

July 27, 2025
The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost



For everyone who *asks receives*,
and everyone who *searches finds*,
and for everyone who *knocks*,
the *door will be opened*.

Luke 11:10, NRSV

Holy Communion Lutheran Church
A community called to Worship, Learn, Love and Serve.
2000 West Sixth Street Racine, Wisconsin

Thanks to greeter Sally Neitzel, assisting minister Gregory Berg, lector Roger Degerman, AV technician Todd Jansen, ushers Jim Carlson, Roger Degerman, David Leisner, and Gary Wood, altar guild Grace Deibert, Lynn Sinclair, Susan DiPasquale Peterson, and Katie Peterson, and Randy Fischer for sharing their time and talent with us today.

*Please stand, if you are able, where there is an asterisk * printed in the bulletin.*

PRELUDE *(A quiet time of reflection, to prepare for worship.)*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father,

and of the ✝ Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Merciful God,

you free us to love others,

but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.

You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,

but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.

You surround us with patience, kindness,

and generosity,

but we grow weary in doing what is right.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Do not give up on us.

Heal us, break our bonds,

and show us the path of life.

Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus

and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of ✝ Christ,

and through the power of the Holy Spirit,

your sins are forgiven.

Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

Amen.

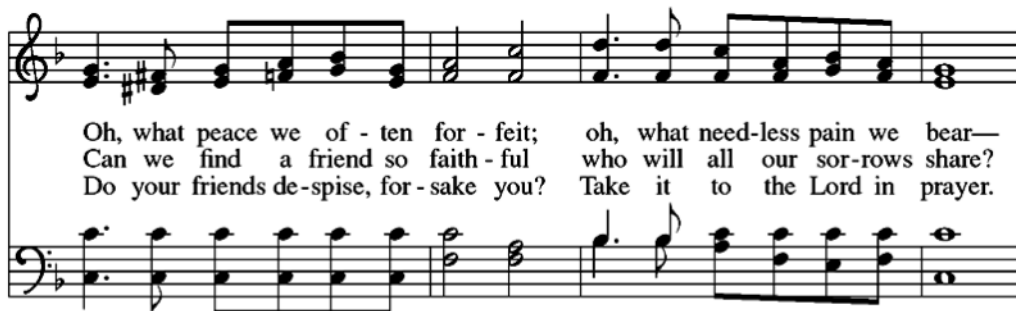
What a Friend We Have in Jesus



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
3 Are we weak and heav - y - lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— take it to the Lord in prayer.
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; oh, what need - less pain we bear—
Can we find a friend so faith - ful who will all our sor - rows share?
Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a so - lace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820–1886
Music: CONVERSE, Charles C. Converse, 1832–1918

***GREETING**

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.

***KYRIE**

Refrain S 184

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.

Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord. *Refrain*

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain S 187

This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the

Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be

peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain

hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of

vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -

le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the

Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WORD

FIRST READING: Genesis 18:20-32

²⁰ Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin!

²¹ I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know."

²² So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. ²³ Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?"

²⁶ And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." ²⁷ Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord, I who am but dust and ashes.

²⁸ Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." ²⁹ Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰ Then he said, "Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." ³¹ He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." ³² Then he said, "Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 138

¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

³ When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵ They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.

⁸ **You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever;
do not abandon the works of your hands**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



S 188

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*GOSPEL: Luke 11: 1-13

The holy gospel according to Luke, the eleventh chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ [Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”² So he said to them, “When you pray, say:

Father, may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

⁵ And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,’⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’

⁷ And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹ “So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish? ¹² Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion? ¹³ If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

The gospel of the Lord.


Praise to you, O Christ.

SPECIAL MUSIC “The Lord’s Prayer” (Albert Malotte) David Knudsonn



SERMON Prayer: Does It Make A Difference? Pastor Mark Doidge

*HYMN OF THE DAY


Sweet Hour of Prayer





1 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, that calls me from a world of care,
2 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, thy wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear,
3 Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, may I thy con - so - la - tion share,




and bids me at my Fa - ther's throne make all my wants and wish-es known.
to him whose truth and faith-ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless;
till from Mount Pis - gah's loft - y height I view my home and take my flight.



