

13th Weekend after Pentecost
August 22-23, 2026
Holy Communion

The Prelude is a signal to *end our conversation* and prepare our hearts for worship.

PRELUDE

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND

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PASSING OF PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP "SURELY THE PRESENCE"

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

I can feel His mighty power and His grace_.

I can hear the brush of angels' wings.

I see glory on each face.

Surely the pre - sence of the Lord is in this place.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin to God. Compassionate God,

C we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

P Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

- 1 Guide me, O thou great_ Je - hovah,/
pilgrim through this barren land./
I am weak, but thou_ art_ mighty;/
hold me with thy_ pow'rful hand.
*Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,/
feed me till I want no more,/
feed me till_ I_ want no more.
- 3 When I tread the verge_ of_ Jordan,/
bid my anxious fears subside;/
death of death and hell's_ de - struction,/
land me safe on_ Canaan's side.
*Songs of praises, songs of praises,/
I will ever give to thee,/
I will e - ver_ give to thee.

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.

ANTHEM (*SOUTH CAMPUS ONLY*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray together.
- C** O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

KYRIE/ CANTICLE OF PRAISE

**Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.
Have mercy on us, Lord; make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!**

**Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
We exalt you, we adore you,
we lift_ high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you;
here on earth our songs we raise.**

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LESSON OF THE DAY

Romans 12: 1-8

The lesson begins:

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

P The Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open_ now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us;
speak un - til our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets." "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

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SERMON

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SERMON RESPONSE

**We will build our lives upon God's love.
It is a firm foundation and we will put our trust in Him
Alone and we will not be shaken_.**

APOSTLES' CREED

- P** Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- C** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- P** With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

- P** Oh Lord, You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built. Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer

- P** You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster . Guide the work of relief agencies and peacemaking organizations. Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for those who grieve and all in need this day (*especially...*) Lord in your mercy,
- C** Hear our prayer
- P** Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C** Amen.

THE OFFERING

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THE OFFERTORY “PRAISE TO YOU, O GOD OF MERCY”

Praise to you, O God of mercy; thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly; thanks be to you forever!

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.
- P** It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our

sovereign God, and spoke to us through the prophets. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

**Holy Holy Holy Holy, Lord, God of pow'r and might_,
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory,
Hosannah_ in the highest.
Bless'd is He who comes in Your name_,
Hosannah_ in the highest!**

P Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

☞ **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

☞ **Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.**

☞ **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

☞ **As a community, let us pray in the way our Lord Jesus has taught us: *(SPOKEN)***

☞ **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!**

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THE COMMUNION is given and received.

(w/ ANTHEM at ALL CAMPUSES & OPTIONAL HYMN INCLUDED)

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POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- P** 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.

THE BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

"Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

Ref. Just a closer walk with thee, / grant it, Jesus, is my plea; /
daily walking close to thee, / let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

- 1 I am weak but thou art strong: /
Jesus, keep me from all wrong; /
I'll be satisfied as long_ as I walk, /
let me walk close to thee. (*Refrain*)
- 2 Through this world of toil and snares, /
if I falter, Lord, who cares_? /
Who with me my burden shares_? /
None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. (*Refrain*)

