

# Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

July 16, 2023

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



**ALL ARE WELCOME HERE!**

**Gospel in Action: Caring for all God's children, we shall serve God through worship, learning, and sharing.**

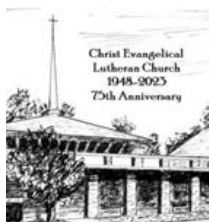
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Interim Pastor: Rev. Laura Kuntz

Office Administrator: Heather Nordman

Organist: Randi Smarsh      Custodians: Bill Higgins and Beth Lecorchick



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRELUDE

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors. Righteous God,

**C: We confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

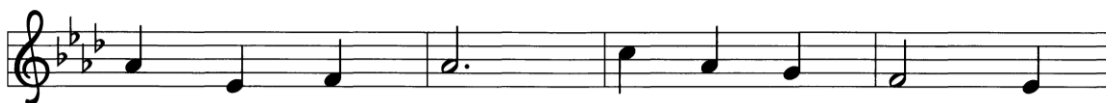
P: God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

## GATHERING HYMN

731

Earth and All Stars!



1	Earth	and	all	stars!	Loud	rush - ing	plan - ets!
2	Trum - pet	and	pipes!	Loud	clash - ing	cym - bals!	
3	En - gines	and	steel!	Loud	pound - ing	ham - mers!	
4	Class-rooms	and	labs!	Loud	boil - ing	test tubes!	
5	Knowl-edge	and	truth!	Loud	sound - ing	wis - dom!	



Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!
Sing	to the	Lord	a	new	song!



Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm!  
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming cel - los!  
Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing work - ers!  
Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing peo - ple!  
Daugh - ter and son! Loud pray - ing mem - bers!



Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!



*Refrain*  
God has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too sing prais - es with a new song!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
Music: David N. Johnson, 1922-1987  
Text and music © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House

EARTH AND ALL STARS  
457 D and refrain

## 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

## Refrain

*Assistant:* *Congregation:*

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord, have mer-cy,

*to Verses*

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

*Assistant:* For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:* For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:*

Help, save and de - fend us, O

*Congregation:*

God. A - men.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

# 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!

## Verse 1

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. **D.C.**

## Verse 2

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

## Verse 3

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

Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950  
Tune: Marty Haugen, b.1950  
© 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

## SALUTATION

Presider: Congregation:

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

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

**C: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*The congregation is invited to sit.*

## FIRST LESSON **Isaiah 55:10-13**

L: The first lesson is from Isaiah, the 55<sup>th</sup> chapter.

<sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. <sup>12</sup>For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. <sup>13</sup>Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

L: The word of the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## PSALM 65:[1-8] 9-13

### TONE

Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.  
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## REFRAIN

Your paths o - ver - flow with plen - ty, O God, your  
paths o - ver - flow with plen - ty.

Psalm 65:11  
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year A* © 2007 Augsburg Fortress.  
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[ <sup>1</sup>You are to be praised, O <sup>1</sup> God, in Zion;  
to you shall vows <sup>1</sup> be fulfilled.

<sup>2</sup>**To you, the one <sup>1</sup> who answers prayer,  
to you all <sup>1</sup> flesh shall come.**

<sup>3</sup>Our sins are strong- <sup>1</sup> er than we are,  
but you blot out <sup>1</sup> our transgressions.

<sup>4</sup>**Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your <sup>1</sup> courts to dwell there!  
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness <sup>1</sup> of your  
temple. R**

<sup>5</sup>Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of <sup>1</sup> our  
salvation,

O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans <sup>1</sup> far away.

<sup>6</sup>**You make firm the mountains <sup>1</sup> by your power;  
you are girded a- <sup>1</sup> bout with might.**

<sup>7</sup>You still the roaring <sup>1</sup> of the seas,  
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor <sup>1</sup> of the peoples.

<sup>8</sup>**Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your <sup>1</sup> marvelous  
signs;**

**you make the dawn and the dusk to <sup>1</sup> sing for joy. R**

] <sup>9</sup>You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the  
river of God is <sup>1</sup> full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide <sup>1</sup> for the earth.

