# PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 7, 2025

#### **WELCOME!**

We love that you are here today! Our service is printed for you in this worship folder. Or you can follow the projections on the front wall.

**Restrooms** are located in the hallway to the right as you exit the worship space, as well as across the hall as you enter into the school.

**Quiet room** Parents may use the library in the back of this worship space which still enables you to hear/see the service.

A **Connection Card** and pen are found in the pocket of the chair in front of you. Time will be provided to fill it out during the service. You may drop it in the wicker basket along the wall after the service.

# THEME: PENTECOS 13

## TO FOLLOW CHRIST IS TO LOSE EVERYTHING IN ORDER TO GAIN EVERYTHING

Count the cost of following Him first, Jesus exhorts us, so that we might drop everything else and cling to Him alone for our salvation. The Apostle Paul writes to Philemon that though he is losing Onesimus as a valuable slave he is gaining him as something far more valuable: as a true brother in Christ. In Deuteronomy, Moses sets before the Israelites the cost of abandoning their faith in the true God and the blessings to be gained by integrating your whole life with God's Word. The purpose of the three readings today is to impress on us that to follow Christ is to lose everything in order to gain everything.

## PLEASE RESPECT OUR PRACTICE OF "CLOSE COMMUNION"

Christ says the Sacrament is an expression of unity (1 Co 10:16-17). We WANT to be unified with you on the basis of Christ and His doctrine! Honesty compels us to ask you to WAIT before communing with us: 1) until you've had a chance to find out what we teach; 2) until you make your unity with us evident by membership at Peace. Regular classes are conducted for this purpose (837-5346). WELS & ELS guests please sign a Connection Card and give it to an usher before communing. Thank you.

### **BIBLE STUDY BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY**

There will NOT be a Bible study between services today. We will begin next week with a four-Sunday exploration of the New Testament book of Colossians.

### THE PICTORIALS ARE HERE!!

The long-awaited Peace pictorials are done and ready to be picked up! PLEASE ONLY ONE PER HOUSEHOLD! They are on the back counter of the worship space.

## ALSO DIRECTORIES

Also available on the back counter are Peace directories – with addresses & contact information, etc. As this is a continuously changing document it was decided not to include this information in the pictorial.

## **SERVING IN WORSHIP**

Presider	Rev. Jordan Ertl
	Rev. Luke C. Werre
Accompanist	Mrs. Lynn Proeber
Projection Slides	Amy Johnson

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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## THE COMMON SERVICE



Text: Ludämilia Elisabeth, 1640-72; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.

Tune: Jesus, Jesus, Nichts als Jesus (87 87 77) Das . . . vollkommenes Musikalisches Choral-Buch, Hamburg, 1715, alt.

Please stand

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.<sup>12</sup>

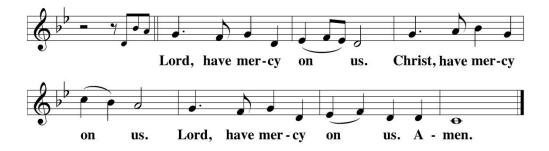
C: Amen.

### **CONFESSION OF SINS**

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

## LORD, HAVE MERCY



God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ♣ and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This is called the "Invocation." The minister invokes God's name as the service begins. Everything the minister does in this service is "in the name of" the triune God – or to say it another way, "on behalf of" the triune God. He speaks & acts as God's representative to us.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> While we're at it... one reason the minister wears a robe (called an alb) is to cover up the man. Now it is the Lord speaking to us through His representative. The man himself does not matter. We cover him up. It is similar to the way a judge in a court of law wears a robe... now it is "the law" speaking, not the man personally.

### PRAYER AND PRAISE<sup>3</sup>

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

## **GLORY TO GOD**



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This is our reaction or response to the fact that our sins have just been forgiven by God through His representative. We praise Him and we pray to Him.





#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray... O merciful Lord, you did not spare your only Son but delivered him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

## THE WORD

#### FIRST LESSON

## **Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

<sup>15</sup>See now, today I have set before you life and prosperity, death and disaster. <sup>16</sup>This is what I am commanding you today: Love the LORD your God, walk in his ways, and keep his commandments, his statutes, and his ordinances. Then you will live and increase in number, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are going to possess.

<sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away, and you do not listen, and you are lured away, and you bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>then I declare to you today that you will most certainly perish. You will not live a long life on the land that you are about to enter and possess by crossing over the Jordan.

<sup>19</sup>I call the heavens and the earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live <sup>20</sup>by loving the LORD your God, by listening to his voice, and by clinging to him, because that means life for you, and you will live a long life on your land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

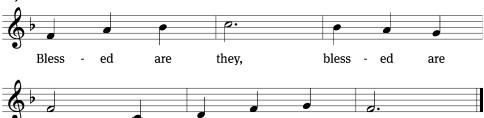
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# PSALM Psalm 1



thev



in

the

LORD.



hope

who

Blessed is the one who / does not walk in step with the / wicked or stand in the way that / sinners take or sit in the company of / mockers, but whose delight is in the law / of the LORD, and who meditates on his law / day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of / water, which yields its fruit in / season and whose leaf does not / wither— whatever they do / prospers. Refrain

Not so the / wicked!

