+ THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY + Divine Service Setting One ~ Pg 151 July 6, 2025

As We Gather: Jesus Receives Sinners

"This man receives sinners and eats with them" (Luke 15:2). The Pharisees' statement of judgment against Jesus is in fact a proclamation of Gospel truth. For our God is one who delights in mercy, who casts all our sins into the depths of the sea through the cross (Micah 7:18–20). "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Tim. 1:15). Those who refuse to be counted as sinners also refuse Jesus who came only for sinners. Those like the older son (Luke 15:11–32), who think they are righteous of themselves, will not join in the heavenly celebration over the sinner who repents and so remain outside of the Father's house. Let us therefore be on guard against self–righteously trusting in our own merits. "Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you" (1 Peter 5:6). Rejoice that Jesus receives sinners like us and that He still sits at table with us in the Holy Supper, bestowing His forgiveness and life.

As the Cross, a symbol of our redemption, enters the sanctuary, God's people stand and fix our eyes upon it.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.

Exhortation

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

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Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

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- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.



- 5 He fills the poor with good; He gives the suff'rers rest.
 The Lord hath judgments for the proud And justice for th'oppressed.
- 6 His wondrous works and ways He made by Moses known,
 But sent the world His truth and grace By His belovèd Son.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76 Text and tune: Public domain







P Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, without whom nothing is strong and nothing is holy, multiply Your mercy on us that, with You as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please be seated.

Old Testament Reading

¹⁸Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance?
He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love.
¹⁹He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities under foot.
You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.
²⁰You will show faithfulness to Jacob and steadfast love to Abraham, as you have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.



Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.

Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame.

You are the God of my salvation;

for you I wait all the day long.

My eyes are ever toward the LORD,

for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!

Micah 7:18-20

Psalm 25:1–2a, 5b, 15, 20; antiphon: vv. 16, 18

Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.

<u>Epistle</u>

1 Peter 5:6–11

Luke 15

⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Be soberminded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.



Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.



¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ⁴"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

¹¹And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹²And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. ¹³Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants." ²⁰And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶And he called one of the servants and asked what these things

meant. ²⁷And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' ²⁸But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' ³¹And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'''

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.



- 5 He only will with patience chide, His rod falls gently down;And all your sins He casts aside In ocean depths to drown.
- 6 His wisdom never plans in vain Nor falters nor mistakes.
 All that His counsels may ordain A blessèd ending makes.
- 7 Upon your lips, then, lay your hand, And trust His guiding love;
 Then like a rock your peace shall stand Here and in heav'n above.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt. Tune: Harmonischer Lieder-Schatz, 1738, Frankfurt Text and tune: Public domain

<u>Sermon</u>

"Who Is God Like God?"

Micah 7:18-20

Please stand as you are able.

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life + everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).



+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +



Proper Preface (Full)

 It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

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Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the allavailing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

- **P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth

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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.

The Words of Our Lord





Please be seated.





Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand as you are able.



Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.







Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–87 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guests: Welcome! We are so glad to have you with us today! If you are visiting us for the first time, please sign our guest book, or a guest card in the pew and place in the offering plate before leaving. Please join us for fellowship after the service.

Communion Statement: As we learn from 1 Corinthians, when we commune together, we make a confession of our oneness in doctrine & understanding of God's Word. Since those who show publicly that they agree with the teachings believed, taught, & confessed by the Pastor & congregation at which the Sacrament is distributed, we ask that those who are not members in good standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, or one of our sister churches to please refrain from partaking of the Sacrament. Instead, if you would like to receive a blessing, you are more than welcome to come to the altar rail & please indicate you would like to receive a blessing by crossing your arms in front of your chest. A list of church bodies with whom we share Altar & Pulpit fellowship is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. If you would like to visit about this doctrine & practice, please talk to Pastor or an Elder. For further study on this matter see Matthew 5:23, 18:15-35, 26:26-39; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20 & 1 Cor. 11:17-34. Thank you.

Loose Giving Envelopes are available in the pews and on the entryway table for visitors and for regular churchgoers who may have forgotten their offering envelopes. Congregation members, please place your offering inside the envelope that has been designated for you. Thank you.