In sea - sons of dis - tress and grief my soul has of - ten found re - lief.
and since he bids me seek his face, be - lieve his word and trust his grace,
With joy I'll has - ten to the place where God my Sav - ior shows his face,



and oft es-caped the tempt - er's snare by thy re - turn, sweet hour of prayer.
I'll cast on him my ev - 'ry care, and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.
and glad - ly take my sta - tion there, thy prom - ise gained, sweet hour of prayer.



Text: William Walford, 1772–1850, alt.
Music: SWEET HOUR, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

***APOSTLE'S 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**

MEAL

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

***LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it in heaven.
Give us this day is 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**

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG

S 191

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ,
strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

Amen

***PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

*OFFERTORY

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

184

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in a soprano clef. The lyrics are aligned with the notes on each staff.

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Let us pray. (brief silence)

When we need guidance. When we feel uncertain about the future and must confront difficult choices
TEACH US TO PRAY, LOVING GOD.

When we are frightened. When the world looks dark and dangerous and we feel small and vulnerable
TEACH US TO PRAY, LOVING GOD.

When we are lonely. When we long for stronger connection with our family, friends, and neighbors

TEACH US TO PRAY, LOVING GOD.

When we are frustrated. When we are troubled by the needs we see around us and struggle to know how to act on our concerns.....
TEACH US TO PRAY, LOVING GOD.

When we are grieving. When we are mourning any kind of loss in our lives.
TEACH US TO PRAY, LOVING GOD.

When we are hurting or struggling or when we feel concern for others who are bearing painful burdens of illness, injury or disease. <NAMES> Or when we are concerned for anyone shouldering the responsibility of caregiving.
TEACH US TO PRAY, LOVING GOD.

When we are grateful. When we have much to be thankful for but need to be reminded of where life's blessings come from,
TEACH US TO PRAY, LOVING GOD.

We offer up these spoken prayers and the unspoken prayers of our hearts - knowing that You hear our prayers and promise to respond with Grace and Mercy, made perfect in Christ our Lord,
AMEN.

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.

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

597

1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,

Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -

own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain
On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.
Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

MELITA
888888

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Announcements

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar this morning are in loving memory of Tom Rolfson, given by Cathie Rolfson and Lynn & Chris Litzau.

Welcome Visitors!

A special welcome to any visitors worshipping with us this morning. Please fill out one of the yellow cards in the pew rack in front of you so we can acknowledge your visit with us. You can put your completed card into the offering plate or give it to an usher or a pastor before you leave. Please join us in the lounge for coffee and fellowship after worship.

Communion By Intinction

All are welcome to come to the table for Communion. We offer Holy Communion through Intinction (dipping of the wafer into the chalice of wine). There are also gluten free wafers and grape juice available in the Individual wafer/juice cups are available on the tables at the back of the sanctuary for those who prefer to commune in their pew.

Food Pantry

The food pantry is asking for donations of spaghetti sauce, 1 lb. pkgs. of spaghetti, tuna, tomato soup, and instant potatoes. Please do not bring in any pet food. The number of clients served has been increasing while the food we receive from Racine County Food Bank and the government has been decreasing so we greatly appreciate any support you can give us! If you have extra produce from your garden the pantry would be happy to receive it. We can also use lightly used plastic shopping bags, brown paper grocery bags, 2026 calendars, greeting cards, and pens and pencils. Thanks to all who contribute to or volunteer at the pantry. We could not do this without you!

Collecting School Supplies for Local Kids and Schools

Hope on a hill! That's HCLC's mantra and our pledge. So let's put hope into action - here in the neighborhood where we worship. As any teacher will tell you, many of the students in our schools come with great needs. We'd like to help by offering school supplies to the kids and teachers of the church's neighborhood. If you want to join in this Hope on a Hill mission, please purchase school supplies (list below) and bring them to the church office where we'll gather and sort them. Items will be distributed at the end of August when we host a picnic and invite the neighborhood families to join us in a simple meal and hand out supplies to the kids in our midst. The ripple effect of small kindnesses can and does create positive change in our neighborhood and world!

Many stores have great prices on school supplies right now so it is a great time to shop. Why not consider doing your shopping with scrip cards? Stop at the scrip table this morning to get some!

