

***WELCOME TO WORSHIP
AT
WHITNALL PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH***



***Twelfth Sunday of Pentecost
Sunday August 16th, 2026***

Pastor Michael Fazio is presiding.

We have come together today as members and guests to worship God and celebrate new life in Jesus Christ. We hope our worship will be uplifting and provide a source of hope and strength for the week ahead.

If you believe that the Lord is truly present for us in the Sacrament in body and blood for the forgiveness of sin, you are welcome to join us as we celebrate the Lord's Supper.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

As the prelude is a time of preparation, please consider quietly meditating on these words of the Psalm during this time of reflection.

Let all the peoples praise you, O God. (Ps. 67:3)

CALL TO WORSHIP *640 Our Father, by Whose Name Vs 3*

- 3 O Holy Spirit, bind our hearts in unity
and teach us how to find the love from self set free;
in all our hearts such love increase that ev'ry home, by this release,
may be the dwelling place of peace.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as Pastor begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who calls us beloved children,
who gathers us into one flock, who guides us into all truth.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Faithful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in Jesus Christ, Our risen Lord. Amen.

P: In the name of † Jesus Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and inspire you to live for others.

C: Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN *886 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing Vs 1-4*

- 1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!
- 2 My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.
- 3 The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
- 4 He speaks, and list'ning to his voice, new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

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.

KYRIE *ELW 154*

**Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Have mercy O Lord.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *This is The Feast ELW Setting 4 Pg 149*

Cantor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**All: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set
us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom
and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn
of all creation; Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb
who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray 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.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING *a reading from Isaiah 56:1, 6-8*

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

¹ Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come and my deliverance be revealed. ⁶ And 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. ⁸ Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel: I will gather others to them besides those already gathered. This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 67

Let all the peoples praise you, O God. (Ps. 67:3)

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.

SECOND READING *a reading from Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32*

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

[Paul writes:] ¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.

^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all. This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain:

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

**When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
still you're there right beside me.**

And nothing will I fear as long as you are near.

Please be near me to the end. *Refrain*

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to *Matthew 15:10-28*

C: 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. This is the Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 588 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

- 1 There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment giv'n.
- 2 There is welcome for the sinner, and a promised grace made good;
there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.
There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.
- 3 For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
But we make this love too narrow by false limits of our own;
and we magnify its strictness with a zeal God will not own.

- 4 'Tis not all we owe to Jesus; it is something more than all:
greater good because of evil, larger mercy through the fall.
Make our love, O God, more faithful; let us take you at your word,
and our lives will be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

APOSTLE'S 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

A: 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.

A: For believers around the world who stream to your holy mountain, that all
be united in faith and harmony in the body of Christ. Let your church on
earth be a witness to the beloved community of your heavenly kingdom.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: For your wondrous creation, that it thrives and flourishes as you intend.
Raise up wise stewards to defend the natural world against carelessness
and destruction. Safeguard endangered species and their habitats.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: For the nations of the world and all in authority, that they heed the cry of
the outcast and ensure care for the most vulnerable. Give wisdom to leaders
of countries, congregations, and communities, that they lead and serve justly.
Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: For this congregation, for visitors and those new to this faith community, that all may recognize the presence of Christ in each new face. Draw this community together in love and strengthen it in unwavering faith. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: For all who are lonely, grieving, or struggling with chronic pain, that they find comfort, community, and hope. Send relief to all who struggle with illness of any kind of suffering Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: For the saints before us whose work is done, that their faithful example continues to direct your church. May their witness remind us that your gifts and calling are irrevocable, whether in life or death. Merciful God,

C: receive 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.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERATORY HYMN *ELW 186 Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray **God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

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 our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name,
and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *ELW Setting 10 Pg 207*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy and Mighty Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened His arms to all.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor, now and forever.

C: Amen

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.**

COMMUNION

THE BODY OF CHRIST, GIVEN FOR YOU. THE BLOOD OF CHRIST, SHED FOR YOU.

*As we accept the Lord's gift of His body and blood, we will receive Him in our
refilled cups containing the wafer and juice or at the rail in the fullness of
faith that God's love and grace have been poured into these holy elements.
One Body, One Mind, One Lord Jesus Christ. This is God's precious gift for you.*

COMMUNION SONG 195 Lamb of God

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.

COMMUNION HYMNS 679 For The Fruit of All Creation 496 One Bread, One Body

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE 674 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ Vs 1 & 3*

- 1 Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound! Jesus lives again,
earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

- 3 Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere! ***Refrain***

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray . . . God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation
you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send
us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love
to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give
you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN *434 Jesus Shall Reign*

- 1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
- 2 To him shall endless prayer be made,
his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.
- 3 People and realms of ev'ry tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.
- 4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the pris'ners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.
- 5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
peculiar honors to our king;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace, to love and serve Our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

