



THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AUGUST 16, 2026



Pre-service Music

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: This Far by Faith

text-Elizabeth Conder tune - John Perovich

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

P The Lord is near the brokenhearted; He delivers those who are discouraged. Therefore, let us go to our God and confess our sins knowing that,

C **our God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

C **Gracious and merciful God, we confess that while we have been made new creations through the waters of our baptism, we still live ensnared by sin, and are unable to free ourselves. We have not always lived our lives in accordance with the identity that you have given us in Jesus. We have not always done the things that you have called us to do. We have not always loved you above all else and with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength. We have not always loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us all our sins. Renew our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that our lives would show the identity you have given us in baptism, and the new creations that you have made us to be. Amen.**

P God's saints lack nothing. God's people are delivered from all their afflictions. In mercy, Almighty God has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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

C Amen.

Peace of the Lord

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Service of the Word

Gathering Hymn: LSB 615 When in the Hour of Deepest Need

When in the hour of deepest need
We know not where to look for aid;
When days and nights of anxious thought
No help or counsel yet have brought,

Then is our comfort this alone
That we may meet before Your throne;
To You, O faithful God, we cry
For rescue in our misery.

For You have promised, Lord, to heed
Your children's cries in time of need
Through Him whose name alone is great,
Our Savior and our advocate.

And so we come, O God, today
And all our woes before You lay;
For sorely tried, cast down, we stand,
Perplexed by fears on ev'ry hand.

O from our sins, Lord, turn Your face;
Absolve us through Your boundless grace.
Be with us in our anguish still;
Free us at last from ev'ry ill.

So we with all our hearts each day
To You our glad thanksgiving pay,
Then walk obedient to Your Word,
And now and ever praise You, Lord.

Text: Paul Eber, 1511–69; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text: Public domain

Collect of the Day

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings out of your abundant love and grace. 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.

C Amen.

Children's Message

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 56:1, 6–8

A The Old Testament reading is from the fifty-sixth chapter of the book of Isaiah.

¹ Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance 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, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant—⁷ these 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. ⁸ Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 67

L May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,

C that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

L Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

C Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

L Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

C The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

L May God continue to bless us;

C let all the ends of the earth revere him.

L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

C as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Epistle

Romans 11:1–2a, 13–15, 28–32

A The Epistle reading is from the eleventh chapter of the book of Romans.

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

¹³ Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I glorify my ministry ¹⁴ in order to make my own people jealous, and thus save some of them. ¹⁵ For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead!

²⁸ As regards the gospel they are enemies of God for your sake; but as regards election they are beloved, for the sake of their ancestors; ²⁹ for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

L Fear the LORD, you his saints,

C for those who fear him lack nothing!

L Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

C but the LORD delivers them out of them all.

Gospel Acclamation

G Halle, halle, halle_lujah!
Halle, halle, halle_lujah!
Halle, halle, halle_lujah!
Hallelujah! Halle_lujah!

Text: arr. Mark Sedio
Text: © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: onelicense.net no. #A-724537

Verse

P Alleluia. The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.
C He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 15:21–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.
G Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: LSB 653 In Christ There Is No East or West

In Christ there is no east or west, In Him no south or north,
But one great fellowship of love Throughout the whole wide earth.

With God there is no tribe or race; In Him we all are one.
He loves us as His children through Our faith in His dear Son.

So, brothers, sisters, praise His name Who died to set us free
From sin, division, hate, and shame, From spite and enmity!

Join hands, disciples of the faith, Whate’er your race may be;
Who serves my Father as His child Is surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west; In Him meet south and north.
All Christian souls are one in Him Throughout the whole wide earth.

Text (sts. 1, 4–5): John Oxenham, 1852–1941, alt.; (st. 2): Mark A. Jeske, 1952; (st. 3): Michael A. Perry, 1942–96
Text (sts. 1, 4–5): Public domain
Text (st. 2): © 1993 Mark A. Jeske; (st. 3): © 1982 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000779

Apostles' Creed

- L** We make confession of our faith together in the words of the creed.
- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Blessing of Those Celebrating Birthdays

All who are celebrating a birthday this month are invited to come forward for a prayer and a blessing.

