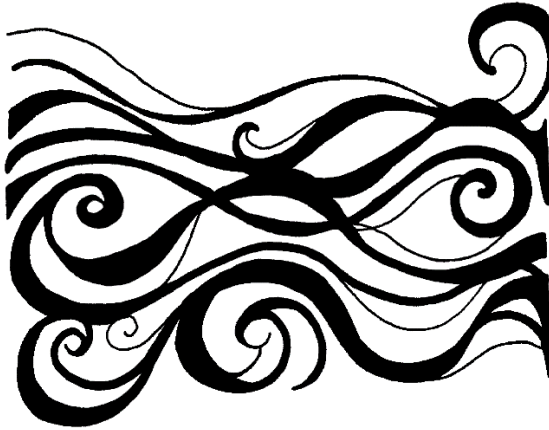




MESSIAH
LUTHERAN CHURCH

MADISON, ALABAMA

August 9, 2026
11th Sunday after Pentecost



Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

Good Morning and Welcome!

If you are an online worshiper or guest today, please leave a record of your time with us online. Thank you!

[Online Guest Form](#)

7740 HIGHWAY 72 W | (256) 721-0041 | MLUTHERAN.ORG

ORDER OF WORSHIP 11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Now the Feast and Celebration

** Please stand as you are able*

PRELUDE “Come Thou Fount” (J. Wyeth/YoungMin You)

Melanie Payne

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

***CONFESSIONS 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.

Compassionate God,

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.

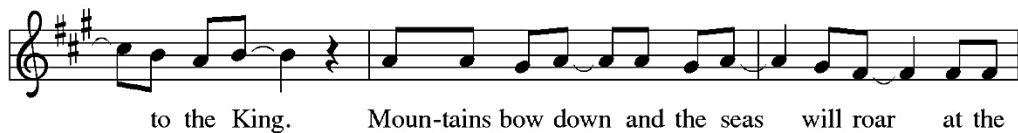
Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

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. **Amen.**

***GATHERING HYMN** “Shout to the Lord”

ELW 821





Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech

Text and music © 1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing, admin. in U.S. and Canada by Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP),
c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

***GREETING**

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.

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

Help, save, and de-fend us, O God.

mer - cy. A - men.

Text: *Lutheran Book of Worship*, adapt. Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen

Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

***HYMN OF PRAISE “Now the Feast and Celebration”**

ELW 167

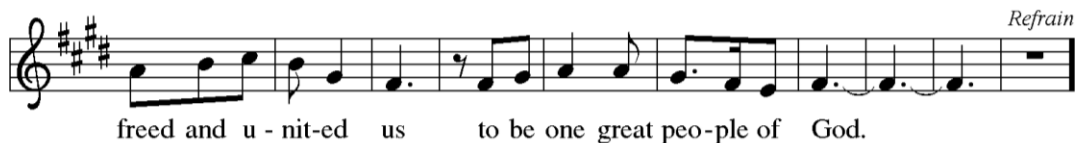
Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra-tion, all of cre - a - tion

sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;

praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 19:9-18

⁹ At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” ¹⁰ He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

¹¹ He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after

the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake,¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”¹⁴ He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill.¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 85:8-13

⁸ I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹ **Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹ **Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹² The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

¹³ **Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

SECOND LESSON

Romans 10:5-15

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.”⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down)⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).⁸ But what does it say?

“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim),⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation.¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him

will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE “Backpack & Student - Teacher Blessing”

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Alleluia, Lord to Whom Shall We Go”

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Optional Repeat*

*GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 14th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

²² [Jesus] made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸ Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹ He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

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

SERMON

Pastor Kristine Schroeder

*HYMN OF THE DAY “Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”

ELW 755



1 Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me o - ver
2 As a moth - er stills her child, thou canst
3 When at last I near the shore, and the



life's tem - pes - tuous sea; un - known waves be - fore me
hush the o - cean wild; bois - t'rous waves o - bey thy
fear - ful break - ers roar twixt me and the peace - ful



roll, hid - ing rock and treach - 'rous shoal; chart and
will when thou say'st to them: "Be still." Won - drous
rest, then, while lean - ing on thy breast, may I



com - pass come from thee. Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
sov - 'reign of the sea, Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
hear thee say to me: "Fear not, I will pi - lot thee."

