

# 11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



***Welcome to  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Child Development Center and Pre-School***  
Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D., Pastor

August 24, 2025



LOOSED AND LIFTED  
LUKE 13:10-17



***Welcome to  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Child Development Center and Pre-School***

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D., Pastor

DON'T put *your*  
FAITH  
*in the* problem  
—put *your*  
FAITH *in*  
GOD!



WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US



**lcmmc**

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ



# THE LIFE OF C.S. LEWIS

*Through JOY  
and BEYOND*



"...one of the most influential  
spokesmen for Christianity in  
the English speaking world."  
—Time Magazine

## Pastor's Study – Concluding Session

Join us today immediately following the service for the conclusion of Pastor's Study on Hollywood and the Church.

We will view *The Life of C. S. Lewis: Through Joy and Beyond* together in the Fellowship Hall Conference Room.

## WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US



## ***LCMC 25th Annual Gathering & Convention***

October 5-8, 2025 | Hosanna Church | Lakeville, MN |

Registration Deadline: September 15



It's coming on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025!

Time to get prepared!



## INTRODUCTION

*Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.*



## **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.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

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.**

**Gathering Song**

**“Morning Has Broken”**

**Hymn # 556**



**<sup>1</sup> Morning has broken  
like the first morning;  
blackbird has spoken  
like the first bird.**

Hymn # 556

**Praise for the singing!**  
**Praise for the Morning!**  
**Praise for them, springing**  
**fresh from the Word!**

Hymn # 556

**2 Sweet the rain's new fall,  
sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall  
on the first grass.**

Hymn # 556

**Praise for the sweetness  
of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness  
where God's feet pass.**

Hymn # 556

**Final Mine is the sunlight!**  
**Mine is the morning,**  
**born of the one light**  
**Eden saw play!**

Hymn # 556



**Praise with elation,  
praise ev'ry morning,  
God's recreation  
of the new day.**

Hymn # 556

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

*Kyrie eleison*

***Lord, have mercy.***

*Christe eleison*

***Christ, have mercy.***

*Kyrie eleison*

***Lord, have mercy.***

## **Glory To God**

*Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest,  
glory to God, glory to God,  
and peace to God's people on  
earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you  
thanks, we praise you for your  
glory.  
[Refrain]*



*[Refrain]*

*Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest,  
glory to God, glory to God,  
and peace to God's people on  
earth.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the  
Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us; you are seated  
at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.*

*[Refrain]*

*[Refrain]*

*Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest,  
glory to God, glory to God,  
and peace to God's people on  
earth.*

*For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus  
Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the  
glory of God the Father. Amen.*

*[Refrain]*

*[Refrain]*

*Glory to God, glory to God,  
glory to God in the highest,  
glory to God, glory to God,  
and peace to God's people on  
earth, and peace to God's people  
on earth.*

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

# WORD

*FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:9b-14*

*God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.*

<sup>9b</sup>If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
<sup>10</sup>if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.  
<sup>11</sup>The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.



<sup>12</sup>Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. <sup>13</sup>If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs;

<sup>14</sup>then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 103:1-8

*The LORD crowns you with mercy and steadfast love. (Ps. 103:4)*

<sup>1</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless God's holy  
name.

<sup>2</sup> **Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and forget not all God's benefits—**

<sup>3</sup> who forgives all your sins  
and heals all your diseases;

<sup>4</sup> **who redeems your life from the grave  
and crowns you with steadfast love  
and mercy;**

<sup>5</sup> who satisfies your desires with good things  
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

<sup>6</sup> **O LORD, you provide vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

<sup>7</sup> You made known your ways to Moses  
and your works to the children of Israel.

<sup>8</sup> **LORD, you are full of compassion and  
mercy,  
slow to anger and abounding in  
steadfast love.**

## **SECOND READING: Hebrews 12:18-29**

*Using images of Moses, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.*

<sup>18</sup>You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, <sup>19</sup>and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. <sup>20</sup>(For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." <sup>21</sup>Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.")

<sup>22</sup>But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, <sup>23</sup>and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup>and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.



<sup>25</sup>See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! <sup>26</sup>At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven."

<sup>27</sup>This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. <sup>28</sup>Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; <sup>29</sup>for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation***

***Alleluia.***

***Lord, to whom shall we go?***

***Alleluia.***

***You have the words of eternal Life.***

***Alleluia, alleluia.***

# GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to Luke 13:10-17

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## **GOSPEL: Luke 13:10-17**

*Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding "sabbath work" to include setting people free from bondage.*

<sup>10</sup>Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. <sup>11</sup>And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. <sup>12</sup>When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment."  
<sup>13</sup>When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God.

<sup>14</sup>But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." <sup>15</sup>But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water?"