<sup>10</sup>**You drench the furrows and smooth <sup>1</sup> out the ridges;  
with heavy rain you soften the ground and <sup>1</sup> bless its increase.**

<sup>11</sup>You crown the year <sup>1</sup> with your goodness,  
and your paths over- <sup>1</sup> flow with plenty.

<sup>12</sup>**May the fields of the wilderness be <sup>1</sup> rich for grazing,  
and the hills be <sup>1</sup> clothed with joy.**

<sup>13</sup>May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak  
them- <sup>1</sup> selves with grain;

let them shout for <sup>1</sup> joy and sing. R

## SECOND LESSON                  Romans 8:1-11

L: The second lesson is from Romans, the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter.

<sup>1</sup>There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. <sup>3</sup>For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by

sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law—indeed it cannot, <sup>8</sup>and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. <sup>9</sup>But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

L: The word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

## CHILDREN’S SERMON

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

### GOSPEL VERSE

*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*

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

### GOSPEL Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

<sup>1</sup>That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower



went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup>Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>Let anyone with ears listen!” <sup>18</sup>“Hear then the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup>yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>23</sup>But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

P: The gospel of the Lord!

**C: Praise to you, O Christ!**

*The congregation is invited to sit.*

**SERMON**

**Pastor Laura Kuntz**

*The congregation is invited to stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil**

**512**



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950  
 Music: Handt Hanson  
 Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc.

GOOD SOIL  
 PM

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

A: Guide your church, O God, to sow seeds of forgiveness and righteousness on good soil. Direct your people to proclaim your love in this congregation and throughout the world. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Sustain your creation, O God, by sending favorable weather, causing trees and fields to grow, protecting waterways from pollution, and instilling in all people the need to be good stewards. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Maintain peace among all people, O God, and raise up lawyers to work for justice in the courts, advocates to speak for the downtrodden, and politicians to work on behalf of the common good. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Heal those who are sick, O God especially those we say aloud or silently in our hearts... Guide health care workers to care for those who suffer, scientists to conduct lifesaving research, and counselors to care for victims of sexual abuse and exploitation. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: Answer the prayers of those gathered in worship, O God. Protect those who travel near and far, accompany visitors to this congregation, and nurture our faith. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

A: We pray for this community of faith and for its Call Committee. For your wisdom and love. Give us holy indifference that we may be indifferent to our own will. Through your Holy Spirit, help us to be unwilling to do anything but

your will. Give us patience and guidance as we seek to know what you would like us to do. Bless all that we do, so that we can do what you bless. Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*The congregation is invited to sit.*

## OFFERING

### As the Grains of Wheat

*Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.  
1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with - in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when  
*Refrain*  
may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen  
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*The congregation is invited to stand.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

**C: God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*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.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

## PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

*Congregation:*

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!

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**P:** 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.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**P:** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C:** **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.**



# Let Us Break Bread Together

471

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;  
 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual  
 Music: African American spiritual

BREAK BREAD TOGETHER  
 10 10 and refrain

## 522

## As We Gather at Your Table

1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,  
 2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;  
 3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
 where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;  
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;  
 There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,

teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.  
 may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.  
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

IN BABILONE

87 87 D



*The congregation is invited to stand.*

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

## THANKS BE TO YOU

*Congregation:*

1. Praise to you, O God of mer - cy:  
2. From of old you loved and sought us:

Thanks be to you for ev - er! Rais - ing high the  
Thanks be to you for ev - er! Truth and jus - tice

weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for ev - er!  
you have taught us: Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your  
love, re - mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of  
life with us. 3. Praise to you, O  
God of mer - cy: Thanks be to you for ev - er!  
Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly: Thanks be to you for  
ev - er! Thanks be to you for ev - er!

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

# BLESSING

*Presider:* May God bless and keep us.  
 May God's face shine on us and be gracious.  
 May God look on us with favor and ☩ give us peace.

— give us peace. A - - - men.

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

# SENDING HYMN

545

## Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.  
 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,

let us each, your love pos - sess - ing, tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace.  
 May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.  
 let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.

Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.  
 Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.  
 May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt.  
 Music: Sicilian, 18th cent.

SICILIAN MARINERS  
 878787

**DISMISSAL**

**P:** Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

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