Text: Edward Hopper, 1818–1888

Music: PILOT, John Edgar Gould, 1822–1875

***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.**

***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

Anthem: "Be Still, My Soul" (Willberg)

Piano Solo: "What Wondrous Love" (Trad. American Harmony)

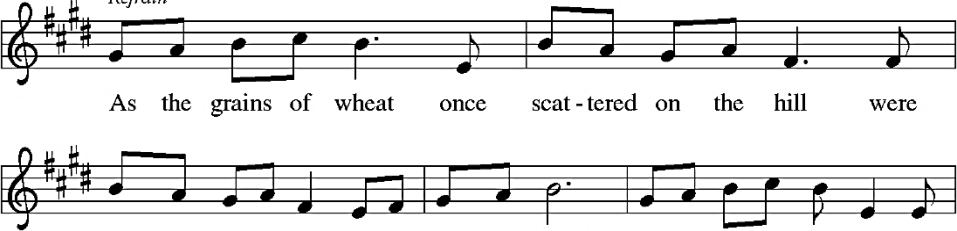
Choir

Melanie Payne

***PRESENTATION OF GIFTS "As the Grains of Wheat"**

ELW 465

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when



Refrain

may we share the pres-ence of your love.
all cre-a-tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and 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.

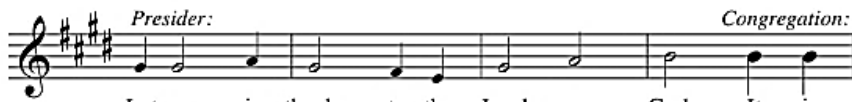
*GREAT THANKSGIVING AND PREFACE



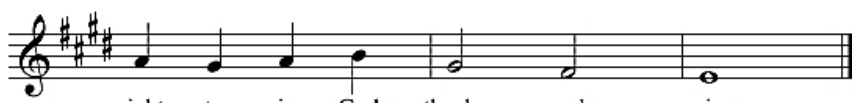
The Lord be with you. And al-so with you.



Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is



right to give God thanks and praise.

*SANCTUS

ELW 191



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638, www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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**

AGNUS DEI “Lamb of God”



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 you break the chains of ha - tred and
 you are the way of jus - tice and
 you are the way of mer - cy and



Congregation:

world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
 fear:
 peace:
 love.

Final Stanza

Congregation or Assistant:



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN “Eat This Bread”

ELW 472

Refrain

“Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and nev - er be hun - gry.
 or Je - sus Christ, bread of life, those who come to you will not hun - ger.



Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.
Je - sus Christ, ris - en Lord, those who trust in you will not thirst.

Text: Taizé Community

Music: BERTHIER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com.
 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

HYMN “When Peace like a River (It Is Well with My Soul)”

ELW 785



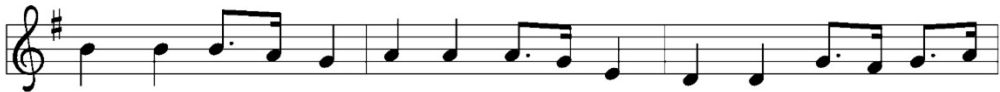
- 1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
- 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
- 3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
- 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

HYMN “What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

ELW 774



- 1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
- 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
- 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
 last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1929

Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858–1924

*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE “Praise to You, O God of Mercy”

ELW 208



1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -
 2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -
 3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -



ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:
 ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:
 ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:



3rd time to Coda $\oplus$ 1 2
 thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for - ev - er!
 thanks be to you for -

Strong is your faith - ful-ness, strong is your love, re -

mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us. *to stanza 3*

Coda

ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Text and music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*BLESSING

Presider: May God bless and keep us.
 May God's face shine on us and be gracious.
 May God look on us with favor and ☩ give us peace.