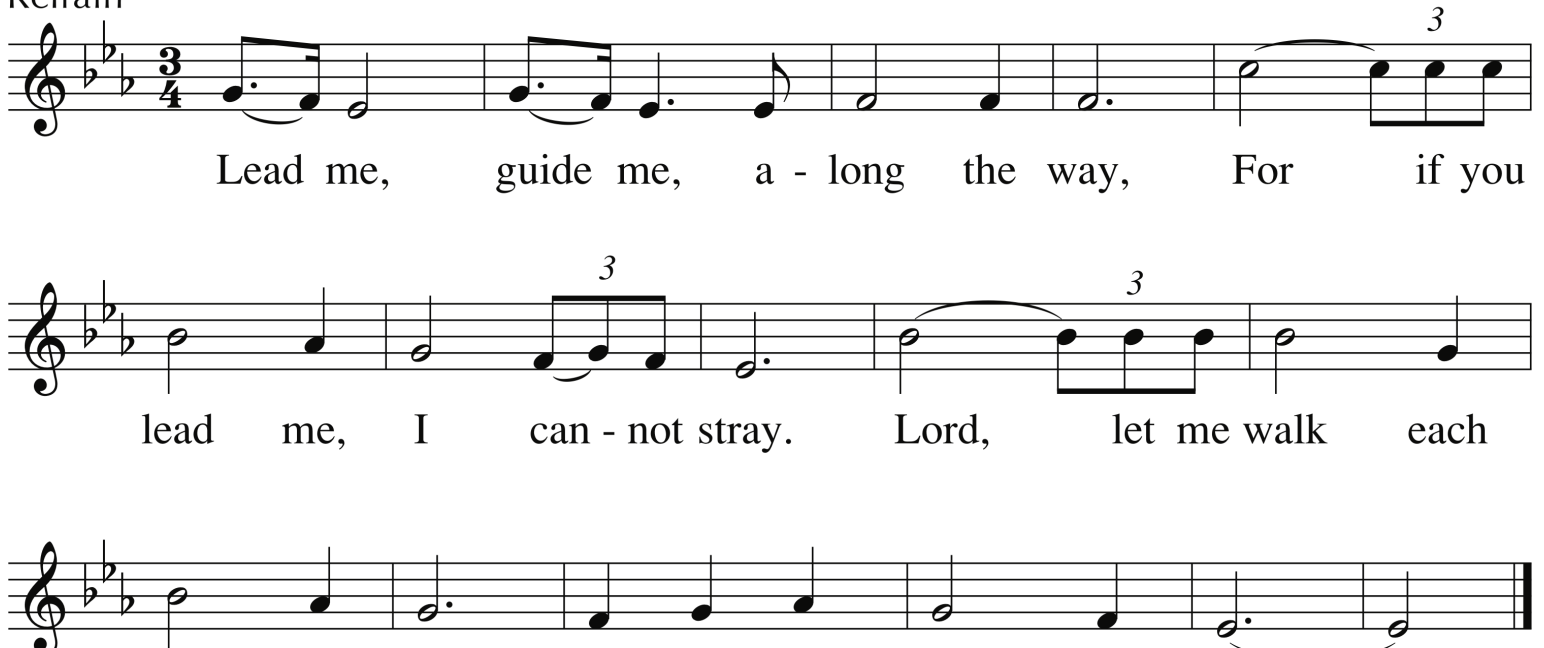
DISMISSAL

- A** Let us go forth, to know Christ and to make Christ known,
C Caring for one another and serving our community.

POSTLUDE

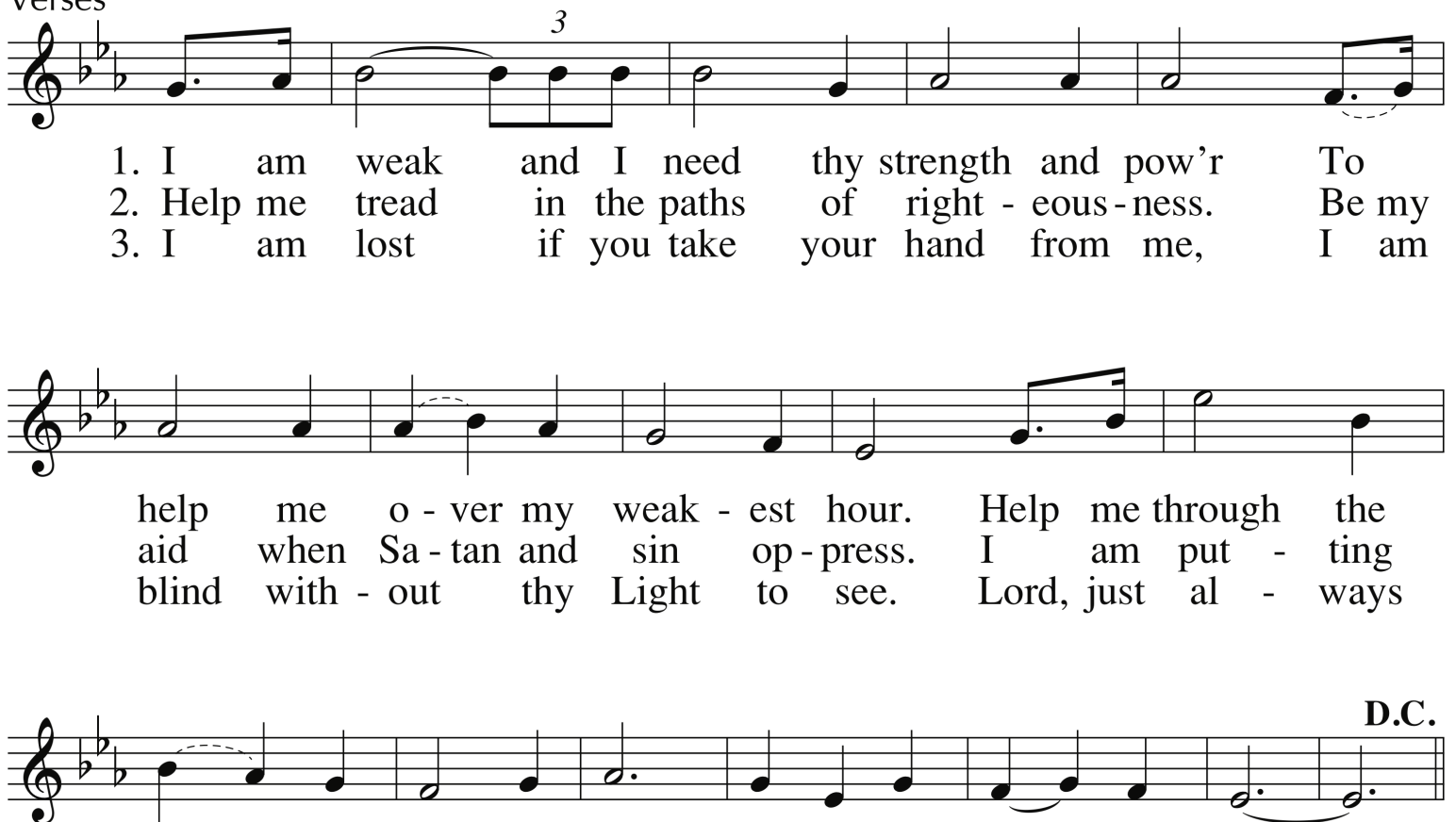
Lead Me, Guide Me

Refrain



Lead me, guide me, a - long the way, For if you
lead me, I can - not stray. Lord, let me walk each
day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Verses



1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r To
2. Help me tread in the paths of right - eous - ness. Be my
3. I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am

help me o - ver my weak - est hour. Help me through the
aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press. I am put - ting
blind with - out thy Light to see. Lord, just al - ways

dark-ness thy face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
all my trust in thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
let me thy ser - vant be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

D.C.