lord,
upon those who wait for your | steadfast love,
- ¹⁹ **to deliver their | lives from death,
and to keep them alive in | time of famine. R**
- ²⁰ Our innermost being waits for | you, O Lord,
our helper | and our shield.
- ²¹ **Surely, our heart rejoic- | es in you,
for in your holy name we | put our trust.**
- ²² Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, | be upon us,
even as we place our | hope in you. **R**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By 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.

⁸ By 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. ⁹ By 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. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore 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."

¹³ All 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, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.

***GOSPEL: Luke 12:22-40**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²² He said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ For life is more than food and the body more than clothing. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! ²⁵ And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁶ If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? ²⁷ Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ²⁸ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, you of little faith! ²⁹ And do not keep seeking what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. ³⁰ For it is the nations of the world that seek all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

[Jesus said:] ³² “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell 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. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be 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. ³⁷ Blessed 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. ³⁸ If 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. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Olga-Maria Cruz

Silence is kept for reflection.

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

ELW 733



1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no
2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear



shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in
pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright



pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.
man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.
hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy



hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

We now profess the faith we share using the words of the 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**

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.

Loving God, keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Loving God, worlds were prepared by your Word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened. Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Loving God, you know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, let your lovingkindness be on those in need—especially those we name before you now, whether silently or aloud, including: *Mary, Mabel, Doris, June, Barbara, Ann, Julie, Carol, Anne, Judy, Tom, Lydia, Brian, James & Grace, Wil, Amy, Bob & Jane, Barbara, Scott, Ron & Flo, Mac, Monica, Tom & Leona, Avery, Doris, John, Tim, Arleen, Betty, Linda, Jeff, Henry, Gary, Greg, Helen & Ron, and Max & Michelle.* Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Loving God, bless all who are heading back to school this week—teachers and staff, bus drivers, and especially students. Fill classrooms with curiosity and kindness, and hallways with safety and belonging. Encourage those who are eager, comfort those who are anxious, and strengthen those who teach and guide. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and other means of support and advocacy. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Loving God, we celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance. Sustain us in our hope of things not seen. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

*SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

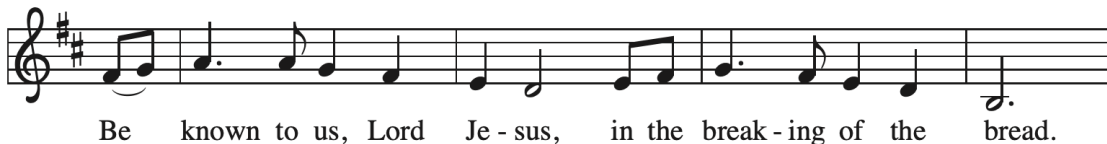
Praise the Father, Praise the Son

Ed Cash / Chris Tomlin

*OFFERING SONG

Be Known to Us, Lord Jesus

ACS Setting 12




*OFFERING PRAYER

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure.
Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace.
Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our
communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song.
Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

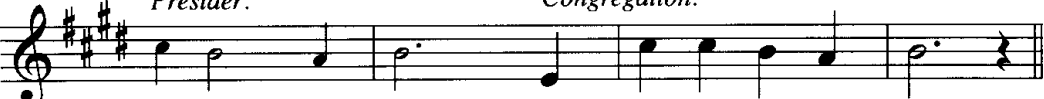
DIALOGUE

Presider: *Congregation:*




The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.

Presider: *Congregation:*




Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: *Congregation:*



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is



right to give God thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

It is our duty and delight
that we should everywhere and always
offer thanks and praise to you, oh God,
through Jesus Christ;
who calls us to follow his way
of humble service and love.
And so, with the church on earth,
all creation and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

ACS Setting 12

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and

God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your

glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the

Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

O God triune, you took on our flesh in Jesus our healer.
In Christ you bring life from death;
we remember his cross,
we laud his resurrection.
Broken like bread, he enlivens our body.
Outpoured like wine, he fills the earth with goodness.
Receiving this mystery,
we mortals sing our song:
The earth is full of your glory.
The earth is full of your glory.

We praise you for the heart of Jesus,
so filled with your love for this earth.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and 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 death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.
Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

Jack S. Upton, Jr. 97

expressivo

Our Fath - er in — Hea - ven

Hal - low-ed be your name. Your King - dom come your — will be done in

earth as it is in Heav'n Give us this day our

dai - ly bread. For give us our sins as

we for-give those who sin a-against-us Save us from the time of trials and de-

liv - er us from e - vil For the King-dom the po - wer and the

Glo - ry are Yours Now and for - ev - er

A - Men

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.
Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION

The baptized children of God are invited by the Lord to the Lord's Table where we receive Jesus' very body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. We commune at the communion rail where we receive the Body and Blood of Christ. Gluten free bread and grape juice are available. If you wish to commune, but cannot come forward, let an usher know and Pastor will come to you. If you do not wish to commune, you are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. You may wish to remain at the rail for a time of personal prayer following which you may return to your pew down the side aisle.

LAMB OF GOD

ACS Setting 12



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts

1 O Je - sus, joy of lov - ing hearts, the fount of
 2 We taste you, ev - er - liv - ing bread, and long to
 3 For you our rest - less spir - its yearn, wher - e'er our
 4 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay! Make all our



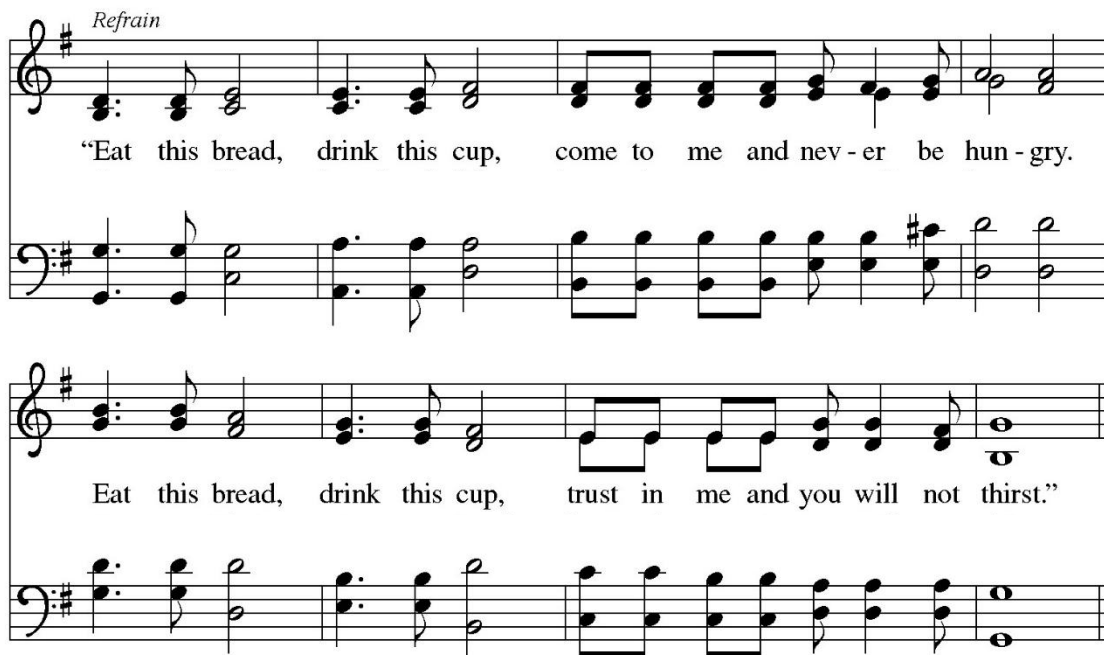
life, the light of all: from ev - 'ry bliss that earth im -
 feast up - on you still; we drink of you, the foun - tain -
 chang - ing lot is cast; glad, when your smile on us you
 mo - ments fair and bright! Oh, chase the night of sin a -



parts we turn, un - filled, to hear your call.
 head; our thirst - ing souls from you we fill.
 turn, blest, when by faith we hold you fast.
 way! Shed o'er the world your ho - ly light.

Eat This Bread

Refrain



“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.”

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMNGod, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

ELW 771



1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,
2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
3 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new:



flung the suns in burn-ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space;
known the ec - sta - sy of wing-ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;
chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - 'ring you.



we, your chil - dren in your like-ness, share in - ven - tive pow'rs with you;
probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield-ing un - i - mag - ined pow'r,
May our dreams prove rich with prom-ise; each en-deav-or well be - gun;



great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.
fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.
great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

***BENEDICTION**

God, the Source of glory,
God, the Word of life,
God, the Spirit of truth
✠ bless you all, now and forever.
Amen.

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The Spirit of Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE*Brothers and Sisters in Christ*

Terry Dittmer

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