



**PRELUDE**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING HYMN**

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

**HYMN# 858**



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion!  
2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous-ly reign - ing  
3 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de - fend you;  
4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a - dore him!



O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and sal - va - tion!  
and, as on wings of an ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.  
sure - ly his good - ness and mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.  
All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear now to his tem - ple draw near,  
Have you not seen all that is need - ful has been  
Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can do  
Let the a - men sound from his peo - ple a - gain.



join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?  
if with his love he be - friend you.  
Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665

**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.**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

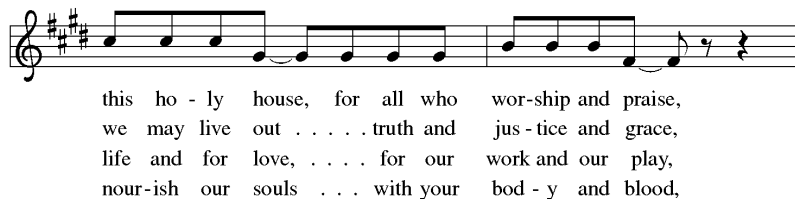
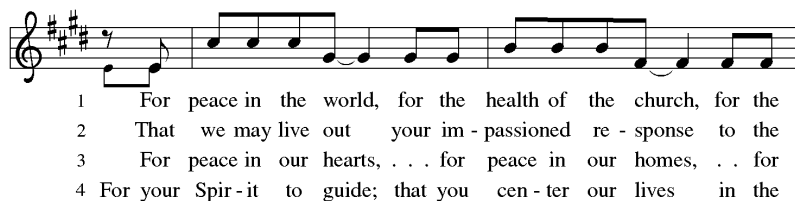
God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God, **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.**

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. **Amen.**

## KYRIE

ELW p. 184



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

VICKI HANNEMAN

## PSALM: 146

<sup>1</sup>Hal- | lelujah!\*

Praise the LORD, | O my soul!

<sup>2</sup>**I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;\***

**I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.**

<sup>3</sup>Put not your | trust in rulers,\*

in mortals in whom there | is no help.

<sup>4</sup>**When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,\***

**and in that day | their thoughts perish.**

<sup>5</sup>Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,\*

whose hope is in the | LORD their God;

<sup>6</sup>**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;\***

**who keeps promis- | es forever;**

<sup>7</sup>who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.\*

The LORD sets the | captive free.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed down;\***

**the LORD | loves the righteous.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD cares | for the stranger;\*

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup>**The LORD shall | reign forever,\***

**your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah!**

## READING: James 2:1-17

A reading from James.

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? <sup>2</sup>For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

<sup>8</sup>You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>9</sup>But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup>For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. <sup>11</sup>For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. <sup>12</sup>So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. <sup>13</sup>For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment. <sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

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

### **GOSPEL: Mark 7:24-37**

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.*

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, <sup>25</sup>but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. <sup>26</sup>Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup>He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>28</sup>But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." <sup>29</sup>Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." <sup>30</sup>So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. <sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." <sup>35</sup>And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

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

**SERMON**

**TURNING POINT**

**VICAR LYNN**

**HYMN OF THE DAY***Son of God, Eternal Savior***HYMN# 655, Vs. 1,2,4**

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,  
 2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.  
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;  
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,  
 Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.  
 hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.  
 Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:  
 Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;  
 By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,  
 by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.  
 we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.  
 quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
 grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710**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.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.****Amen.****SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## OFFERTORY

*Create in me a Clean Heart*

**HYMN #186**

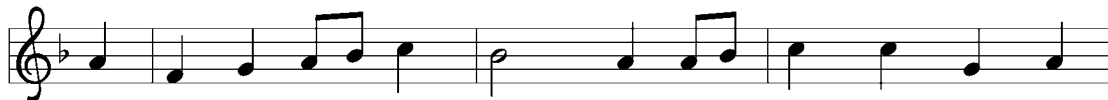
## COMMUNION

Together as the body of Christ, trusting that the distance that separates us is bridged by the Holy Spirit who makes us one, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

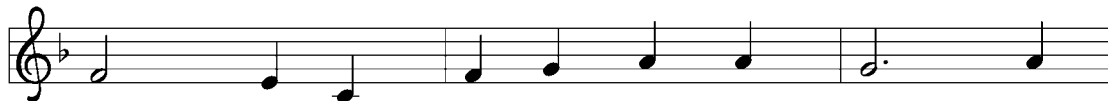
## COMMUNION HYMN

*O Bread of Life from Heaven*

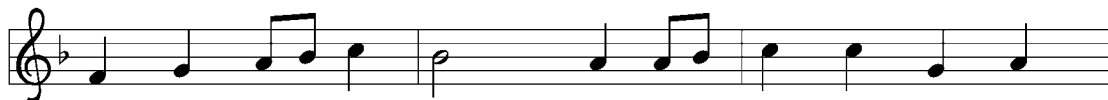
**HYMN# 480**



1 O bread of life from heav - en, O food to pil - grims  
2 O fount of grace re - deem - ing, O riv - er ev - er  
3 We love you, Je - sus, ten - der, in all your hid - den