- P** Loving and gracious Heavenly Father, you have given us our bodies, souls, and all that we have. We thank you for the great gift of life that you have given to us, and especially to these your dearly loved people. We thank you for them and for being able to share life with them. As they celebrate another year of life, we ask your blessing and favor to be upon them. Increase their joy in life lived with you. Grow their trust in your presence and promises. And give them zeal for joining you in your mission in this world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Prayer of the Church

- L** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P** Loving and Gracious God, you have gathered us together to be your people in this world. You give us your Holy Spirit, your word, and the sacraments. Work through Your means of grace to transform our lives, so that they would always show your love and forgiveness and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
- L** O Lord, bless this congregation and church. Grant that it may be a house of prayer and we a people of prayer. Give us joy and zeal for living as your disciples who join you in your work in this world. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
- P** O Lord, grant that Your people all around the world may steadfastly proclaim Your irrevocable gifts and calling, that those who do not know your love and grace may receive mercy and would become grafted onto Jesus Christ, the true vine. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
- L** Gracious God we pray for our partners in ministry in this community, for Gathering Lambs, Luther Towers, and Interfaith Housing Alliance for the Poor, bless them and the good work they do in our community. Lord, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
- P** O Lord, bless all honest work and occupations, and grant that we may use well the fruits of our labors. Give us generosity for those in need. Bless the tithes and offerings that accompany our sacrifice of praise. Allow justice, mercy, peace, and compassion to grow and increase in us, among us, and through us. And heal our world from the evils of injustice, prejudice, inequality, and hatred. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

- L** O Lord, grant that the government and those who protect us might keep justice and do righteousness for Your name's sake and according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- P** O Lord, care for those who cry to You, whether beset with grief, sorrow, pain or trouble [*especially we lift up to you those we love whom we name before you now, out loud or in our hearts _____*]. Be pleased for Christ's sake to answer them according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- L** O Lord, bless all who are about to receive Christ's body and blood from this altar. Grant that this meal from Your table may strengthen us in faith, and increase our love and service to you, to one another, and to our neighbors. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- P** All these things and everything else for which we should ask, we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Offering

- C** **Offer, offer, offering, we give our gifts to say,
 "Thank you Lord for loving us and blessing us each day."
 Time to share our gifts and say,
 "Thank you Lord for each new day."**

Offertory Prayer

- L** Giving God, You provide us with all we need to support our bodies and lives. Your abundance and provision will never fail or leave us lacking. Allow Your generosity to inspire our generosity. Accept the offerings that we give in the various ways that we give them throughout the week. Increase and grow our trust in You through the giving of our offerings. Be glorified in the giving of them as we give them in thanksgiving and with gratitude for all Your blessings and gifts to us. Use them to further the work that You are doing in this place and all around our world. In Jesus' name we pray,
C **Amen.**

Offertory

- C** **What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
 I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
 I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
 I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
 in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

The Lord's Prayer

- P** God, remember us in your love and teach us to pray:
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.

Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

- C** 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.

Distribution Hymn: LSB 754 Entrust Your Days and Burdens

Entrust your days and burdens
To God's most loving hand;
He cares for you while ruling
The sky, the sea, the land.
For He who guides the tempests
Along their thund'rous ways
Will find for you a pathway
And guide you all your days.

Rely on God your Savior
And find your life secure.
Make His work your foundation
That your work may endure.
No anxious thought, no worry,
No self-tormenting care
Can win your Father's favor;
His heart is moved by prayer.

Take heart, have hope, my spirit,
And do not be dismayed;
God helps in ev'ry trial
And makes you unafraid.
Await His time with patience
Through darkest hours of night
Until the sun you hoped for
Delights your eager sight.

