

HOLY COMMUNION
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2020

9:30 am

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

SILENT PRAYER

PRELUDE: *God of Grace and God of Glory*

Rotermund

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING (ENTRANCE RITE)

Stand

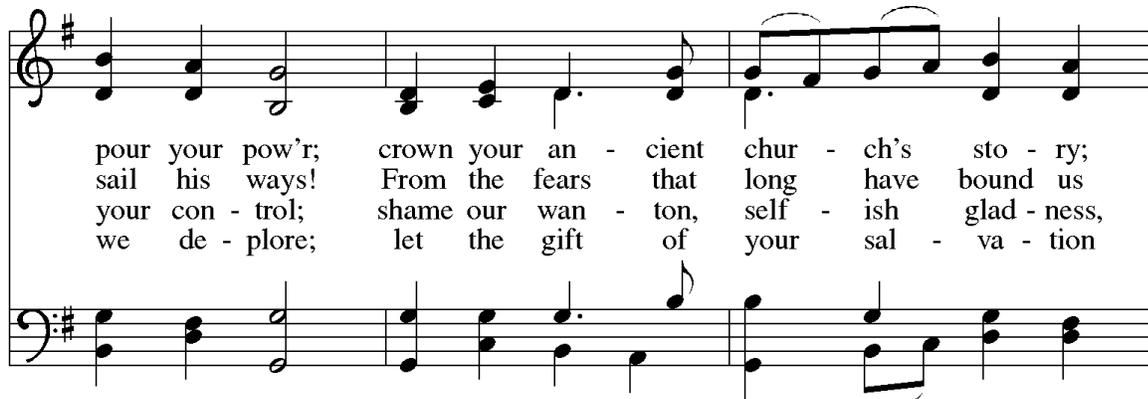
HYMN: *God of Grace and God of Glory*

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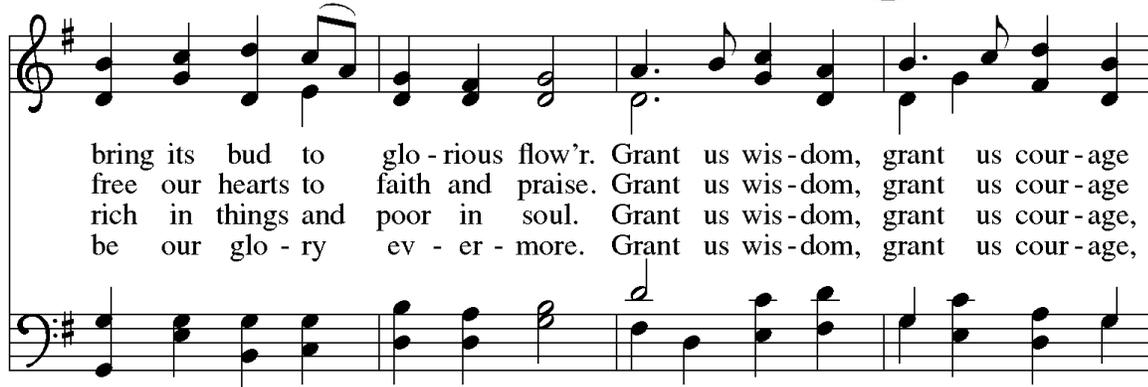
God of Grace and God of Glory



