

**THEN HE SAID TO THEM,  
“WATCH OUT! BE ON  
YOUR GUARD AGAINST  
ALL KINDS OF GREED;  
LIFE DOES NOT CONSIST  
IN AN ABUNDANCE OF  
POSSESSIONS.”**

Luke 12:15



*First Lutheran Church*

*August 3, 2025*

*Pentecost 8*

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Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.

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## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

ENGELBERG

David M. Cherwien

*Suite for Organ "We Know That Christ Is Raised"*

### GATHERING

(Please stand)

## CONFSSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Merciful God,

C: **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.**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG**

**ELW # 449**

## We Know That Christ Is Raised



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.  
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.  
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.  
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows

Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,  
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,  
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.  
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.

and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.  
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.  
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.  
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:

Hal - - le - lu - - jah!

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924

**GREETING**

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

**C: And also with you.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

*The Cantor will sing the verses.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated)

## FIRST READING

**ECCLESIASTES 1:2,12-14;2:18-23**

R: A reading from Ecclesiastes, the first chapter.

<sup>2</sup> Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.<sup>12</sup> I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem.<sup>13</sup> I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with.<sup>14</sup> I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.<sup>2:18</sup> I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor,<sup>19</sup> and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity.<sup>20</sup> So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun,<sup>21</sup> because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil.<sup>22</sup> What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun?<sup>23</sup> For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

R: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

R: *A reading from Colossians, the third chapter.*

<sup>1</sup> So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. <sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup> On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup> These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup> But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup> In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

R: *The word of the Lord.*

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Cantor: *Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*(Matthew 5:3)*

P: *The holy gospel according to Luke, the twelfth chapter.*



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

<sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” <sup>16</sup> Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup> And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup> Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup> So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

P: *The gospel of the Lord.*



Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

**REFLECTION**

**REVEREND CHRISTIAN DITTMAR**

(Please stand)

## Son of God, Eternal Savior



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,  
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.  
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;  
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,  
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant-ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.  
 hush the storm of strife and pas-sion, bid its cru-el dis - cords cease.  
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:  
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;  
 By your pa - tient years of toil-ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,  
 by your pray-ing, by your will-ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.  
 we but stew - ards of your boun-ty held in sol - emn trust will be.  
 quench our fe - vered thirst of plea-sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855-1932

Music: IN BABILON, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenliedjes en Contradansen*, 1710

## 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.

(Please kneel)

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION***

P: With all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

*A brief silence.*

L: Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits. Build an enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life of the world, is revealed to everyone.

*Each petition concludes:*

P: God of grace,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Trusting in your loving kindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: **Amen.**

(Please stand)

## PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(Please be seated)

## MEAL

### OFFERING AND ORGAN MEDITATION

ENGELBERG

David M. Cherwien

*Suite for Organ "We Know That Christ Is Raised"*

*II. Aria*

(Please stand)

### OFFERING PRAYER

L: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful.

As a mother comforts her child, so you comfort us. Bring this comfort to those in any pain especially . . .

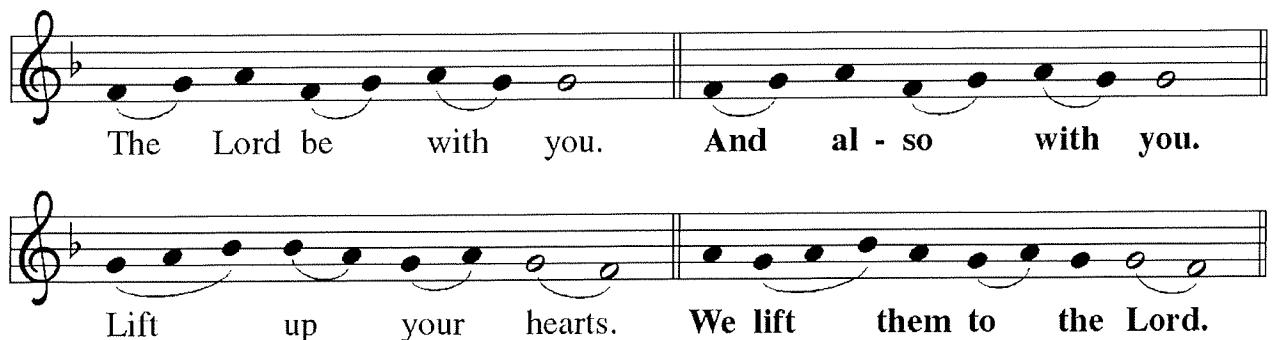
P: God of grace,

C: **hear our prayer.**

L: Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: **Amen.**

### GREAT THANKSGIVING



The musical notation consists of two staves of music in G clef and common time. The first staff contains the lyrics "The Lord be with you. And also with you." The second staff contains the lyrics "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The music is simple, with mostly quarter notes and a few eighth notes, accompanied by a bass line.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

### PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise . . . *the preface for the day, concluding: we praise your name and join their unending hymn.*

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est.. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est.. Ho - san - na in the high - est..  
Ho - san - na in the high - est..

### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

*LORD'S PRAYER*

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

**COMMUNION**

*Communion is distributed in two manners*

- † You may commune in your pews.  
*Individual communion kits are available at the Narthex doors.  
The presiding minister will share a blessing,  
all communing in-place will commune together.*
- † You may come to the Table, to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.  
*A basket is available for disposal of your individual communion cups.*

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

## LAMB OF GOD



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.

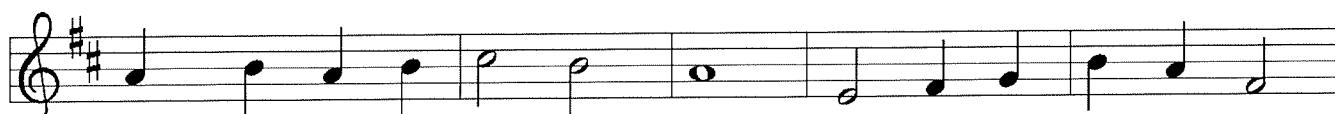
## COMMUNION SONG

ELW # 515

### Break Now the Bread of Life



1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you  
2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you  
3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly



broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page  
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,  
word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live



I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.  
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!  
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841-1913, alt.

Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826-1888

(Please stand)

**TABLE BLESSING**

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

L: O 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.

C: Amen.

**SENDING**

**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER**

C: Oh God,  
your everlasting love for us is always trustworthy and sure.  
We are grateful for the goodness  
you have shown us through the years,  
and we ask now for confidence to go forward into the future.  
Bless our community of faith, bless our healing,  
bless the changes that are before us,  
bless our pastoral leaders  
who will shepherd us through this time of transition.  
We thank you now for the wisdom you will show us  
as we align with your will, and servant or servants  
you are already preparing to send us in your blessed time.  
Help us to keep looking to you to define our ministry  
and our future.  
In his name and for the sake of Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**BLESSING**

P: 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.



**SENDING SONG**

**ELW # 650**

## In Christ There Is No East or West



1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,  
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev - 'ry - where their high com - mu - nion find;  
3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.  
4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one com - mu - ni - ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.  
his ser - vice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man - kind.  
All chil - dren of the liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.  
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.

Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949

## **DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace.

P: Live by the Spirit.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**

ENGELBERG

David M. Cherwien

*"We Know That Christ Is Raised"*

*III. Fugue*

## Events in Review

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Aug 3</u>
10:00AM	Church Service
<u>Monday</u>	<u>Aug 4</u>
10:00AM	Bible Study @ Willows
<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Aug 6</u>
6:00 PM	Worship & Music Meeting

## Next Week

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Aug. 10</u>
10:00AM	Church Service
<u>Monday</u>	<u>Aug. 11</u>
10:00AM	Bible Study at Willows
<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Aug. 13</u>
9:00AM	Piece Corp



If you have a prayer request for today, please raise your hand during announcements and a host will give you a green card to fill out.

Cookie Sign up sheets are located on the Dietz Room wall. Fellowship time is before and after Church Service. Approximately 4 dozen cookies are needed each week.



## School Supply Collection

The annual Lutheran Relief School Supply donation project has started and will continue until August 30. A list of needed supplies is on the table in the hallway. You can drop off the supplies in the box by that table or in the office.



## New Start

Come join us to celebrate our "New Start" at First Lutheran on Sunday, August 17th. Right after service, we will enjoy a delicious BBQ picnic, followed by a question and answer session about what our ministry will look like in the future. Brats and dogs will be provided. Please see sign up sheet in foyer for sides and desserts.



## Lawn Mower for the Week



**Rick Nominee**

## Contact Us



### **First Lutheran Church**

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[firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com](mailto:firstlutherantiffin@gmail.com)

## *Interim Pastor*

**Pastor Mark Schuring**

(740) 360-2306

[theskipster55@gmail.com](mailto:theskipster55@gmail.com)

## *Our Worship Leaders*

*Altar Guild:*

Luise & Ken Zeop

*Cantor:*

Elijah Shiley

*Facebook Camera*

*Host:*

*Reader:*

Jonathan Nominee

*Worship Assistant*

Jonathan Nominee

*Director of Music:*

Curtis L. King

*Presiding Pastor:* Pastor Chris Dittmar

## *Emergency Pastors*

**Pastor Mark Schuring**

(740) 360-2306

**Mike Porter**

(585) 813-5009

**Pastor Philip Scherr**

(814) 756-9435

## *Our Mission Statement*

**“God is among us!”**

**“We are called to go out, care for all, share the gospel, forgive, reconcile and trust God for all that we need.”**

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