They are like chaff that the wind / blows away.

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the / judgment,
nor sinners in the assembly of the / righteous. *Refrain* 

For the LORD watches over the way of the / righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to de- / struction.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon, our dear friend and coworker,

<sup>7</sup>For I have received great joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed by you, brother.

<sup>8</sup>For that reason, even though I have plenty of boldness in Christ to order you to do what is proper, <sup>9</sup>I am appealing to you instead, on the basis of love, just as I, Paul, am an old man and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ. <sup>10</sup>I am appealing to you on behalf of my child Onesimus. I became his father while I was in chains. <sup>11</sup>There was a time when he was useless to you, but now he is useful both to you and to me. <sup>12</sup>I have sent him (who is my very heart) back to you. Welcome him. <sup>13</sup>I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might serve me in your place while I am in chains for the gospel. <sup>14</sup>But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that your kindness would not be the result of compulsion, but of willingness. <sup>15</sup>Perhaps this is why he was separated from you for a while: so that you would have him back forever, <sup>16</sup>no longer as a slave, but as more than a slave, as a dear brother. He certainly is dear to me, but he is even more of a dear brother to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup>And if he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge it to me. <sup>19</sup>I, Paul, have written this with my own hand: I will repay it—not to mention that you owe me your very self. <sup>20</sup>Yes, brother, I am asking for a favor from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup>Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia. Love the LORD your God, walk in his ways, and keep his commandments.

Then you will live and increase in number, and the LORD your God will bless you. Alleluia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Philemon is a single-chapter book of the Bible. There are several others: 2 John, 3 John, Jude, and Obadiah.

GOSPEL<sup>5</sup> Luke 14:25–35



<sup>25</sup>Large crowds were traveling with Jesus. He turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup>"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup>Whoever does not carry his own cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup>For which of you, if he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup>Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, everyone who sees it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup>saying, "This fellow began to build, but was not able to finish.' <sup>31</sup>Or what king, as he goes out to confront another king in war, will not first sit down and consider if he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>And if he is not able, he sends out a delegation and asks for terms of peace while his opponent is still far away. <sup>33</sup>So then, any one of you who does not say farewell to all his own possessions cannot be my disciple. <sup>34</sup>Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its flavor, how will it become salty again? <sup>35</sup>It is not fit for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. The one who has ears to hear, let him hear."

The Gospel of the Lord.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Why is the Gospel Lesson framed by two musical lines sung by the congregation? Picture a war hero marching in a parade. As he approaches, the crowd on the curb begins to cheer. As he is right in front of them, they are hushed with awe. As he passes by, they cheer again. We are "cheering" for our hero, the Savior Jesus, as He approaches us in the Gospel Lesson.

#### CREED<sup>6</sup>

## **Meaning of the Second Article**

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

Please he seated

**HYMN OF THE DAY** 

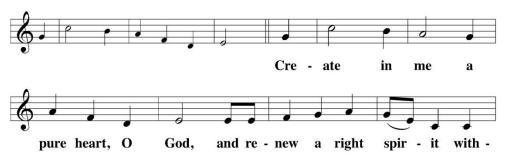
Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken | CW 694

SERMON Luke 14:25-35

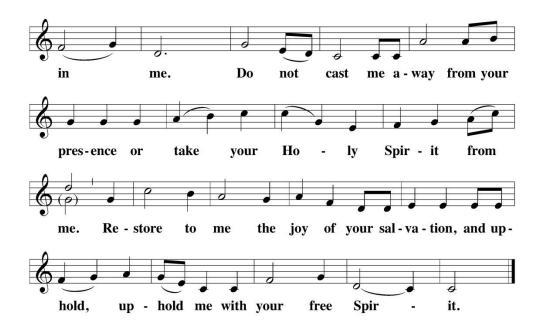
Ditch Everything. Cling to Christ.

Please stand when presider indicates

### **CREATE IN ME**



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Why are we reciting the meaning to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Article today? Because Jesus makes this stark declaration in the Gospel Lesson: *Whoever does not carry his own cross and follow me cannot be my disciple*. The creed states that this is what we were redeemed for – not to live for ourselves, but "that I should be His own and live under Him in His Kingdom and serve Him…"



Please he seated

#### MUSICAL OFFERING

A musical offering follows-for meditating on the sermon and signing Connection Cards.

