

Order of Worship

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 1, 2024 – 8:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

LANA MIDDENDORF, KEYBOARDIST

WELCOME

Please stand.

OPENING HYMN

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

A mighty fortress is our God, A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe Has sworn to work us woe.
With craft and dreadful might He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight, Whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is He,
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

Though hordes of devils fill the land All threat'ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand; They cannot overpow'r us.
Let this world's tyrant rage; In battle we'll engage.
His might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

God's Word forever shall abide, No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God Himself fights by our side With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away, They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, 1978
Tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; setting: Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685-1750
Text: © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship* Music: Public Domain
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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the Name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

All: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"O God, My Faithful God"

O God, my faithful God, True fountain ever flowing,
Without whom nothing is, All perfect gifts bestowing:
Give me a healthy frame, And may I have within
A conscience free from blame, A soul unstained by sin.

Grant me the strength to do With ready heart and willing
Whatever You command, My calling here fulfilling;
That I do what I should While trusting You to bless
The outcome for my good, For You must give success.

Keep me from saying words That later need recalling;
Guard me lest idle speech May from my lips be falling;
But when within my place I must and ought to speak,
Then to my words give grace Lest I offend the weak.

Lord, let me win my foes With kindly words and actions,
And let me find good friends For counsel and correction.
Help me, as You have taught, To love both great and small
And by Your Spirit's might To live in peace with all.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Tune: *Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch*, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O God who has made us, saved us, and created us as Your own children, renew us, feed us, and strengthen us that we may in all confidence proclaim Your eternal goodness and grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

DEUTERONOMY 4:1-2, 6-9

¹ “And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you. ² You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you. ⁶ Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ ⁷ For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? ⁸ And what great nation is there, that has statutes and just decrees so righteous as all this law that I set before you today? ⁹ “Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children’s children.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING

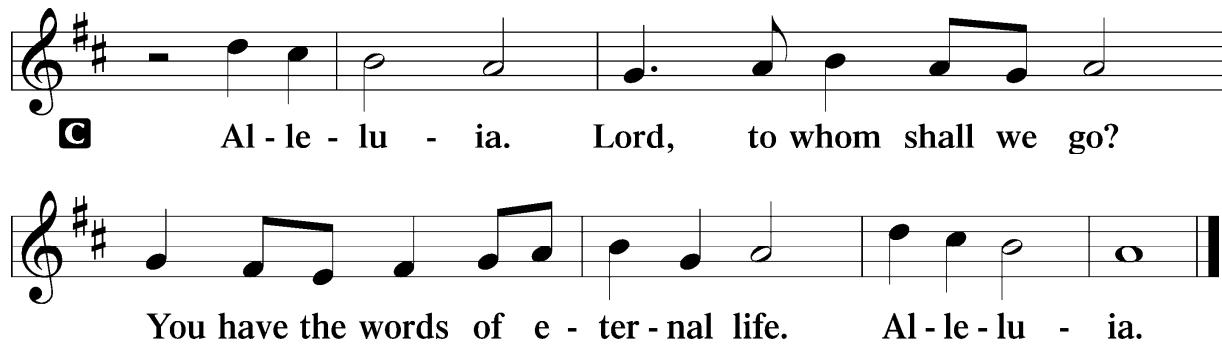
EPHESIANS 6:10-20

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, ¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

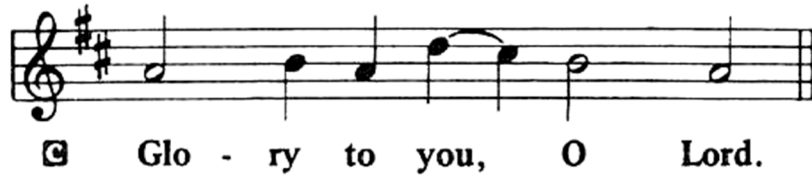
Please stand for the Holy Gospel.



THE HOLY GOSPEL

MARK 7:14-23

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.



THE READING OF THE HOLY GOSPEL

¹⁴ And he called the people to him again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him." ¹⁷ And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. ¹⁸ And he said to them, "Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, ¹⁹ since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.) ²⁰ And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him. ²¹ For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²² coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord!



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN

"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"

Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son And bring to naught all He has done.

Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we May sing Your praise eternally.

O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Tune: *Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert*, Wittenberg, 1543, ed. Joseph Klug;
Setting: Hans Leo Hassler, 1564-1612, alt. Text & Music: Public Domain
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THE SERMON

REV. DR. MIKE MIDDENDORF

"God's Spiritual Armor" *Ephesians 6:10-20*

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father, and He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and † the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

At this time, you may give your offering electronically.
www.abidingsavior.com/church/give

You may also place your offering in the offering plate.

MUSICAL OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

After each petition the prayer concludes:

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

All: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: 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 singing:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n 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.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 for ever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: 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 is My † blood of the new testament, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

AGNUS DEI *Sung*

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.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“O God, My Faithful God”

Let me depart this life Confiding in my Savior;
By grace receive my soul That it may live forever;
And let my body have A quiet resting place
Within a Christian grave; And let it sleep in peace.

And on that final day When all the dead are waking,
Stretch out Your mighty hand, My deathly slumber breaking.
Then let me hear Your voice, Redeem this earthly frame,
And bid me to rejoice With those who love Your name.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Tune: *Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch*, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941
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“At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

At the Lamb’s high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from His pierced side. Alleluia!

Praise we Him, whose love divine Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His body for the feast— Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!

Where the paschal blood is poured, Death’s dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel’s hosts triumphant go Through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!

Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!

Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell’s fierce pow’rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;
From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!

Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th—10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814-68, alt.
Tune: *Kirchengeseng*, Ivancice, 1566; setting: Jan O. Bender, 1909-94
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THE DISMISSAL

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: For all the gifts that flow from this Sacrament, we give You thanks, gracious God.
Grant us humble faith so that our thoughts, words, and deeds reflect the mercy
You have shown us this day. We pray in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our
Lord.

All: Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be
gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

All: Amen!

CLOSING HYMN

"Onward, Christian Soldiers"

Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.
Christ, the royal master, Leads against the foe;
Forward into battle See His banners go!

Refrain:

**Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.**

Like a mighty army Moves the Church of God;
Brothers, we are treading Where the saints have trod.
We are not divided, All one body we,
One in hope and doctrine, One in charity. *Refrain*

Crowns and thrones may perish, Kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus Constant will remain.
Gates of hell can never 'Gainst that Church prevail;
We have Christ's own promise, And that cannot fail. *Refrain*

Onward, then, ye faithful, Join our happy throng,
Blend with ours your voices In the triumph song:
Glory, laud, and honor Unto Christ, the king;
This through countless ages We with angels sing. *Refrain*

Text: Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924, alt.

Tune: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842-1900; Setting: *Service Book and Hymnal*, 1958 Text & Music: Public Domain
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POSTLUDE

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Flower Arrangements

The flower arrangements which grace our altar this weekend are dedicated to the glory of the Lord by **Jeanne Grovom** in celebration of **Julie's** birthday. Also, flowers are placed on our altar to the glory of our Lord by **Jim** and **Myrna Ryan** in celebration of their 45th wedding anniversary.

Keep in Your Prayers

Prayers for strength and healing, guidance and blessing for:

Brian Adams
Terri Green

Alexander Hernandez
Jeanne Kelly

Brad Morton
Don Vick
Karen Whelply