Stewardship: Luke 15:10 – "Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents." Why does Jesus eat with sinners? Certainly not so that they will remain stuck in their sins! Jesus meets sinners where they are so that they will come to know His love and repent. To repent means to turn — turn away from sin and toward Jesus in faith. Whether the sin we struggle with is pride, greed, doubt, etc., the Lord calls us to turn to Him again in faith and away from our sin.

The Marshalltown Zone is hosting the LWML Retreat at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca on July 18-19. A list of items everyone can donate for our servant events and for Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca can be found on the table in the entry way. Please place items in the box by Sunday, July 13. THANK YOU for your generosity and support of LWML and Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca.

Please check your boxes for your 2nd quarter giving statements.

2nd Plate Missions for July is Orphan Grain Train. A second offering basket is available as you enter the sanctuary.

Building Healthy Families: Parents, grandparents and pew buddies! Martin Luther reportedly once said something to the effect of "When you wash your face, remember your baptism!" With warmer temperatures and (sometimes) more relaxed schedules, this time of year brings with it an increase in swimming, running through sprinklers and otherwise splashing about in various water sources. As you and your family are refreshed by such water play, take the opportunity to remind one another that you're baptized and beloved children of God, washed in the waters of Holy Baptism, and "heirs having the hope of eternal life" (Titus 3:5-7). ~ *www.LutheranFamilyService.org*

A Life Quote: "As you walk the path of life with your neighbor, learn and celebrate the depth and breadth of the infinite worth of their life—whether they are preborn, homeless, destitute, dying, friend, or foe. Learn, through the trials set before you and the sacrifices you make to improve the life of your neighbor, the awesome worth of life. Life is sacred. Every life matters." *Rev. Robert Mohns, Lutheran Church–Canada* ~ A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Lutheran Hour Ministries for July 13th: Hear "Fearless and Endless Growing" based on Colossians 1:1-14 by guest speaker Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola. God's Word grows like a perfect garden, bearing fruit in every season. ~ Listen next Sunday on 600 WMT at 6:30 a.m., 1190 KFJB at 8:30 a.m., WHO-1040 at 7:30 a.m.

A Life Thought in the Church Year: Trinity III – The prodigal's father kept watching every day for his wayward son's return. He had to have done so in order to spot him "while he was still a long way off" (Luke 15:20). Our Gracious God (Psalm 103:10-13) never gives up on a human life, no matter what size, skills, circumstances, or sins it involves. We need not let surprise pregnancies, chronic conditions, or terminal diagnoses steal our hope—or anyone else's!

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Voters' Assembly

Sunday, July 20th after the Divine Service

If you are not a member and desire to become one:

4.3.1 Definition: Voting members are communicants who have reached the age of 18 years and who have been received by the Voters' Assembly.

4.3.2 Reception: Applicants for voting membership shall have received a copy of the constitution and be given time to review it. They shall be received as voting members by presenting themselves at a meeting of the Voters' Assembly and signing the constitution.

VBS

God or Not God?

"Be Watchful, Stand Firm in the Faith, Be Strong." 1 Corinthians 16:15

July 21, 22, 23 9:00am -11:00am

Please let the Board of Education know if any parents or grandparents plan to have their children and/or grandchildren attending so we can properly prepare. Even if they are only doing one or two of the three days, please sign-up and inform the Board of Education.

Registration forms are available on the entryway table at church and on our website.

Our Gifts to God (given at Immanuel)

June 29, 2025 Attendance 47 Communion 41

Calendar of Events for This Week

		Calchdar of Events for This Wee
Today	8:00am	Elders Meeting
	9:00am	Third Sunday after Trinity
		2 nd Plate Missions: Orphan Grain Train
	10:30am	Bible Study
		Greeter: Baker
		Usher: Keith T.
		Servers: Emily L. & Sophia L.
		Acolyte/Crucifer: Sophia & Elsie
		Elder: Joel M.
Wednesda	y 10:00am	Board of Education
Thursday	11:00am	Bible Study
Next Sunday 8:00am		Council Meeting
	9:00am	Fourth Sunday after Trinity
	10:30am	Bible Study
	10:30am	LWML
		Greeter: Bayer
		Usher: Joel K.
		Servers: Kris G. & Bev H.
		Acolyte/Crucifer: Alivia & Thatcher

Elder: Steve H.