



August 30, 2026

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Kenneth Bersche

Maggie Kent, Secretary

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“A Mighty Fortress”

- ♪ A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe; Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight; On earth is not his equal.
- ♪ With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One, Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is, Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God; He holds the field forever.
- ♪ Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not overpow'r us.
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will, He can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done; One little word can fell him.
- ♪ The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, and wife, Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won; The Kingdom ours remaineth.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 656—Text: tr. composite; Martin Luther, 1483–1546; Text: Public domain

Holy Baptism *Please Be Seated*

Teagan Nicole Reibenstein

Hymn

“Seek Ye First”

- ♪ Seek ye first the kingdom of God, And His righteousness.
And all these things shall be added unto you! Allelu, alleluia!
- ♪ Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find.
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!
- ♪ Man does not live by bread alone, But by ev'ry word
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord. Allelu, alleluia!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 712 -Text & Tune: Karen Lafferty b.1948;

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Invocation

Blessed are those whose way is blameless,

Who walk in the law of the Lord!

Psalms 119:1

Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.

I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

Psalms 116:5, 9

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

Blessed be His glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with His glory!

Amen and Amen!

Psalms 72:18–19

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

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins. Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature, I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your Law. For the sake of the suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.

God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

Amen.

As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Hymn of Praise

“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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Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn of Praise

“On Eagles’ Wings”

♪ You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, Who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord: “My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!”
~And He will raise you up on eagles’ wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of His hand.

- ♪ The snare of the fowler will never capture you, And famine will bring you no fear;
Under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield. ~And He...
- ♪ You need not fear the terror of the night, Nor the arrow that flies by day;
Though thousands fall about you, Near you it shall not come. ~And He...
- ♪ For to His angels He's given a command To guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone. ~And He....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 727 - Text & Tune: Michael Joncas b. 1951; © OCP Publications; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 15:15–21

- ¹⁵O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me,
and take vengeance for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance take me not away; know that for your sake I bear reproach.
- ¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts.
- ¹⁷I did not sit in the company of revelers, nor did I rejoice;
I sat alone, because your hand was upon me, for you had filled me with indignation.
- ¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?
Will you be to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail?
- ¹⁹Therefore thus says the Lord:
“If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall be as my mouth.
They shall turn to you, but you shall not turn to them.
- ²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you to save you and deliver you, declares the Lord.
- ²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.”
- This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

Romans 12:9–21

- ⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.
- ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.
- This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

- ♪ Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee; Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
- ♪ Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love; Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee, Swift and beautiful for Thee.
- ♪ Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King; Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee, Filled with messages from Thee.
- ♪ Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold; Take my intellect and use
Ev’ry pow’r as Thou shalt choose, Ev’ry pow’r as Thou shalt choose.
- ♪ Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine; Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne, It shall be Thy royal throne.
- ♪ Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store; Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee, Ever, only, all for Thee.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 784—Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79; Text: Public domain

The Holy Gospel *Please Stand*

Matthew 16:21–28

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.” ²³But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? ²⁷For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Children’s Message *Please Be Seated*

The Hymn

“Thy Strong Word”

- ♪ Thy strong word did cleave the darkness; At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee, While Thine ordered seasons run.
~Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send! Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!
- ♪ Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness, Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation, Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath. ~Alleluia...
- ♪ Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous; Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory, And our lives our hopes confess. ~Alleluia...
- ♪ From the cross Thy wisdom shining Breaketh forth in conquering might;
From the cross forever beameth All Thy bright redeeming light. ~Alleluia...

- ♪ Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!
- ♪ God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 578—Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76;
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Proclamation of the Word

“The greatest evil, the CROSS, made into good!”

Romans 12:9–21

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand*

Each petition is concluded with the following:

Lord, in Your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

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 *Please Be Seated*

“O Bless the Lord, My Soul”

- ♪ O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all within me join
And aid my tongue to bless His name Whose favors are divine.
- ♪ O bless the Lord, my soul, Nor let His mercies lie
Forgotten in unthankfulness And without praises die!
- ♪ ‘Tis He forgives thy sins; ‘Tis He relieves thy pain;
‘Tis He that heals thy sicknesses And makes thee young again.
- ♪ He crowns thy life with love When ransomed from the grave;
He that redeemed my soul from hell Hath sov’ reign pow’r to save.
- ♪ He fills the poor with good; He gives the suff’rers rest.
The Lord hath judgments for the proud And justice for th’ oppressed.
- ♪ His wondrous works and ways He made by Moses known,
But sent the world His truth and grace By His beloved Son.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 814—Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748; Public domain.

Postlude

Thank you for selecting the hymns for our worship today!