Please stand

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

O Lord Jesus, Light of the world and saving Strength of your people, we thank you for the gift of your Word. Implant it in the hearts of your people and so set us free from the power of satan and the fear of death. Enable us to serve you with a clear conscience and a joy that permeates our lives. Lord, in your mercy,

## Hear our prayer.

Let your Word shine in our homes, that parents and children may dwell together in love and serve one another in kindness and humility. Deliver us from the relentless blast of godless worldviews funneled through every form of media. Bless our young, our elderly, our sick, our struggling and our lonely. Strengthen those in their prime for the heavy burdens they carry. Lord, in your mercy,

## Hear our prayer.

Give us such a mind to forsake everything except following your will. Enter our hearts and be Lord and Captain there. Make our bodies to be temples of your Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

## Hear our prayer.

Prayers of Intercession

For these and all other needs we join in praying...

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

## THE SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

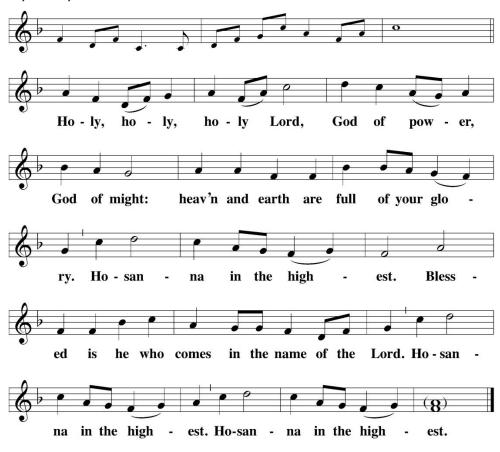
It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord,

who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY<sup>7</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> This song alludes to the heavenly vision in Isaiah 6:1-4. Isaiah saw the throne of God and heard angels thundering the words, "Holy, holy is the Lord Almighty!" We sing these words as a reminder to ourselves that as we are about to receive the Lord's Supper we are in the very presence of the Lord Almighty Jesus as He gives Himself to us –body and blood – in the bread and wine.

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

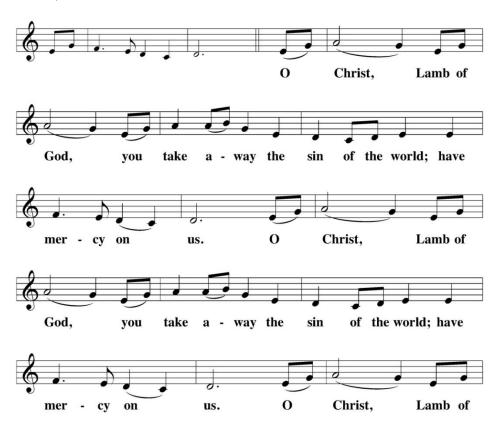
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is<sup>8</sup> my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

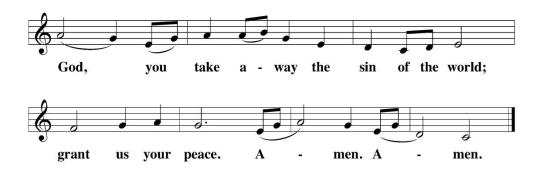
Amen.

## O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The minister makes the sign of the cross NOT like some magical waving of a wand but simply to remind us that "is" means "is." Not "represents." Christ gives us His actual body and blood in, with and under the bread and wine. It is not merely symbolic.



Please be seated

Please respect our practice of "Close Communion," meaning we commune members of Peace and churches affiliated with Peace. For further explanation, please see inside the front cover of this worship folder. Thank you.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS** 

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus | CW 704 I Come, O Savior, to Your Table | CW 670

Please stand when presider indicates

#### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

Now may this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in the true faith into life everlasting. Your sins are forgiven. The peace of God is with you.

Amen.

## **THANKSGIVING**

#### SONG OF SIMEON9



O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

And his mercy endures forever.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Simeon sang these words when he received the actual infant Savior in his arms (Lk 2:28-323). We sing them because we have received the actual Savior – body and blood – in the Lord's Supper.

We give thanks, Almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 10

Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

Coordinator

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

## INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF

At the end of the 8:00 service and the beginning of the 10:30 service our Sunday School staff will be publicly installed in the ministries to which they have been called. They are:

Coordinator	Andrea Kratz
4&5K	Amanda Thiede & Mina Matson
1&2	Michelle Luckmann & Gus Matson
3&4	Andrea Kratz & Missy Derr
5&6	Nate Metzger & Charlie Pingel
7&8	Jake Gosdeck / Dan Larson / Betsy McCrary
Music	Jenny Werre
Toddler Travels with Jesus -	Amy Larson
Family Ministry Board –	Matt Lemke (chair)

Andrea Vret

We are grateful for their willing service to God's people.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Notice the fruit of the Sacrament... we pray that it will 1) strengthen our faith in the Lord, and

<sup>2)</sup> increase our love for one another.