<sup>16</sup>And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" <sup>17</sup>When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**





# **Sermon**

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley



**Hymn of the Day**

**“Thy Holy Wings”**

**Hymn # 613**

**<sup>1</sup> Thy holy wings, O Savior,  
spread gently over me, and  
let me rest securely through  
good and ill in thee.**

Hymn # 613

**Oh, be my strength and  
portion, my rock and hiding  
place, and let my ev'ry  
moment be lived within thy  
grace.**

Hymn # 613

**<sup>2</sup> Oh, let me nestle near thee,  
within thy downy breast  
where I will find sweet  
comfort and peace within thy  
nest.**

Hymn # 613

**Oh, close thy wings around  
me and keep me safely there,  
for I am but a newborn and  
need thy tender care.**

Hymn # 613



**Final Oh, wash me in the waters  
of Noah's cleansing flood.  
Give me a willing spirit, a  
heart both clean and good.**

Hymn # 613

**Oh, take into thy keeping thy  
children great and small, and  
while we sweetly slumber,  
enfold us one and all.**

Hymn # 613

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

## **CREED**

*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.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

*A brief silence.*

You call your church to proclaim liberation and freedom to all. Give wisdom to bishops, synod councils and staff, and congregation leaders as they pursue a more just and equitable church and society.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**



You inspire all creation to sing and bless your holy name. Send healing rains to parched places and relief to flooded lands. Lead us to enact policies to rebuild ruined ecosystems and habitats.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You work vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. Strengthen the resolve of world leaders and local officials in the way of love and mercy, so that all persons may experience abundant life.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You satisfy your people with good things. In your steadfast love, receive the cries of all who are bent over under the weight of addiction, isolation, and mental or physical illness and we remember our friends and family members before you. Manifest your healing presence in their midst.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You call us to delight in the sabbath. Invigorate worship planners and leaders with creativity to aid this assembly in fresh and faithful prayer and praise. Enable all who gather here to be nourished and renewed.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all our military, especially those deployed. We keep in our prayers all the Wounded Warriors that have returned home to heal. We pray for our missionaries, for Will in Brazil, serving with the World Mission Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Firmly Rooted Ministries in Oxford, Michigan. God of Heaven and earth, you call your children to seek first your kingdom and righteousness. We pray for this work throughout the Texas District of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ.

Bless and prosper the work of our District staff as they support your mission: Bryce Formwalt, Aubrey Hamann, and Kyle McGinnis. Today we also pray for Elizabeth Lutheran Church in Caldwell, Texas and their interim pastor, Mark Neuman. By your Holy Spirit, give them the strength of faith to answer your call to make disciples. Bless and protect all our local nurses, doctors, healthcare workers and first responders, our students, teachers and school administrators. Hear us, O God.  
**Your mercy is great.**

With all your apostles, prophets, and saints, we give thanks and bless your holy name. As they now rest from their labors, guide us by the witness of their lives to pursue your reign, which can never be shaken.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

**Amen.**



**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**Amen.**

## **Canticle of Thanksgiving**

*Refrain* ***Salvation belongs to our God  
and to Christ the Lamb for ever and  
ever.***

***<sup>1</sup> Great and wonderful are your  
deeds, O God of the universe; just  
and true are your ways, O Ruler of  
all the nations.***

***Who can fail to honor you, Lord, and  
sing the glory of your name?***

*Refrain* ***Salvation belongs to our God  
and to Christ the Lamb forever and  
ever.***

***<sup>2</sup> For you alone are the Holy One,  
and blessed is the one whose  
name is the Word of God.  
All praise and thanks to you, holy  
God!***

*Refrain* ***Salvation belongs to our God  
and to Christ the Lamb forever and  
ever.***

# **THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

**Amen.**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

## **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. Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and  
mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you  
peace.

**Amen.**

**Sending Song**

**“How Great Thou Art”**

**Hymn # 856**

**<sup>1</sup> O Lord my God, when I in  
awesome wonder consider  
all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty  
thunder, thy pow'r throughout the  
universe displayed;**

**[Refrain]**

Hymn # 856

[Refrain]

**Then sings my soul, my Savior  
God, to thee, how great thou art!  
How great thou art!**

**Then sings my soul, my Savior  
God, to thee, how great thou art!  
How great thou art!**

Hymn # 856

**2 When through the woods and  
forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the  
trees; when I look down from lofty  
mountain grandeur and hear the  
brook and feel the gentle breeze;**

**[Refrain]**

Hymn # 856

[Refrain]

**Then sings my soul, my Savior  
God, to thee, how great thou art!  
How great thou art!**

**Then sings my soul, my Savior  
God, to thee, how great thou art!  
How great thou art!**

Hymn # 856



**3 But when I think that God, his  
Son not sparing, sent him to die,  
I scarce can take it in, that on the  
cross my burden gladly bearing  
he bled and died to take away my  
sin;**

**[Refrain]**

Hymn # 856

[Refrain]

**Then sings my soul, my Savior  
God, to thee, how great thou art!  
How great thou art!**

**Then sings my soul, my Savior  
God, to thee, how great thou art!  
How great thou art!**

Hymn # 856

**Final When Christ shall come, with  
shout of acclamation, and take  
me home, what joy shall fill my  
heart! Then I shall bow in humble  
adoration and there proclaim, "My  
God, how great thou art!"**

**[Refrain]**

**Hymn # 856**

[Refrain]

**Then sings my soul, my Savior  
God, to thee, how great thou art!  
How great thou art!**

**Then sings my soul, my Savior  
God, to thee, how great thou art!  
How great thou art!**

Hymn # 856

# DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

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