



August 16, 2026

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Kenneth Bersche

Maggie Kent, Secretary

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“How Great Thou Art”

- ♪ O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed;
~Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
- ♪ When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees; When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; ~Then sings...
- ♪ But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in— That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; ~Then sings...
- ♪ When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: “My God, how great Thou art!” ~Then sings....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 801—Text: Carl Gustaf Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. Stuart W. K. Hine, 1899–1989; Text: © 1949, 1953 The Stuart Hine Trust, admin. EMI CMG and Hope Publishing Co.

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Invocation

I will go to the altar of God,

To God my exceeding joy.

Psalm 43:4

My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

Matthew 15:22

Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David.

Isaiah 56:7

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

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Today, though we are undeserving, we come to the Lord saying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David.” Let us seek the Lord here while He may be found to grant us healing, help, and forgiveness.

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of David, Son of God, we are severely oppressed by sin in all our thoughts, words, and actions. We have sinned against You by our own fault. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, O Lord, and grant us forgiveness, help, and salvation. Amen. *A Time of Silence*

Almighty God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and of all who believe in the name of His only begotten Son, is the God of mercy and for His sake forgives us all our sins. Therefore, in the

stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. In that mercy He gives power to become the children of God and promises His Holy Spirit. All who believe and are baptized shall be saved.

Amen.

Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn of Praise *Please Be Seated*

“Jesus, Shall Reign”

- ♪ Jesus shall reign where'er the sun Does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
- ♪ To Him shall endless prayer be made, And endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise With ev'ry morning sacrifice.
- ♪ People and realms of ev'ry tongue Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim Their early blessings on His name.
- ♪ Blessings abound where'er He reigns: The pris'ners leap, unloose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest, And all who suffer want are blest.
- ♪ Let ev'ry creature rise and bring Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud amen.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 832-Text: Isaac Watts 1674-1748; Public domain.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 56:1, 6–8

¹Thus says the Lord:

“Keep justice, and do righteousness, for soon my salvation will come,
and my righteousness be revealed...”

⁶“And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants,
everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, and holds fast my covenant—
⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.”

⁸The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares,
“I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

Romans 11:1–2a, 13–15, 28–32

¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ²God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew...

¹³Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry ¹⁴in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. ¹⁵For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? ¹⁶If the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump, and if the root is holy, so are the branches...

²⁸As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. ²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. ³²For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

“God Loved the World So That He Gave”

- ♪ God loved the world so that He gave His only Son the lost to save,
That all who would in Him believe Should everlasting life receive.
- ♪ Christ Jesus is the ground of faith, Who was made flesh and suffered death;
All then who trust in Him alone Are built on this chief cornerstone.
- ♪ God would not have the sinner die; His Son with saving grace is nigh;
His Spirit in the Word declares How we in Christ are heaven's heirs.
- ♪ Be of good cheer, for God's own Son Forgives all sins which you have done;
And, justified by Jesus' blood, Your Baptism grants the highest good.
- ♪ If you are sick, if death is near, This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death; That is the firmest ground of faith.

Please Stand

- ♪ Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessed Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 571—Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778,
Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.; Text: Public domain

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 15:21–28

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” ²³But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶And he answered, “It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their

masters' table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

Children’s Message *Please Be Seated*

The Hymn

“Nearer, My God, to Thee”

- ♪ Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.
E’en though it be a cross that raiseth me, Still all my song shall be,
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.
- ♪ Though like the wanderer, The sun gone down,
Darkness be over me, My rest a stone, Yet in my dreams I’d be
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.
- ♪ There let my way appear Steps unto heav’n;
All that Thou sendest me In mercy giv’n; Angels to beckon me
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.
- ♪ Then with my waking thoughts Bright with Thy praise,
Out of my stony griefs Bethel I’ll raise, So by my woes to be
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee.
- ♪ Or if on joyful wing, Cleaving the sky,
Sun, moon, and stars forgot, Upward I fly, Still all my song shall be,
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.

The Lutheran Hymnal, Hymn 533 -Text: Sarah F. Adams 1805-48; Public domain.

Proclamation of the Word

“At the End of OUR Rope”

Matthew 15:21–28

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Colossians 3:1

Let us give thanks to Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Psalms 136

Proper Preface

Sanctus Hymn *Music: “When I Survey”, Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 425*

♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord God, Heaven and earth Your glory acclaim
Sing hosanna in the high’st! Blessed is He who comes to us!

Lord’s Prayer

Words of Our Lord

The Peace of the Lord

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Agnus Dei *Music: “When I Survey”, Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 425*

♪ O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take away the sin of world.
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

Distribution Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table”

♪ I come, O Savior, to Thy table, For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able To satisfy and make me whole:
~Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!

♪ Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning; So I, a sinner, come to Thee. ~Lord,...

♪ Unworthy though I am, O Savior, Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never, For Thou my faithful shepherd art: ~Lord,...

♪ Weary am I and heavy laden; With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously and gladden My heart, for I am now Thy guest. ~Lord,...

♪ What higher gift can we inherit? It is faith’s bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit, The covenant of hope and grace. ~Lord,....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 618—Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.; Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005255

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on You with favor and + give You peace.

Numbers 6:24–26

Amen.

Recessional Hymn

“I Love to Tell the Story”

♪ I love to tell the story Of how, from heav’n above Our Lord and Savior Jesus
Was sent to show God’s love To ev’ry sinful creature Upon this earthly place
How Christ, the gift from heaven, Is God’s great gift of grace.
~I love to tell the story! ‘Twill be my theme in glory,
To tell the old, old story Of Jesus and His love.

- ♪ I love to tell the story Of our dear Savior's birth. Of how the angel chorus
Announced with joyful mirth That little baby, Jesus, Was Christ the earth's true Lord.
Of how the lowly shepherds On bended knees adored. ~I love to tell...
- ♪ I love to tell the story Of how He was baptized. How God's great voice from heaven
Spoke loudly from the skies. How God the Holy Spirit Descended as a dove.
How Jesus heard His Father Proclaim to all His love. ~I love...
- ♪ I love to tell the story Of how the people came To see Him feed the hungry
To see Him cure the lame. For Jesus shows compassion
To those in storm and strife And offers all His children His gift-eternal life. ~I love...
- ♪ I love to tell the story Although it's sad to tell. Of how our Lord and Master
Faced pain and death and hell. Dear Jesus, whipped and bleeding
Was hung upon the tree And died on that Good Friday To save both you and me. ~I love...
- ♪ I love to tell the story Of how our Lord and friend. Rose up on Easter morning
And reigns in highest heav'n. The love of God the Father,
The Spirit, and the Son Has given us salvation The free gift Jesus won. ~I love....

All God's People Sing, Hymn 128 -Text: Jeffrey E. Burkart; Christian Copyright License International #1217384

Postlude

Select your favorite hymn for Sunday, August 30th by writing in the hymn title and hymn number (please include the hymn number because some hymns have different melodies) on the comment section of the communication card! Thank you.