

The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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When [Jesus] noticed
*how the guests chose
the places of honor,
he told them a parable.*

Luke 14:7, NRSV

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 31, 2025
8:30 am

The Holy Spirit Empowers Us for Ministry in Daily Life

Gathered by God's grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we invite and welcome all people to join us on our journey
to become more faithful ministers of Jesus Christ
in our homes, our communities, and the world.

We welcome all who worship with us today.

Visitors are invited to sign the guest register located in the lobby.

If you are interested in joining our family of faith,
please talk with one of our Pastors or call the church office.

Children are welcome and celebrated!

The “Children’s Ministry” table and basket in the lobby
contains a variety of items for children’s use during worship.
Stop by to borrow a book or pick up some coloring sheets and crayons.

Please silence all communication devices.

Our services are live streamed and recorded. In-person attendance implies consent
to be included in the live streamed and recorded worship service.

HOLY COMMUNION

All who believe in the presence of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion are welcome to receive the Sacrament. To facilitate flow, the ushers invite people to come forward starting with the back rows and working forward. You should come forward using the center aisle to receive the elements in a continuous style from pastor and worship assistant. Afterward you may choose to kneel or stand at the altar rail for a brief moment of prayer or return to your seat up the side aisle, depositing your empty cup in the receptacle on your way. Gluten free wafers are available. Our wine is grape juice so that all may freely receive.

Children who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Communion kits are available at the usher stands for those who prefer to remain in their seats, and they will be communed along with our Zoom worshippers at the beginning of distribution.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Gathering

Act Justly
Spirit of Praise

Tomlin

Welcome and Announcements

We rise in body or spirit.

Gathering Dialog

We come to worship our God,
to listen to the One who calls us here.

**We come trusting God to lead us in the coming days,
as did our grandparents in the faith.**

We come to worship our God,
to shout with joy to the God of all people.

**We come to the Creator of all things,
to be bathed in the waters of life.**

We come to the feast of God's faithful,
to be fed by the One who never abandons us.

**We come to worship our God,
to sing aloud to the One who saves us.**



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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

And also with you.

We pray.

Help us to show hospitality to strangers, for many have entertained angels unaware while doing so. Move us to treat one another as we would have others treat us.

May we always seek to do good and share from our abundance,
for these things are pleasing in your sight. In your holy name we pray.

Amen

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture readings, preaching and song.

Reading Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Translation: CEV

A reading from Hebrews

Keep being concerned about each other as the Lord's followers should.

Be sure to welcome strangers into your home. By doing this, some people have welcomed angels as guests, without even knowing it.

Remember the Lord's people who are in jail and be concerned for them.

Don't forget those who are suffering, but imagine you are there with them.

Have respect for marriage. Always be faithful to your partner,
because God will punish anyone who is immoral or unfaithful in marriage.

Don't fall in love with money. Be satisfied with what you have.

The Lord has promised that he will not leave us or desert us.

This should make you feel like saying,

"The Lord helps me! Why should I be afraid of what people can do to me?"

Don't forget about your leaders who taught you God's message.

Remember what kind of lives they lived and try to have faith like theirs.

Jesus Christ never changes! He is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

Gospel Luke 14:1, 7-14

Translation: CEV

Sing praises to God.

Praise the One who offers us food that truly satisfies.

The Good News from Luke, the 14th chapter.

Open our hearts, Lord.

One Sabbath, Jesus was having dinner in the home of an important Pharisee, and everyone was carefully watching Jesus.

Jesus saw how the guests had tried to take the best seats. So he told them:

When you are invited to a wedding feast, don't sit in the best place. Someone more important may have been invited. Then the one who invited you will come and say, "Give your place to this other guest!" You will be embarrassed and will have to sit in the worst place.

When you are invited to be a guest, go and sit in the worst place. Then the one who invited you may come and say, "My friend, take a better seat!"

You will then be honored in front of all the other guests. I

f you put yourself above others, you will be put down.

But if you humble yourself, you will be honored.

Then Jesus said to the man who had invited him:

When you give a dinner or a banquet, don't invite your friends and family and relatives and rich neighbors. If you do, they will invite you in return, and you will be paid back. When you give a feast, invite the poor, the paralyzed, the lame, and the blind. They cannot pay you back. But God will bless you and reward you when his people rise from death.

God gives us choicest bread and sweetest honey.

We will laugh and play in the fountain of God's liberation.

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Deacon Reylene Starego

We rise in body or spirit.

Word in Song

All Are Welcome

Peterson and Olson

Praise Band sings Chorus 1 x
All sing Chorus 1 x
All join on CHORUS where indicated

CHORUS

♩ = 120 D G A D F#m7 G A

All are wel - come, friend and stran - ger, at the ban - quet of the Sav - ior.