giv - en, O man - na from a - bove: feed  
stream - ing from Je - sus' wound - ed side: come  
splen - dor with - in these means of grace. Oh,



with the bless - ed sweet - ness of your di - vine com -  
now, your love be - stow - ing on thirst - ing souls, and  
let the veil be riv - en, and our clear eye in



plete - ness the souls that want and need your love.  
flow - ing till all are ful - ly sat - is - fied.  
heav - en be - hold your glo - ry face to face.

## 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.

## BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## SENDING HYMN

### *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*

HYMN# 719



1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the  
2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed  
3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man  
4 The cup of wa - ter giv'n for you still holds the



cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of  
thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the  
grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from  
fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -



self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.  
lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.  
sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.  
tudes to view the strong com - pas - sion in your face.

5 O Master, from the mountainside  
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;  
among these restless throngs abide;  
oh, tread the city's streets again;

6 Till all the world shall learn your love,  
and follow where your feet have trod;  
till glorious from your heav'n above  
shall come the city of our God.

Text: Frank M. North, 1850–1935, alt.

Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, Sacred Melodies, 1815

## This Sunday, September 5, 2021 - 15th Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion followed by coffee & fellowship *Narthex*

## Monday, September 6:

- Church office closed for Labor Day

## Tuesday, September 7:

- 10 am WELCA board, Kairos room
- 2pm Altar guild
- 5:30pm Discipleship committee

## Wednesday, September 8:

- 9:30 am AI Anon
- 10:00 am AA
- 12pm FIT Team, Kairos room
- 1:00 pm Cookie Monster AA
- 5:00 pm OA
- 6pm Children's Ministries volunteers Zoom
- 6pm Hosanna handbells
- 7:30pm Adult choir

**Thursday, September 9:**

- 10:30am Senior Bible Study, Kairos room
- 12pm Personnel committee, Staff conf room
- 2pm Worship committee
- 6:00 pm Women's AA

**Friday, September 10:**

- Church office closed
- 12pm Executive committee

**Saturday, September 11:**

- Church office closed

**Next Sunday, September 12:**

- RALLY SUNDAY!!
- 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion followed by coffee & fellowship *Narthex*
- 10:45-11:15am Sunday School
- 11:30am Education Committee
- Baptism of Easton Eddie Johnson

**The flowers** on the altar are given by Linda and Bud Mellon in honor of loved ones.

**The radio sponsorship** is given by Paul and Cathy Neuman in honor of Tally and Aiden's birthdays.

**Otter Express Public Transit** offers free rides to the Fergus Falls Food Shelf. Call to reserve a ride 218 998-3002, preferably 48 hours in advance.

**Make a joyful noise!** Join us as the Adult Choir and Hosanna Handbells return to rehearsals on Wednesday, September 8. Handbells at 6:00 pm and Adult Choir at 7:30 pm. Please add your time and talents to the music ministry of First Lutheran!

**We are updating our lists** of helpers for serving food at funerals. The food is catered, but we need help with setting tables, serving food, making coffee, cleaning up and running the dishwasher. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. We hope you'll consider being part of this important service our church offers to families who have lost a loved one.

**The quilters have made drawstring backpack style bags** and the following supplies are needed to fill the bags for Lutheran World Relief school kits: 8 ½ x 11 notebook (70 sheet), 30 cm ruler (inches one side, cm on other), pencil sharpener, blunt scissors, ballpoint pens (no gel ink), crayons 16 or 24 count, pencils, & eraser. Collection basket in the Narthex. Monetary donations are also welcome. Thanks!

**We have openings to sponsor the radio broadcast in the upcoming weeks:** October 3, 24 and 31. Cost: \$100. **Providing altar flowers** is also available on Oct. 3 and 31. Please sign up on the kiosk in the Narthex or call the office at 739-3348. Thank you!

**We are hiring a Full Time Secretary/Bookkeeper!** Please find our job listing on Indeed.com, the FF Chamber of Commerce website and the church website.

**Our New Photo Directory** needs your picture! Sign up in the Narthex after church September 12 and 19, October 10, 17 and 24.

**The Senior Bible Study** will be back September 9! 10:30-11:30am.

**Sign up for a New Book Study** with Pr, Gretchen. Thursdays 12-1pm, starting Oct. 14. Find the sign up sheet and flyers in the Narthex.

**Contribute to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund:** it is a designated fund made available to the senior pastor to distribute for emergency financial aid, as outlined by the Finance and/or Outreach committees.



