

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
Holstein, IA August 16, 2026 9:00 A.M.

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

GATHER

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy and grace,
we come to you today as family members who sin and fall short. We fail in our efforts to give ourselves in love and service, following our own selfish desires and ignoring the needs of the community of faith around us. Forgive our sin, and open our hearts to the brothers and sisters who need our concern. Give us faith and power for today and everyday. Amen.

God has shown us grace and glory. Jesus, God's son, went to the cross to pay the price for our sin and separation, in order that we could be part of the community of faith again. Through the Holy Spirit, we are given power to change and become new each day. We share in the death of Jesus just as we share his resurrection. We are forgiven, and have been made one with the new community of God.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

Kyrie Eleison

(Lord, have mercy)

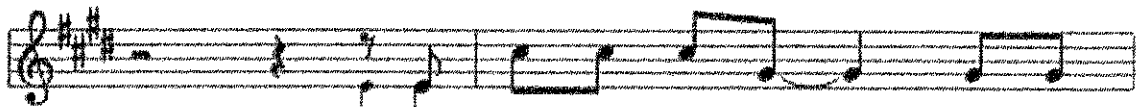
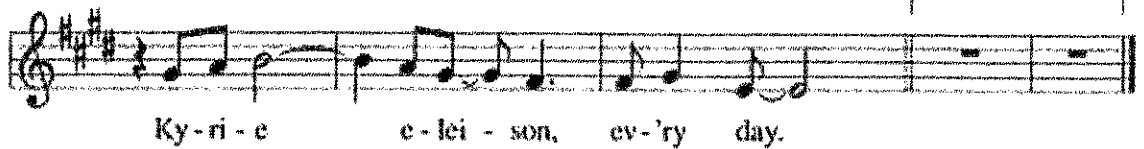
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Opening Hymn **Kyrie Eleison (Lord, have mercy)**

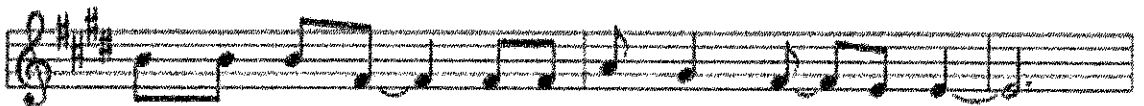
Refrain



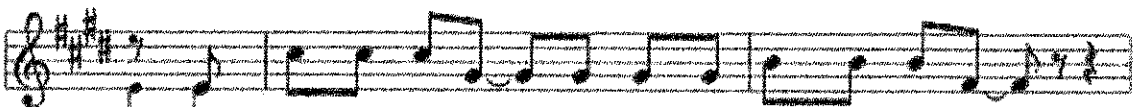
Last time



- 1 For peace in the world, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im -
- 3 For peace in our hearts, for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you

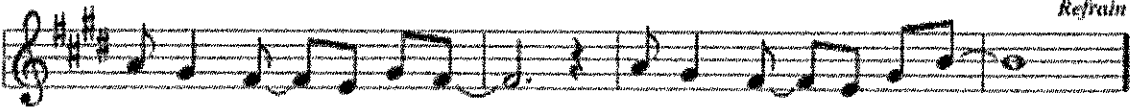


health of the church, for the u - ni - ty of all;
 passioned re - sponse to the hun - gry and the poor;
 peace in our homes, for friends and fam - i - ly;
 cen - ter our lives in the wa - ter and the word;



for this ho - ly house, for all who wor - ship and praise.
 that we may live out . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,
 for life and for love, . . . for our work and our play,
 that you nour - ish our souls . . . with your bo - dy and blood.

Refrain



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

Text and music: Larry Olson

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Prayer of the Day

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come and my deliverance be revealed. ⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it and hold fast my covenant—⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. ⁸Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel: I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 67

- ¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.
- ² Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.
- ³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
- ⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
**for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations on earth.**
- ⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
- ⁶ The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.
- ⁷ May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

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Matthew 15:10-28

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 15th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁰ [Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand:¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" ¹³ He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.

¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." ¹⁶ Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶ He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

Hymn of the Day

Give Us Your Vision

Give us your vision, Lord, this is our prayer.
O, help us to see when the way is not clear.
And gift us with wisdom and lead us, we pray.
Let grace be our calling and our strength for today.

Give us belonging so that we may feel
your warm arms around us your help in our need.
And gift us with friendship that brings us new life
and binds us together in a circle of love.

Give us believing to trust in your Word
with wisdom to teach so the gospel is heard.
And faith for each moment and hope ev'ry day
to do in our living what believing we say.

Give us becoming so that we may be
all that you intended, created and free.
A gift freely given, the hope for rebirth,
the kingdom of heaven at work on the earth.

Irish trad. Melody; words by Hanson & Murakami, Copyright 1996, Changing Church, Inc., CCLI#833795

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 the People

Sharing the Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

MEAL

Children's Offering / Offering

Offering Prayer

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us to share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

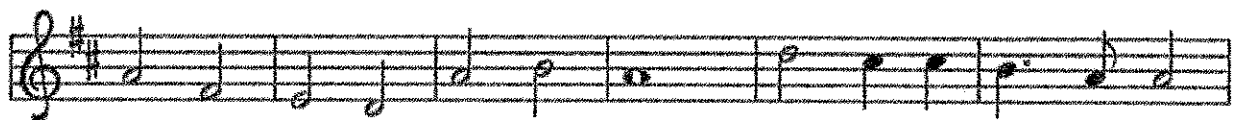
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

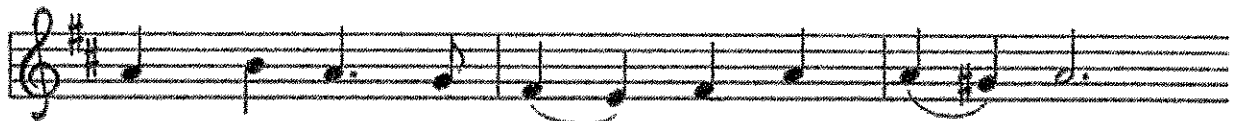
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface *It is indeed... we join in their unending praise:*



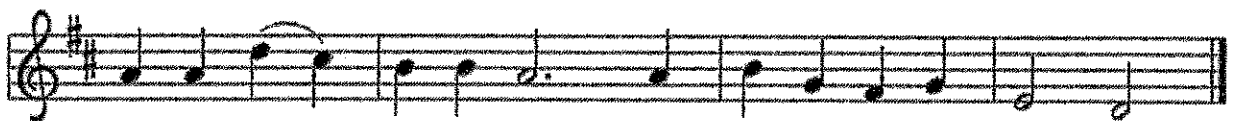
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n 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.

Words of Institution

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.

Invitation to Communion

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

Distribution

****Distribution of the Sacrament****

*All who trust in Christ's word are welcome to the table of this holy supper,
where our Lord is truly present, offering his gifts of forgiveness and eternal life.
Please tell the server if you desire grape juice as an alternative to wine,
or if you require a gluten-free wafer.*

Please join in singing -

Here Is Bread

#483

Bind Us Together

Refrain: Bind us together, Lord, bind us together
with cords that cannot be broken.

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord;
Bind us together in love.

There is only one God. There is only one King.
There is only one Body; that is why we can sing: **Refrain**

You are the fam'ly of God. You are the promise divine.
You are God's chosen desire, you are the glorious new wine. **Refrain**

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Prayer After Communion

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with
the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may
share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of
Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, † one God,
bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
Amen.

Closing Song

Bound for Greater Things

When I meet you on the highway, I will greet you with a song.
You play music by the roadside, when the journey seems too long.
In the rain and in the fire, I will strain to hear you sing.
The kingdom is our heart's desire, we are bound for greater things. Singin', singin',

Refrain: We are bound for greater things; bound to walk a higher road;
Drawn by dreams and led by visions, we will know the grace of God.
We will leave the past behind, we will fly with eagles' wings,
We will run the race before us, we are bound for greater things!

Help me find the chains that bind me, as we walk into the light.
We can see with clearer vision what confused us in the night.
The One who made the golden morning, the One who gave our spirits wings;
Gave us these hands to help each other on our way to greater things. Singin',
singin',

Refrain

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Dismissal

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Worship Participants

Ministers:	All the members
Vicar:	Emily Anderson
DYME:	Jim & Kris Kistenmacher
Organist:	Sharen Borchers
Pianist:	Kris Kistenmacher
Lector:	Vickie Heck
Deacons:	Marvin Todd and Reuben De La O
Greeters:	Allen & Sue Fitch
Acolytes:	Lincoln Rasmus and Emmett Modrell
Sound & Video:	Randy & Kathy Vollmar
Coffee Hour:	Karen & Doug Wessling Darlene Kistenmacher

St. Paul Church Calendar

SUNDAY, August 16 ~ Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
10:00 AM	Coffee & Fellowship
12:00 PM	St. Paul Pool Party - Pizza & Free Swimming
5:30 PM	Free Community Shepherd's Table Meal

TUESDAY, August 18th

9:00 AM	Sewing Day
6:30 PM	Ministerial Back to School Meal planning
7:00 PM	Trustees Meeting

THURSDAY, August 20th

7:00 PM	Congregation Council meeting
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SUNDAY, August 23 ~ Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

9:00 AM	Worship with Baptism and Blessing of the Backpacks
10:00 AM	Coffee & Fellowship
12:00 PM	Private FH / Kitchen Rental