

*Fifteenth Sunday
after Pentecost*

September 10, 2023 10:30 a.m.



Come to Chapel or watch on Channel 105

Order of Worship

Gathering

Prelude *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* Rhonda R.

Welcome and Announcements

Confession

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✝ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**


Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Steadfast and faithful God,

You have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Silence

Forgiveness

Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In  Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

ELW 836

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
 God of glory, Lord of love!
 Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
 Praising thee, their sun above.
 Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
 Drive the gloom of doubt away.
 Giver of immortal gladness,
 Fill us with the light of day.



All thy works with joy surround thee,
 Earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
 Stars and angels sing around thee,
 Center of unbroken praise.
 Field and forest, vale and mountain,
 Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
 Chanting bird, and flowing fountain
 Call us to rejoice in thee.

(Turn page)

3

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine!

Text: Henry van Dyke; **Music:** Ludwig van Beethoven, adapt.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with
you all.

Response: *And also with you.*

Canticle of Praise

ELW, pages 148-149

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people
on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God
and Father:**

**We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you
for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God:**

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Word

First Reading – Ezekiel 33:7-11

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the
(Turn page)

5

wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Word of God, Word of Life.

Response: *Thanks be to God!*

Psalm 119:33-40

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end.

Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.

Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

Turn my heart to your decrees, and not to selfish gain.

Turn my eyes from looking at vanities; give me life in your ways.

Confirm to your servant your promise, which is for those who fear you.

Turn away the disgrace that I dread, for your ordinances are good.

See, I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life.

Second Reading – Romans 13:8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in

(Turn page)

this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Response: *Thanks be to God!*

Gospel Acclamation

ELW, page 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Gospel – Matthew 18:15-20

Response: *Glory to You, O Lord.*

“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone.

If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

Sermon *The Beloved Community* Pastor Mandsager

Where Charity and Love Prevail
Ubi Caritas

ELW 359

Where charity and love prevail,
There God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love,
By love we thus are bound.

(Turn page)

9

With grateful joy and holy fear,
God's charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and soul
Now love God in return.

Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ,
God's holy Son;
As members of each body joined,
In him we are made one.

Let strife among us be unknown;
Let all contentions cease.
Be God's the glory that we seek;
Be his our only peace.

Let us forgive each other's faults
As we our own confess,
That we may love each other well
In Christian gentleness.

Text: Latin hymn; tr. Omar Westendorf, alt. Music: attr. Lucius Chapin. Text © 1960 World Publications.

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 the Church

Christiana Adams

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

Response: And also with you.

Offertory *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* Rhonda R.

11

Offertory Response *Let the Vineyards* ELW 184 *Be Fruitful*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
Unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence,
And give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ,
our Savior. **Amen.**

Meal



The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Response: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Response: We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Response: It is right to give our thanks
and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and
might: heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

13

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray.

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.

Invitation

Jesus invites you to this table.

Come, eat and live.

Communion Distribution

Communion Song *Lamb of God* ELW, page 154

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us peace, grant us peace.**

Communion Music

Prayer

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name, we pray. **Amen.**

Sending

Blessing

The God of glory, ✝ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

ELW 864

Praise, my soul, the God of Heaven;
Joyfully your tribute bring.
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Evermore God's praises sing.



Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praises everlasting ring!

(Turn page)

15

God be praised for grace and favor
To our forebears in distress.

God be praised, the same forever,
Slow to chide and swift to bless.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Glorious in God's faithfulness.

Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish,
Blows the wind and it is gone;
But as mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise the great Eternal One!

Angels sing in adoration,
In God's presence, face to face.
Sun and moon, and all creation,
All who dwell in time and space.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry F. Lyte; alt. Walter R. Bouman. Music: John Goss.

Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Response: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

*Praise, My Soul,
the God of Heaven*

Rhonda R.

September Bible Studies

September 15	10:30-11:30	Evergreen Lodge Living Room
September 21	10:00-11:00	ParkView Fireside Lounge
September 21	2:30-3:30	Cannon Valley Activities Room
September 22	10:30-11:30	Evergreen Lodge Living Room: Hymn Sing
September 27	10:00-11:00	Manor Dining Room

Beginning in October, there will be two Bible studies in the Manor on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

September 29	10:30-11:30	Evergreen Lodge Living Room
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**Northfield
Retirement Community**
Innovation. Choice. Tradition.

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