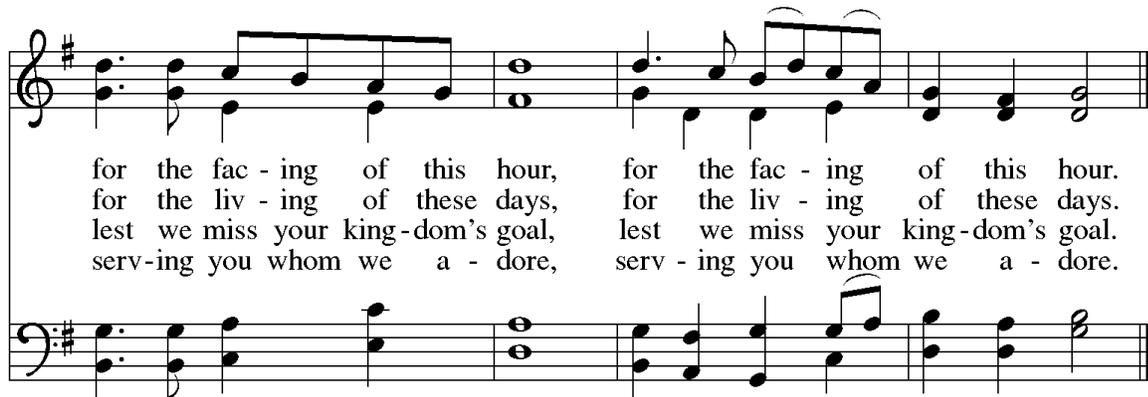
1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ABSOLUTION)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kneel/Stand

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**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.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.**

**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.

P In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ,

and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,
and of the ✠ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO)

Assisting minister

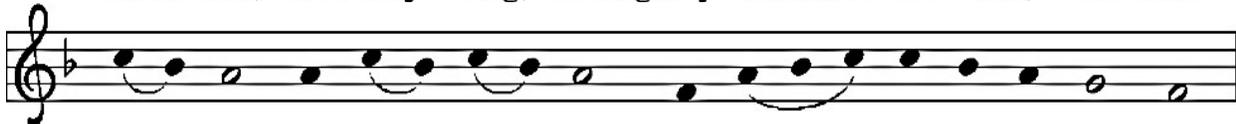


Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa - ther, we wor -



ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, O Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have



mer-cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the
 Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a - lone
 are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, your ears are open always to the prayers of your servants. Open our hearts and minds to you, that we may live in harmony with your will and receive the gifts of your Spirit; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

Sit

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5-12

Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well.

A A reading from First Kings.

⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” ⁶And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to

go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119:129-136 (*The congregation sings the verses in bold face type.*)

¹²⁹Your de- | crees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with | all my heart.

¹³⁰**When your word goes forth | it gives light;
it gives understanding | to the simple.**

¹³¹I open my | mouth and pant;
I long for | your commandments.

¹³²**Turn to | me in mercy,
as you always do to those who | love your name.**

¹³³Steady my footsteps | in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion | over me.

¹³⁴**Rescue me from those | who oppress me,
and I will keep | your commandments.**

¹³⁵Let your countenance shine up- | on your servant
and teach | me your statutes.

¹³⁶**My eyes shed | streams of tears,
because people do not | keep your law.**

SECOND READING

Romans 8:26-39

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

A A reading from Romans.

²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The congregation sings the Acclamation, Verse, and repeats the Alleluia.

Al-le-lu - ia, 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, al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Throughout Matthew’s gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that “the kingdom of heaven is near!” Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people’s lives.

P The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³¹[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

⁴⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵²And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

- P** The gospel of the Lord.
- G** Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Pastor Weleck

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Jesus, Priceless Treasure*

Printed on the next page.

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, source of pur - est plea - sure,
 2 In thine arm I rest me; foes who would mo - lest me
 3 Hence, all fears and sad - ness, for the Lord of glad - ness,

tru - est friend to me: ah, how long I've pant - ed, and my heart has
 can-not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing, ev - 'ry heart be
 Je - sus, en - ters in. God, who dear-ly loves us, from all tri - al

faint - ed, thirst - ing, Lord, for thee! Thine I am, O spot - less Lamb;
 quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear. Light-nings flash and thun - ders crash;
 saves us, gives sweet peace with-in. I have borne this world - ly scorn;

no - thing in this world can hide thee, naught I ask be-side thee.
 yet, though sin and hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
 still in thee lies pur - est plea - sure: Je - sus, price-less trea - sure!

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APOSTLES CREED

P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

C **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 INTERCESSION

A With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,
let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A We pray for the church, for its pastors and bishops, for the newly baptized,
for all the faithful, for this congregation here gathered, and for our growth in
grace.

Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A We pray for all nations, for all rulers, legislators, and judges, for an increase
of justice in our lands, and for all who work for peace among nations and
among peoples.

Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- A** We pray for all in any need, for the hungry and the homeless, for victims of war and injustice, for prisoners, for all who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, for the sick and infirm, for all with incurable illness, and for all who this day will die. We pray especially for those we name in the silence of our hearts...
Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- A** We pray for the members of our armed forces wherever they serve, and especially when they serve in harm's way, that they might speedily complete their mission and be safely reunited with their loved ones.
Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C** **Amen.**

PEACE

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

No Sign of Peace is offered.

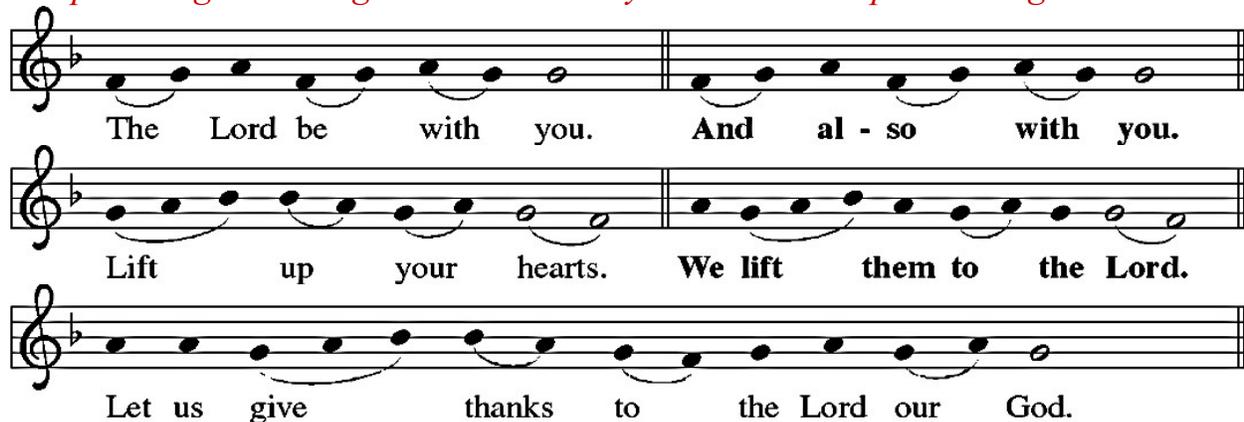
The Offering will be collected in the Upper Narthex as you leave the church.

The service continues with the Great Thanksgiving.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks:



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.



The minister continues with the PROPER PREFACE:

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... *Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding:* ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The assembly sings the SANCTUS:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The WORDS OF INSTITUTION are sung to the music Blessed Martin Luther himself composed specifically for this purpose.

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

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 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 Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

C **Lord, I am not worthy
that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word
and my soul shall be healed.**

Sit

COMMUNION

When giving the bread, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

and each person may respond

R Amen.

We Lutherans believe that the Body and Blood of Christ are “truly and substantially” present “in, with, and under” the forms of bread and wine. We invite to the communion all who are baptized and communing in this or another

Christian denomination. We welcome children and others who are not communing to come forward for a blessing. At the direction of the ushers, approach the communion station, receive the Body of Christ in your palm, move to the side aisle, place the Body of Christ in your mouth, and return to your seat via the side aisle.

Music during Communion:

LAMB OF GOD (AGNUS DEI)

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

- P** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
- C** Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A** Let us pray.
We give you thanks, almighty God,
that you have refreshed us
through the healing power of this gift of life.
In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift,

in faith toward you
and in fervent love toward one another;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING (BENEDICTION)



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 A - men, A - men, A - men.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN: *On Our Way Rejoicing*

Printed on the next page.

On Our Way Rejoicing

1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
 2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;

Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
 un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;

Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
 un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,

who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
 on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain

On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,

hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

OFFERING

The offering will be collected as you leave the Brick Church Nave.

POSTLUDE: *Jesus, Priceless Treasure*

Bach



The Time of the Church is the season after Pentecost, beginning with The Holy Trinity and ending with Christ the King. These weeks focus on Christ's ministry and teaching.

