

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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9th Sunday after Pentecost

August 10, 2025

**NOTE: Hearing assist devices are available
in the narthex for worship services.**

Please see an Usher or Greeter if needed.

Presiding Minister	Pastor David Viles
Organist / Keyboard	Zola Finch
Song Leader	Kathy Meller
Acolyte	Oliver Stoermer
Audio / Video Technician	Dan Tschirgi
Reader	Erika Gerth
Council	Misty Schroeder
Greeters	Audrey Bunch & Jerry Koestner
Altar Flowers	Marlene Carlson
Communion Assistant	Rosemary Heidbreder

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Jr. Lutherans will meet at Chris and Elizabeth Russell's at 1007 LO Mo Drive, Jefferson City next Sunday, August 17, for a swim party. Snacks will be furnished. Please bring your family and friends to meet there around 2:00 p.m.

Hymn History – Our Hymn of the Day, “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” was written by Congregational Pastor Washington Gladden in 1879. During this post-Civil War time of racial and economic injustice, Pastor Gladden became an activist for political and moral reform in industry, commerce, and politics. He even upset his own denomination by railing against John D. Rockefeller Sr. and Standard Oil Company for giving \$100,000 of “tainted money” to the Congregational Church's Foreign Missions Program. During a period of heavy criticism for what was considered his liberal theology, Pastor Gladden composed the hymn. It has become a hymn and prayer sung by many Christian of “all stripes” as we worship the Master. The Hymn is sung to the tune “Maryton”, composed by H. Percy Smith in 1874.

NOTE: Use Hymnals to read Music for the Hymns

***Gathering Song: Hymn #438**

My Lord, What a Morning

Refrain

**My Lord, what a morning;
my Lord, what a morning;
oh, my Lord, what a morning,
when the stars begin to fall.**

**1 You will hear the trumpet sound,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. Refrain**

**2 You will hear the sinner cry,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. Refrain**

**3 You will hear the Christian shout,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. Refrain**

Text: African American spiritual

Remembering that Jesus Christ died on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins, and was raised on the third day giving us eternal life.

We continue with confession and forgiveness.

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another, trusting in God's endless mercy and love.

Silence 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. God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

*** SHARING THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

GREETING (Please be seated)

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.

Kyrie: Hymnal Page # 184-185

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, 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

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

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

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

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

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

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

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

Hymn of Praise: This is the Feast. Hymnal Page 187-88

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Prayer of the Day:

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Children's Sermon

WORD

The 1st lesson is a reading from Genesis, the 15th chapter.

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Psalm33 (Read Responsively)

Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

The Lord looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.

God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.

God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.

A king is not saved by the size of the army, nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

The horse gives vain hope for victory; despite its great strength it cannot save.

Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O Lord, upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine.

Our innermost being waits for you, O Lord, our helper and our shield.

Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.

Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.

The 2nd lesson is a reading from Hebrews, the 11th chapter.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered himself faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore." All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation: Hymnal Page 188**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia.

***The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 12th chapter.**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: "Where Your Treasure Is, There Your Heart Will Be"

Pastor David Viles

Hymn of the Day: Hymn # 818 Master, Let Me Walk with You

**1 O Master, let me walk with you
in lowly paths of service true;
tell me your secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.**

**2 Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of
love; teach me the wayward feet to
stay, and guide them in the
homeward way.**

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt.

**3 Teach me your patience; share
with me a closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and
strong, in trust that triumphs over
wrong,**

**4 In hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broad'ning
way, in peace that only you can
give; with you, O Master, let me
live.**

*** Apostle's Creed – Please stand.**

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.

*** The Prayers of Intercession:**

The congregation's response to "God of grace," is "**hear our prayer.**"

MEAL

Offering: We worship God by giving back a little of what he has first given us. God calls us by the Holy Spirit to care for all of God's people and creation through these gifts. Through this small sacrifice, God's love is shown through us, to those who are in need.

***(Please Stand) Offertory:**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

***Offertory Prayer:** Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. 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 Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Song: Holy, Holy, Holy Hymnal Page 190

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

*** Words of Institution – Eucharist Prayer**

***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, forever and ever.

Distribution of the Elements

Please be seated as we sing Lamb of God:

Hymnal Page # 191

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, Lamb of God.

***Blessing after the Meal**

Pastor David Viles

***(544 verse 1) Praise the Lord, rise up rejoicing, worship, thanks, devotion voicing; glory be to God on high! Christ, your cross and passion sharing, by this Eucharist declaring yours the final victory.**

***Prayer after Communion:**

Holy 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

***Blessing: (Please Stand)**

Pastor David

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.

C: Amen.

***Sending Song: Hymn # 618**

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

- 1** **Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.**
- 2** **Open now the crystal fountain
where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.**
- 3** **When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.**

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude