

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
August 9th, 2026 – Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost
Pastor Stephanie Newman

Welcome / Announcements

Prelude

John Joannette

GATHERING *(Please Stand)*

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.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: 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." People of God, hear the good news: In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are indeed forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C; Amen.

The Peace

P: The peace of Christ knows no stanger

C: We share that peace with on another.

Gathering Hymn

"Lift High the Cross"

ELW 660 (Vs. 1-4)

The 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.

Prayer of the Day

P: O God our defender, storms often rage around and within us and cause us to feel unmoored. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your beloved children from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

Cross-Gen Song

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

ELW 752

Cross-Generation Message

WORD

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:9-18

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in “sheer silence.” God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

And then Elijah got up, ate and drank his fill, and set out. Nourished by that meal, he walked forty days and nights, all the way to the mountain of God, to Horeb. When he got there, he crawled into a cave and went to sleep.

Then the word of God came to him: “So Elijah, what are you doing here?” “I’ve been working my heart out for God,” said Elijah. “The people of Israel have abandoned your covenant, destroyed the places of worship, and murdered your prophets. I’m the only one left, and now they’re trying to kill me.”

Then he was told, “Go, stand on the mountain at attention before God. God will pass by.” At that moment, a hurricane wind ripped through the mountains and shattered the rocks before God, but God wasn’t to be found in the wind; after the wind an earthquake, but God wasn’t in the earthquake; and after the earthquake fire, but God wasn’t in the fire; and after the fire a gentle and quiet whisper.

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85:8-13

The Psalm will be read responsively

A: 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.

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

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

C: Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

A: The Lord will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase.

C: Righteousness shall go before the Lord and shall prepare for God a pathway.

Second Reading: Romans 10:5-15

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

The earlier revelation was intended simply to get us ready for the Messiah, who then puts everything right for those who trust him to do it. Moses wrote that anyone who insists on using the law code to live right before God soon discovers it's not so easy—every detail of life regulated by fine print! But trusting God to shape the right living in us is a different story—no precarious climb up to heaven to recruit the Messiah, no dangerous descent into hell to rescue the Messiah. So what exactly was Moses saying?

The word that saves is right here, as near as the tongue in your mouth, as close as the heart in your chest.

It's the word of faith that welcomes God to go to work and set things right for us. This is the core of our preaching. Say the welcoming word to God—"Jesus is my Master"—embracing, body and soul, God's work of doing in us what he did in raising Jesus from the dead. That's it. You're not "doing" anything; you're simply calling out to God, trusting him to do it for you. That's salvation. With your whole being you embrace God setting things right, and then you say it, right out loud: "God has set everything right between him and me!"

Scripture reassures us, "No one who trusts God like this—heart and soul—will ever regret it." It's exactly the same no matter what a person's religious background may be: the same God for all of us, acting the same incredibly generous way to everyone who calls out for help. "Everyone who calls, 'Help, God!' gets help."

But how can people call for help if they don't know who to trust? And how can they know who to trust if they haven't heard of the One who can be trusted? And how can they hear if nobody tells them? And how is anyone going to tell them, unless someone is sent to do it? That's why Scripture exclaims,

A sight to take your breath away! Grand processions of people telling all the good things of God!

But not everybody is ready for this, ready to see and hear and act. Isaiah asked what we all ask at one time or another: "Does anyone care, God? Is anyone listening and believing a word of it?" The point is: Before you trust, you have to listen. But unless Christ's Word is preached, there's nothing to listen to.

A: Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

The congregation will please stand as able & comfortable

Gospel Verse

“Celtic Alleluia”
(Lights off after Gospel Verse)

ELW 174

The Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to: **Matthew 14: 22-33**

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Matthew’s gospel typically portrays Jesus’ disciples as people of “little faith,” who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

As soon as the meal was finished, he insisted that the disciples get in the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he dismissed the people. With the crowd dispersed, he climbed the mountain so he could be by himself and pray. He stayed there alone, late into the night.

