

Our Mission is to nurture each other in God's Word and spread the Good News of Christ to all.

August 3, 2025
8th Sunday after Pentecost



Prepare for Worship

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'" Give me joy, dear Jesus, as I prepare to worship you today. Make me understand what my life would be like without you so that I long to hear about your grace and compassion. Help me participate in a way that honors you and builds up all who worship with me, and let their worship strengthen and encourage my faith.


Amen.

The Service: Setting Three

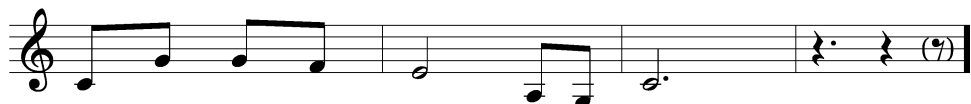
753 My Worth Is Not in What I Own



1 My worth is not in what I own, not
2 My worth is not in skill or name, in
3 As sum - mer flow'rs we fade and die; fame,




in the strength of flesh and bone, but in the
win or lose, in pride or shame, but in the
youth, and beau - ty hur - ry by. But life e -



cost - ly wounds of love at the cross. v. 2
blood of Christ that flowed at the cross. Refrain
ter - nal calls to us at the cross. v. 4

Refrain



I re-joyce in my Re - deem - er— great - est trea - sure,



well-spring of my soul. I will trust in him, no oth - er; my



soul is sat - is - fied in him a - lone.

4 I will not boast in wealth or might, or human wisdom's fleeting light.
But I will boast in knowing Christ at the cross. (Refrain)

5 Two wonders here that I confess: my worth and my unworthiness.
My value fixed—my ransom paid at the cross. (Refrain)

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

Tune: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

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Stand

Invocation

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

Confession

CW 188

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Absolution

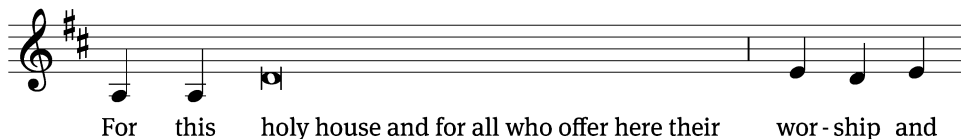
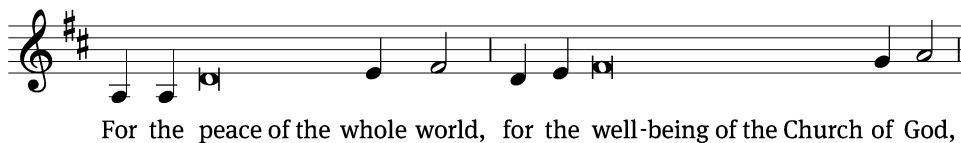
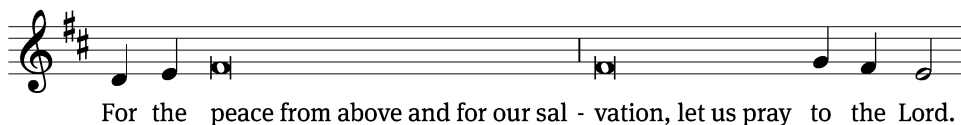
CW 188

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 190



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men. A - men.

Tune: William Gokelman; David Kauffman

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Glory to God in the Highest

CW 191

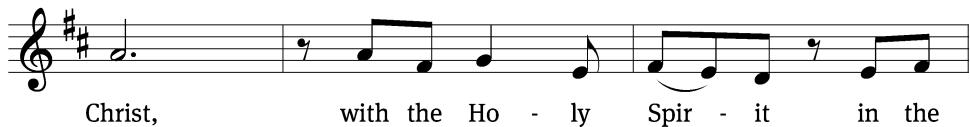
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to

God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,

and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to

God, and peace to his peo - ple on earth,

and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Tune: William Gokelman; David Kauffman

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The Word

Salutation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures you have stored up for us in heaven that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of your grace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Ecclesiastes 1:1-2,12-14; 2:18-26

The words of Ecclesiastes, David's son, king in Jerusalem.

²“Nothing but vapor,” Ecclesiastes said. “Totally vapor. Everything is just vapor that vanishes.”

¹²I, Ecclesiastes, have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³I applied my heart to seek out and explore with wisdom everything done under the sky. (What a burdensome task God has given the children of Adam to keep them busy!) ¹⁴I have seen all the actions done under the sun, and, look, it is all nothing but vapor. It is all chasing the wind.

¹⁸I also hated all the results of my hard work, for which I worked so hard under the sun, since I must leave it all to the man who comes after me. ¹⁹And who knows—will he be wise, or a fool? Yet he will have control over all the results of my hard work, for which I worked so hard and so wisely, under the sun. This too is vapor that vanishes.

²⁰So I changed my course, and my heart began to despair over all my hard work at which I worked so hard under the sun. ²¹Sure, there may be a man who has worked hard—wisely, aptly, and skillfully. But he must hand over whatever he accumulated by all his hard work to a man who has not worked hard for it. This too is vapor. It's so unfair! ²²For what does a man gain through all his hard work, through all the turmoil in his heart, as he works so hard under the sun?

²³Pain fills all his days. His occupation is frustration. Even at night his heart does not rest. This too is vapor.