On Sundays for which the color is green, it is appropriate to omit either the Kyrie or the Hymn of Praise, reserving both together for festival seasons.

The liturgical color green, symbolic of growth, is used for the season after Epiphany and after Pentecost.

The green chasuble worn in the Old Church has an unusual shape. It is called a "fiddle back" chasuble because it has the same shape as a violin. This is the shape of chasubles in the 1700s, so it is historically accurate for the period of the founding of the Old Church. And with so much material removed from the sides, it is much cooler to wear in hot temperatures.



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Worship Assistants

Vestry Ushers: Gary Wessner and John Kochel

Ushers: Dick Allebach, Scott Halteman, Gary Halteman, David Halteman

Altar Guild: Deb Scholl

Offering Tabulation: Gary Wessner and John Kochel

The Flowers that Adorn the Altar in the Brick Church Nave are given to the glory of God by Alice Franks and family in loving memory of the July 31st Birthday anniversary of Richard L. Franks.

The Flowers that Adorn the Altar in the Old Church Nave are given to the glory of God by Sally Sweeney in memory of her mother, Virginia L. Weicheld, and Debra Augustine in loving memory of her son, Samuel Carlos Augustine.

The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God by Dick and Eilene Althouse in memory of parents Albert and Anna Althouse, and Richard and Georgiana Timmings.

The Worship Bulletins are given to the glory of God by Richard and Dorothy Opperman in memory of loved ones.

We're so glad to see you today!

We hope you are as glad to be back at worship as we are! Please keep in mind that the church, like everywhere else during these careful times, has had to make changes in order to adhere to CDC guidelines. Some of these changes are inconvenient, but we must all do our part to protect ourselves and our church family. Your patience and cooperation are very much appreciated. If you have questions about new policies, please feel free to speak with one of the Vestry ushers.

Please see a list of changes/requirements for worship on the following page.

We will continue to post videos of our services on our web site along with the complete bulletin for those who are unable to join us during this strange time in which we live.

The Church office and all church buildings will remain closed through the summer.

Please check our web site for opening updates. The Parish Administrator will be available during normal office hours via telephone or e-mail.

**We are never alone during this stressful time.
Jesus walks alongside us every step of the way.**

Augustus Re-Opening Information for Parishioners: Green Phase

- Please stay home if you are sick, feel ill, have a fever, or have been exposed to an individual diagnosed with Covid-19 (Coronavirus) within the last 14 days.
- Please stay home if you are at higher risk of severe illness with COVID19. If you are uncertain about your risk status, please consult your doctor.
- Worship will be held in the usual places and at the usual times during the summer: 8:00 AM in the Old Church and 9:30 AM in the air-conditioned Brick Church Nave.
- Before entering the Church, please put on your own facemask or cloth covering. (Facemasks will not be provided by Augustus.) Exceptions to wearing a facemask or other covering are “children younger than 2 years old, anyone who has trouble breathing ... and anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance” (CDC Guidelines).
- Please maintain social distancing guidelines with those people who are not members of your household.
- Due to current restrictions, you will probably not sit in your usual place at worship. Ushers will direct you to your seat, filling the church from the front to back to minimize contact. The only appropriate response to this temporary but necessary change is a patient and loving spirit.
- A complete large print worship bulletin will be given to you by an usher. No hymnals will be used. When leaving the church, please take the bulletin with you or place it in the recycle bin. It cannot be re-used.
- We will sing less than customary during the Green Phase. This is an added disappointment for Lutherans, but it is only a temporary restriction.
- Communion will be distributed to you as you come forward at the direction of the ushers. Only the host will be distributed. It will be placed in the palm of your hand. Please keep your mask on and move away from the Pastor. Then remove your mask, place the host in your mouth, and put your mask back on and return to your seat.
- The ushers will dismiss the congregation by rows starting in the back of the church. Please proceed immediately and directly to the exit of the church building.
- The offering will be received as you leave. Please place your offering in one of the receptacles at the door.