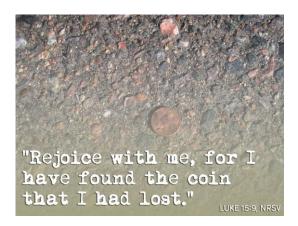
# The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

An ELCA, Reconciling in Christ, and Rejoicing Spirits congregation

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# Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 14, 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.

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#### 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 Music** 

Grace Like Rain Spirit of Praise Agnew et al.

## **Welcome and Announcements**

We rise in body or spirit.

### Thanksgiving for Baptism

Just as God's work of creation never ends, so the gifts we receive in baptism are renewed every day. Let's give thanks together for the life given us in baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of life: for waters to bathe in, to drink, and to play in; for water that inspires beauty and wonder, and gives life to our planet.

We give you thanks for the waters of life.

We give you thanks, O God, for the waters of this place: for water from our tap, for rain and snow.

We give you thanks for the waters of this place.

We give you thanks for your waters that have saved:

for delivering Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for quiding your people across the river Jordan into new beginnings.

We give you thanks for your saving waters.

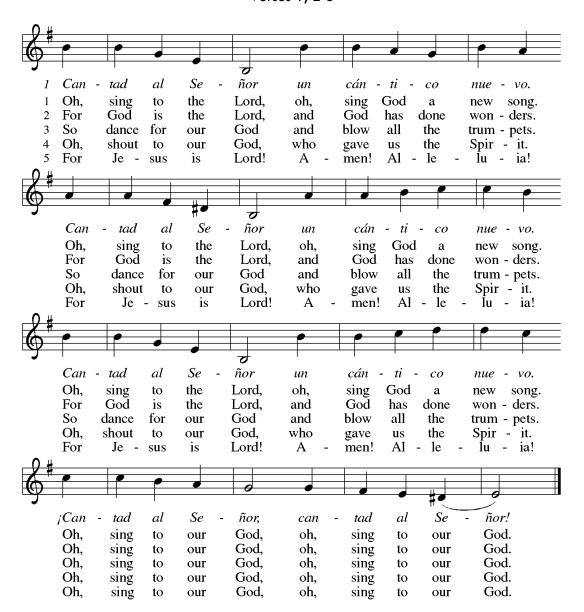
We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized:

for all who gather here,

for our siblings in Christ whom we have never seen but to whom we are bound.

We give you thanks for the life of all the baptized.

We give you thanks for our baptismal life in Jesus Christ and for our calling to be your people, sent out for the life of the world. Amen



# 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.

God our holy shepherd, you are the hope of those who are lost, and joy of those who are found; please give us the will to completely trust you. Save us from the silly notion that we always know best, and call us back from those down-hill paths that lead to confusion and sadness. Bring us at last, with all your people, into that fold where nothing can ever again be lost. Through Christ Jesus our Savior.

Amen

The assembly is seated.

# WORD

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

Translation: NRSV-UE

Reading Exodus 32:7-14

A reading from Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' "The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation."

But Moses implored the Lord his God and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people.

Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

We rise in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

**Gospel** Luke 15:1-10

Translation: NRSV-UE

The Good News from Luke, the 15th chapter.

Open our hearts, Lord.

Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the wealth that will belong to me.' So he divided his assets between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant region, and there he squandered his wealth in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that region, and he began to be in need.

This is the Good News!

Thanks be to God!

The assembly is seated.

Sermon

Pastor Shari Duminy

### Word in Song

# By Your Hand You Feed Your People

**ELW 469** 



- 1 By your hand you feed your peo ple, food of an gels, heav-en's bread.
- 2 In this meal we taste your sweet-ness, bread for hun ger, wine of peace.
- 3 Send us now with faith and cour age to the hun gry, lost, be reaved.



For these gifts we did not la - bor, by your grace have we been fed: Ho - ly word and ho - ly wis-dom sat - is - fy our deep-est needs. In our liv - ing and our dy - ing, we be - come what we re - ceive:



Christ's own bod-y, blessed and bro-ken, cup o'er-flow-ing, life out - poured,



# **Apostles' Creed**

We join together in the words of the 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 People**

Invitation to prayer:

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

After each petition:
God of the lost and the found,
receive our prayer.

Pastor's closing prayer: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen

#### Peace

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 Offering Song, 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.



# **Offering Prayer**

We pray.
Loving God, we bring these gifts, as we bring ourselves.
We are nothing special as ourselves.
But you seek us, you gather us together,
and in your arms, our lives come together.
Bless us and these gifts, that together we may be a blessing.

Amen

We rise in body or spirit.

# **Great Thanksgiving**

May the God of the lost be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts to the One who searches for you.

We lift them to our God who dwells in our deepest being.

Offer your thanksgiving to God.