Leave all to His direction;
His wisdom rules for you
In ways to rouse your wonder
At all His love can do.
Soon He, His promise keeping,
With wonder-working pow'rs
Will banish from your spirit
What gave you troubled hours.

O blessèd heir of heaven,
You'll hear the song resound
Of endless jubilation
When you with life are crowned.
In your right hand your maker
Will place the victor's palm,
And you will thank Him gladly
With heaven's joyful psalm.

Our hands and feet, Lord, strengthen;
With joy our spirits bless
Until we see the ending
Of all our life's distress.
And so throughout our lifetime
Keep us within Your care
And at our end then bring us
To heav'n to praise You there.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; (sts. 1–5): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.; (st. 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006
Text (sts. 1–5): © 1982 Concordia Publishing House; (st. 6): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000779

Distribution Hymn: LSB 727 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!" Refrain

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. Refrain

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. Refrain

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. Refrain

Text: Michael Joncas, 1951
Text: © OCP Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000779

The Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Thank the Lord

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post-Communion Collect

L Let us pray.
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Farewell and Godspeed

Those who are leaving the congregation come forward.

- P** Dear sisters and brothers in Christ. As you are leaving our congregation, and we wish to bid you farewell and to send you with our blessing. Hear the words of the apostle Paul:

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his Church. When you *came to/were baptized in* this congregation we rejoiced to receive you into our fellowship in the Gospel. In this community of faith you have heard the proclamation of God's Word, which reveals his loving purpose for you and for all creation. You have been nourished at Christ's holy table and called to be witnesses to the Gospel. God has blessed you in this fellowship, and he has blessed us through you.

We encourage you to continue to receive and share God's gifts in your new congregation, neighborhood, and community as you join God in God's mission in the new place he is sending you.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, we thank you for these our friends in the faith and for our life together in this congregation and community. We prayer your blessing and protection on them as they leave here to go to the new place that you have for them. As *they* have been a blessing to us, so now send *them* forth to be a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- C** Amen.

- P** As you go from here, Christ goes with you. He goes before you to show you the way. Behind you to encourage you. Beside you to befriend you. Above you to watch over you. And within you to give you peace. The blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son + and Holy Spirit be with you now and always.

- C** Amen.

Benedicamus

- L** The Lord be with you.

- C** And also with you.

- L** Bless we the Lord.

- C** Thanks be to God.

- L** As we depart from this place, we celebrate the ways God has blessed us in this service. We have received forgiveness of all our sins and remembered the identity given to us in our baptism.

- C** Our God has equipped us for life lived in His kingdom.

- L** We have heard the good news of the gospel and the word of God read and proclaimed.

- C** Our God has encouraged us in discipleship and following Jesus.

- L** We have received the gifts of God given in Holy Communion.

- C** As our God has served us, so we go from this place to be engaged in service to God, to one another and to our neighbors.

- L** As we depart from this place, we go as people who have been equipped for life, encouraged in discipleship, and who engage in service.

- C** We go as people who have been invited by God to join God in the work that He is doing in this place.

- P** As you go, receive the blessing of our God:
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Sending Hymn: LSB 922 Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Go, My children, with My blessing,
Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you;
You are My own.
In My love's baptismal river
I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing—
You are My own.

Go, My children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you,
What I can cure.
Here you heard My dear Son's story;
Here you touched Him, saw His glory.
Go, My children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.

Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Closer to Me;
Grow in love and love by serving,
Joyful and free.
Here My Spirit's power filled you;
Here His tender comfort stilled you.
Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Joyful and free.

I the Lord will bless and keep you
And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you
And give you peace:
I the Lord will be your Father,
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My children; I will keep you
And give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008
Text: © 1983 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000779

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the NRSV® Bible (The Holy Bible, New Revised Standard Version®), copyright © 1989 by Thomas Nelson Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. And from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House.
St. John's Lutheran Church + 113 Lotus Street + 302-734-7078 + sjldover.com
St. Johns is a congregation in the Southeastern District of the LCMS