All are wel - come. All are wel - come here.

From the woman who comes crying
Leaving tears at Jesus' feet
To the man who knows the right way, but cannot see
CHORUS

From the ones who feel forgotten
Those who sense their place is gone
To the ones who live in hunger, here you belong
CHORUS

Go into the streets and cities
To the farms and families
Tell about the splendid table, God's mercy
CHORUS

Prayers of the People

Invitation to prayer:

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God,
for God is near.

After each petition:

God of humility and hospitality,
receive our prayer.

Pastor's closing prayer:

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who
always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

Amen

Peace

Let us share sign of the blessed peace we find in Christ, our Lord.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace by saying,
"Peace be with you."*

The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*During the Musical Offering, the gifts will be brought forward. You may remain seated.
If you wish you may leave your offering in the additional offering plates located on the
tables in the back of the sanctuary as you leave.*

Musical Offering

How Beautiful
Vi Ballard, solo

Paris

Offering Prayer

We pray.

You free us, O God, from self-interest and folly. You bring us into a land of choicest wheat and sweetest honey. As we return a portion of these gifts to you, may we extend the banquet of your love to all – especially the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and all who suffer. May our offerings bring healing and light to a world filled with anguish and despair.

Amen

We rise in body or spirit.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the God who welcomes us at this table.

Let us sing aloud to God.

We will offer glad songs of thanksgiving to the One who delivers us.

Words of Institution

Word in Meal

Send your Holy Spirit upon the Bread and the Cup,
simple gifts from creation which grace us with your life,
and upon those who gather around your table. Fed with the finest wheat,
may we go forth to fill the lives of all whose emptiness imprisons them.
Having tasted the cup of joy, may we bring hope to those parched by despair.
Welcomed without question at your table of grace,
may we open our hearts to throw a party for all who have been
abandoned by the world.

Lord's Prayer

God in Community, Holy in One: yesterday, today, tomorrow, always,
we will pray as Jesus has taught us, saying:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

Invitation to the table

This is a community that seeks to do justice, show mercy,
and walk humbly with God.
Jesus has prepared a place for you here.
Come to the table, Christ invites you.

The assembly is seated.

Distribution of Communion

Communion Song

God Extends an Invitation Sing 3 times

ELW 486



Nues-tro Pa - dre nos in - vi - ta a la me - sa de la
God ex - tends an in - vi - ta - tion to the ta - ble of cre -



vi - da, don - de hay vi - no, luz y pan; y no -
a - tion, where there's wine and light and bread. Here we



so - tros nos reu - ni - mos, y lo nues - tro com - par - ti - mos, pues a -
gath - er in thanks - giv - ing and we of - fer all our liv - ing. Here the



sí es la co - mu - ni - ón; pues a - sí es la co - mu - ni - ón.
feast of life is spread; here the feast of life is spread.



1 I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
 2 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
 3 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey, some of these days.
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.



I'm a-goin'-a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
 I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey,
 I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er,



I'm goin' - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a feast on milk . . . and hon - ey, some of these days.
 I'm goin' - a wade 'cross Jor - dan's riv - er, some of these days.

We rise in body or spirit.

Prayer after communion

We pray. Mothering God,
 you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace.
 Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves
 and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.
Amen

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace.
Amen

Sending Song *Please see next page.*

Dismissal

Let mutual love continue,
that peace may abound.
Let mutual love flourish,
that God may be found.
Let mutual love grow,
that no one may feel forgotten.
Let mutual love abide,
that the hand of friendship may bless our world.
Thanks be to God.

Please join in supporting our church's ministries using your preferred method of giving:



venmo

- Enroll in our on-line giving program, Simply Giving (recommended);
- Mail your offering check to the church;
- Text your offering to 610-981-1312;
- Download our mobile app for recurring or one-time gifts;
- Establish automatic contributions to the church using your bank's bill pay service.

Additional information is located in the Stewardship section of the church's website at:
lchsemmaus.org.

Refrain



Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;



wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be - fore,



O my soul; I'll wor - ship your ho - ly name.



1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing;



2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your



3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the



... it's time to sing your song a - gain. What - ev - er may



name... is ... great, and your heart is kind. For all ... your



end ... draws near, and my time has come; ... still, my



pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore me, let me be



good-ness, I will keep . . on . . sing-ing— ten thou-sand

soul will sing your praise un - end-ing— ten thou-sand

Refrain

sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.

rea - sons for my heart to find.

years and then for - ev - er - more!

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Pastor Cindy Camp, Associate Pastor
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Deacon Reylene Starego, Director of Music
Karin Kahler, Director Faith Formation for Children

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