More emails and announcements will follow regarding lending a hand for the picnic.

Wide-ruled spiral notebooks, all colors

Pencils

Pink erasers - pencil tip or regular

Plastic, 3 prong, 2 pocket folders

Crayola markers - 8 packs, all color combinations

Crayons, packs of 24 or 48

Boxes of tissues

Ketchup Club

The Ketchup Club has moved to the first Tuesday of the month to allow more people to attend. In August the Ketchup Club will meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, August 5th at Wells Brothers Restaurant, 2148 Mead St. These casual get-togethers are a wonderful way to "catch up" with old friends and make some new ones. If you know you will be there, please contact Pastor Laura, pastorlaura.hclc@gmail.com, or the office, office.hclc@gmail.com, to help us reserve the right size table. If you suddenly find yourself free that day we will happily make room for you, so please come and join the fun!

Diaper Ministry

An anonymous donor is sponsoring this month's Diaper Depot delivery. The Diaper Depot is a non-profit in Kenosha that collects diaper donations and shares them with area diaper ministries for \$30/month. Thank you all for your ongoing support!

Our next distribution dates are August 13th from 11AM – 1PM and August 20, from 4PM - 6PM. Please tell others about our ministry. If you have children's books at home you no longer need, please donate them to the Diaper Ministry. Contact Kylee Albright kygregg@mac.com or Amy Larsen amylarsen2406@att.net with any questions or if you would like to volunteer.

Quilting Group

The HCLC quilters meet at 1:00 on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month to work on quilts for Lutheran World Relief. You do not have to have prior quilting experience to be able to help.. LWR sends the quilts all over the world to provide warmth and comfort to those who have been displaced from their homes or affected by war or natural disasters. If you have full, queen or king size flat sheets you don't need, the quilters can use them for backings.

Giving With Tithely

Many of our members have decided giving through tithely.ly is a simple way to stay up to date with their pledges or to make special offerings. This QR code will take you to the Tithely web page where you can make a donation to HCLC with your credit card or bank account. You can choose a one-time donation or recurring donations, whether you pay by credit card or from your checking or savings account, and if your donation should go to the general fund, the food pantry, or another fund. If you need help, you can contact Keri in the office, keri.hclc@gmail.com.

Upcoming Worship, Education, Fellowship, and Service Opportunities

Sunday, July 27 - 9:30 Worship

10:45 Prospective New Member Gathering

Monday, July 28 - 12:30 Food Pantry

Friday, August 1 - 12:30 Food Pantry

Sunday, August 3 - 9:30 Worship

Monday, August 4 - 12:30 Food Pantry

Tuesday, August 5 - 11:30 Ketchup Club lunch at Wells Brothers

Friday, August 8 - 9:00 Men's Group

12:30 Food Pantry

Sunday, August 10 - 9:30 Worship in the Park and Church picnic at Pritchard Park

Finance Update

April 2025 Finance Numbers

Revenue: \$41,386.30

Expense: \$48,136.84

Net Income: \$(6,750.54)

Year to Date Finance Numbers

Revenue: \$306,104.46

Expense: \$300,117.61

Net Income: \$5,986.85

Holy Communion Church Council

Joleen Carlson, president, Gary Wood, vice president, Laurie Knudson, secretary, Kylee Albright, treasurer, Rose Adamski, Bob Larsen, David Knudson, Rebecca Mason, and Polly Timmerman.

In person attendance on Sunday, July 20, 2025 - 102 online - 22 family units



Worship in the Park and Church Picnic

Sunday, August 10th

Worship begins at 9:30 a.m.

**Pritchard Park, 2800 Ohio St.
Wieczorek Pavillion (same as last year)**

Watch for the signs directing you to the picnic area.

We will provide:

Pulled pork, hot dogs, and buns
Plates, cups, napkins, plasticware
Water and lemonade
Ice and coolers will be on hand

You bring:

Last name A-L Salads or side dishes
Last name M-Z - desserts
Lawn Chairs and beverages

**We'll have activities and games for kids. Kids, bring your friends!
Rain or shine we'll gather and rejoice.**

See you at the park!