We give thanks to God who does not give up on us,
but rescues us when we have wandered away.

#### Words of Institution

### Word in Meal

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon your table, and on us, as we long to be right-living people. As we eat of the bread, strengthen our hearts and spirits so we may search for the lost. As we drink from the cup, may we be found to be faithful, as you call us to serve the oppressed.

# **Lord's Prayer**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

The assembly is seated.

### Distribution of Communion



- 1 Look who gath ers at Christ's ta ble! Hear the sto ries
- 2 Clouds of light sur round the ta ble; an cient fol low -
- 3 Their sad sto-ries are re-peat-ed in a thou-sand
- 4 Bring your joy and bring your sad ness, and pre pare to



weep - ing; laugh - ing; that they bring. Some are some are ap - pear, saints con - fess - ing how thev wres - tled ers they share one dif - f'rent ways, but thing com - mon: in sur - prised by the host whose hands are wound - ed.



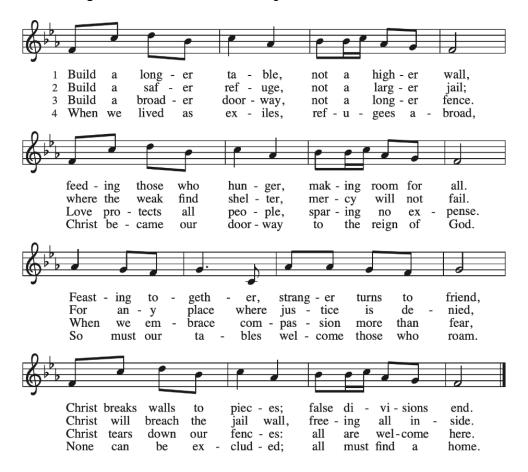
some have songs they want to sing. Oth - ers ask why they're in with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Pe - ter tells of his de and praise end in thanks for the host who has in they all who will o - pen wide your eyes when he bless - es bread and



bur - dened by the wrong they've done. Christ vit - ed. in - sists they Christ was ev - er re - lates his ny - ing in his sight; Paul vit - ed north and south and east and west to con-verge a breaks ittruth and man - na from a - bove! - and then pass - es



all wel - come. There is for are room ev - 'ry - one. fruit - less ef - forts ob - lit the light. to er ate ta - ble, round this where all life is fed and blest. wine that wa - kens in your heart the taste of love.



We rise in body or spirit.

# Prayer after communion

We pray.

O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants.

Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

#### Amen

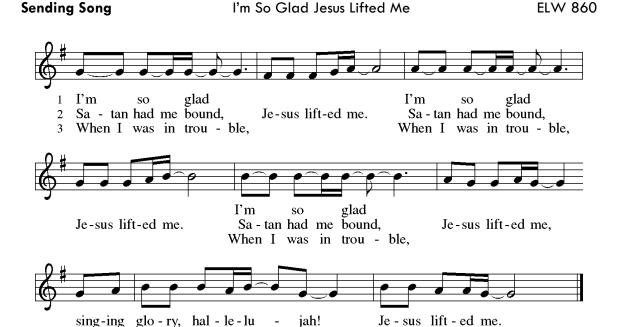
# SENDING

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

# **Blessing**

Like a lost sheep, you are found by the Good Shepherd. Like a lost coin, you are gathered up by God. Go in the untiring goodness of God, the unending patience of Christ, and the infinite peace of the Holy Spirit.

#### Amen



## Dismissal

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

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.

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#### **WORSHIP LEADERS**

Pastor Shari Duminy, Senior Pastor
Pastor Tami K. Reichley, Associate Pastor
Pastor Cindy Camp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Melanie Werley, Director of Liturgy
Deacon Reylene Starego, Director of Music
Karin Kahler, Director Faith Formation for Children

#### WORSHIP HELPERS

# **Assisting Minister**

Leesa Wimmer

#### Reader

Charlotte Gross

#### **Communion Assistants**

Leesa Wimmer, Mark Wimmer

#### Greeter

Nancy Yablonski

#### Usher

Michael Yablonski

# **Production/Technology Team**

Al Bauernschmidt, Chuck Coe, Max H., Glenn Hinderliter, Jeff Gross, Eric Kahler, Craig Kauffman, Bill Keane, Paige Mathieu, Tom Moessner, Bob Neitz, Bill Newill, Kristen Newill, Carol Osenbach, John Osenbach, Chris Pirrotta, Ev Reggie, Bob Stevens, and Jimmy Lee Werley

#### **Altar Care**

Deb Stevens, Bob and Carolyn Rice, Carol Osenbach, Brenda Brookover, Linda Letts, Jennifer Wetzel, Julie Timmcke, Terri Hinderliter, Barb Roba, Donna Bhagat, Cindy Clark