Meanwhile, the boat was far out to sea when the wind came up against them and they were battered by the waves. At about four o’clock in the morning, Jesus came toward them walking on the water. They were scared to death. “A ghost!” they said, crying out in terror.

But Jesus was quick to comfort them. “Have courage, it’s me. Don’t be afraid.” Peter, suddenly bold, said, “Master, if it’s really you, call me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come ahead.” Jumping out of the boat, Peter walked on the water to Jesus. But when he looked down at the waves churning beneath his feet, he lost his nerve and started to sink. He cried, “Master, save me!” Jesus didn’t hesitate. He reached down and grabbed his hand. Then he said, “Faint of heart, what got into you?”

The two of them climbed into the boat, and the wind died down. The disciples in the boat, having watched the whole thing, worshiped Jesus, saying, “This is it! You are God’s Son for sure!”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Congregation will please be seated

The Sermon

Pastor Stephanie Newman

*The Congregation will please stand as able
(Lights on after Sermon)*

Hymn of the Day

“Joyful, Joyful”

ELW 836 (Vs.1-4)

** Pass Info Slips to Side Aisle and Prayer cards to the inside aisle*

Apostles Creed

A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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 into hell. 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

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: We pray for the servants of your gospel in every place, that your word may be heard. Where your voice is scorned and your people persecuted, strengthen the church in its faithful witness. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: For this world you have created, that all life may flourish. Preserve biodiversity in all its variety and help ecosystems to survive the extremes of a changing climate. Move our hearts with compassion to join in this work. Merciful God,

C; receive our prayer.

A: For leaders of towns, states, nations, and organizations, and all who are in positions of authority, that they lead with justice and integrity. Teach us to respond with Christlike mercy to all who are afraid or in danger. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: For all who struggle amid the storms of life, that they find peace and hope in your loving presence. Comfort any who are lonely and grieving and all who suffer (*especially*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We bring now the prayers sitting quietly in our hearts, and the ones we need to speak aloud.

(pause)

C: receive our prayer.

A: We give thanks for the faithful who have gone before us. Guide us in our earthly journey, that we may one day join them in your eternal kingdom. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered

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.

Offering

Special Music

Offertory

“We Are an Offering”

ELW 692

Offering Prayer

P: 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.

Communion

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, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and grave, by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way to everlasting life. And so, with the church on earth, the hosts of heaven, and all creation that sings of your glory, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

“You Are Holy”

ELW 525

P: Invitation to the Table

There are many tables in our lives. Tables where stories are shared. Tables where tears are shed. Tables where families gather. Tables where relationships are healed. Tables where celebrations are held. Tables where we discover we are not alone. Today, we come to Christ's table.

C: This table is not ours. It belongs to Christ.

P: It is a place where the hungry are fed, the weary find rest, the broken discover healing, and sinners receive grace.

C: We do not come because we have earned a place here. We come because Jesus has invited us.

P: So come with your joys and your burdens, your questions and your confidence, your faith and even your doubts. Come just as you are, trusting that Christ meets us here.

C: Here, ordinary bread becomes a holy promise. Here, an ordinary cup becomes extraordinary grace.

Here, we are reminded that before we are anything else, we are God's beloved. On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, 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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim Christ's death, celebrate Christ's resurrection, and trust Christ's promise to come again.

This is Christ's feast of grace. Come, for all is prepared.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, and with Christians throughout every time and place, let us pray as our Savior taught us:

C: Amen.

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.**

Invitation to Communion

P: Come for the One who called Peter onto the water, now calls us to this table. Come receive God's grace.

(Please be seated)

**Lamb of God
Communion Distribution**

Lamb of God

ELW 195

Communion Hymns

***"Borning Cry"*
"On Eagles' Wings"
"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"
*"You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore"***

**ELW 732 (1-4)
ELW 787 (1-4)
ELW 367 (1-4)
ELW 817 (1-4)**

Prayer after Communion

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.

C: Amen.

(The Congregation will please stand as able and comfortable)

Pastor's Blessing

Blessing

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

ELW 671 (Vs.1-2)

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C: Thanks be to God.