Presider: — give us peace.

Congregation: A - men.

*SENDING HYMN “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”

ELW 632

1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
 2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,

our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
 short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
 bears all our years away;
 we fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,
 still be our guard while troubles last
 and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
 Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

*DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” (Beethoven/John Carter)

WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Lindsey & the Porter Family
Kevin
Leighann
Connie Stanger
Victoria Zutter

Brittany
Stephen
David
Rich
Bob Gustafson

Family of Ken Ostrowski
Linda Long
Paulette McNamara

THE FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God by Tim and Kari Pitchko in celebration of Noah's 6th birthday 🎂🎉

A NURSERY staffed by Hannah Seitz, is available through the double doors in the Narthex leading to the Sunday School classrooms. Newborns, toddlers, and children up to Pre-K are welcome.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS: PLEASE RSVP TODAY. Any youth age 7 (grade 2) or older, who has yet to receive First Communion instruction, is invited to join an interactive class to prepare for their First Communion on Sunday, Aug. 16 at both services. Class takes place on Tuesday, Aug. 11, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. RSVP to Pastor Kris at pastor.kris@mlutheran.org today, **Sunday, August 9, 2026.**

TOWN HALL FOR LONG RANGE PLANNING SURVEY RESULTS – SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2026. The Long Range Planning Committee welcomes everyone to join them next Sunday in the Parish Hall for a review of the results of the recent congregation survey and for a Q&A session. There will be two opportunities - one at 9:45 a.m. between worship services and one following the 11:00 a.m. service. We look forward to your continued input as we discern the community of faith God is calling us to grow into together.

KIT MINISTRY – Notebooks (70 pages)

8:30 Worship

Lector	Joan Ellsworth
Ushers	Bruce Peter, Owen Wasmoen
Altar Guild	LeeLinda Baggett
Stream Team	Joanne Weber, Glen Long
Flower Guild	Linda Heideman

FOOD PANTRY – Toilet Paper

11:00 Worship

Acolyte	Anita Zomkowski
Lector	Laura Peterson
Ushers	Tom McNamara, Bill Holbrook
Altar Guild	Debbie Neely
Stream Team	Lee Seitz
Flower Guild	Linda Heideman

****CHURCH CALENDAR****

Sunday, August 9

Rally Day, Backpack and Teacher Blessing

- 8:30 a.m. – *Service of Worship Now the
Feast with the Lord's Supper
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School Kick-Off
- 9:45 a.m. - Adult Bible Study
- 11:00 a.m. - Service of Worship Now the
Feast with the Lord's Supper

Tuesday, August 11

- 9:00 a.m. - Comforters
- 6:00 p.m. - First Communion Instruction

Wednesday, August 12

- 7:00 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, August 13

- 6:30 p.m. - Kit Ministry
- 7:00 p.m. - Church Council

Saturday, August 15

- 10:00 a.m. - Contemporary Band
Setup/Rehearsal

Sunday, August 16

First Communion Both Services

- 8:30 a.m. – *Service of Worship Now the
Feast with the Lord's Supper
- 9:45 a.m. - Long Range Planning
Townhall
- 9:45 a.m. - Sunday School
- 9:45 a.m. - Adult Bible Study
- 11:00 a.m. - Band Led Service of Worship
Now the Feast with the Lord's
Supper
- 12:00 p.m. - Long Range Planning
Townhall

LOOKING AHEAD

- August 23 - Blessing of Quilts / Kits
- August 30 - Loading of LWR Truck
- August 30 - MESY Games (Pre-K to 2nd grade)

ATTENDANCE July 26 Online: 64 August 2: 122

Pastor

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Communications Director

Office Manager

Kristine Schroeder

Randall Fields

Melanie Payne

Jan Morrison

Jill Casey