²⁴There is nothing better for a man than to eat and to drink and to find joy in his work. This too, I saw, is from God's hand. ²⁵For who can eat or enjoy himself apart from him? ²⁶Yes, God gives wisdom, knowledge, and happiness to the man whom he considers good, but to the person who goes on sinning God gives the task of gathering and collecting, but only so that he can give it all to a person whom God considers good. This too is vapor, nothing but chasing wind.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

90A Fill Us with Your Love, O Lord

Refrain

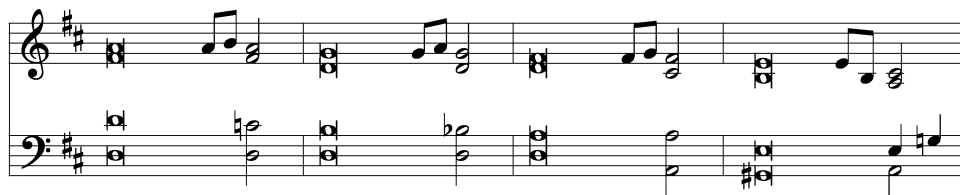


Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!



Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

Tone



Lord, you have been our / dwelling place
throughout all gener- / ations.

Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the / whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting / you are God.

You turn people / back to dust,
saying, “Return to dust, you / mortals.”

A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has / just gone by,
or like a watch / in the night. *Refrain*

Teach us to number / our days,
that we may gain a heart of / wisdom.

May the favor of the Lord our God / rest on us;
establish the work of our hands for us—yes, establish the work / of our hands.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,**

**as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Second Reading

Colossians 3:1–11

Therefore, because you were raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things. ³For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. ⁵So put to death whatever is worldly in you: sexual immorality, uncleanness, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶It is because of these things that the wrath of God is coming on the sons of disobedience. ⁷You too once walked in these things, when you were living in them.

⁸But now, you too are to rid yourselves of all of these: wrath, anger, malice, slander, and filthy language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to each other since you have put off the old self with its practices, ¹⁰and put on the new self, which is continually being renewed in knowledge, according to the image of its Creator. ¹¹Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcision or uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but rather Christ is all and is in all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

CW 194

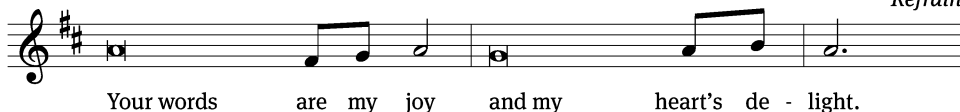


Refrain



Tone

Refrain



Gospel

Luke 12:13–21

Someone from the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But Jesus said to him, “Man, who appointed me to be a judge or an arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵Then he said to them, “Watch out and be on guard against all greed, because a man's life is not measured by how many possessions he has.”

¹⁶He told them a parable: “The land of a certain rich man produced very well. ¹⁷He was thinking to himself, ‘What will I do, because I do not have anywhere to store my crops?’ ¹⁸He said, ‘This is what I will do. I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and goods. ¹⁹And I will tell my soul, “Soul, you have many goods stored up for many years. Take it easy. Eat, drink, and be merry.”’ ²⁰“But God said to him, ‘You fool, this night your soul will be demanded from you. Now who will get what you have prepared?’

^{21a}“That is how it will be for anyone who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Reception of New Member

820 O God, Our Help in Ages Past



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, soon bears us all 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, abr., alt. Tune: William Croft, 1678–1727 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Ecclesiastes 1:1-2, 12-14; 2:18-26

Stand

Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there 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

Lord of heaven and earth, you made all things beautiful. You have provided green forests and refreshing streams. You have arranged the orderly procession of day and night for our work and rest.

Thank you for the mountains and the prairies, the roaring sea, and the gentle breeze.

Thank you for roofs that shelter us, for clothing that protects us, and for food and drink.
Thank you for our work, for projects that are done well, and for the approval of supervisors and teachers. Thank you for all who serve at night to make our days more pleasant.

Thank you for associates at work, for their encouragement and praise, and for the joys of human friendships.

Thank you for our cities and our countrysides, for farms and factories, for streets and highways, and for all of life that flows so swiftly before us.

Thank you for children at play, their boundless energy, and their shouts of joy and laughter.

Thank you for the morning greetings we receive, and for all the smiles that come from faces loved by you.

Thank you for Christian parents, for their affection and their care.

Thank you for the healing you bring when we are sick, the protection you send when we are in danger, and the comfort you offer when we are sad. Lead us to be thankful as we believe that in all things you work for the good of those who love you.

Thank you for those who help and encourage us in difficult times.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ, for his coming to us in Word and sacraments, for his giving and forgiving, and for listening to our prayers. Receive our gifts and offerings as our sacrifice of praise.

Lead us in thankful living today and always. Amen.

Be seated

Good News for Kids

Offering

823 Jesus, Priceless Treasure



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, fount of pur - est plea - sure,
 2 In thine arms I rest me; foes who would op - press me
 3 Sa - tan, I de - fy thee; death, I now de - cry thee;
 4 Hence, all earth - ly trea - sure! Je - sus is my plea - sure,
 5 Hence, all fear and sad - ness! For the Lord of glad - ness,



tru - est friend to me. Ah, how long in an - guish
 can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing,
 fear, I bid thee cease. World, thou shalt not harm me
 Je - sus is my choice. Hence, all emp - ty glo - ry!
 Je - sus, en - ters in. Those who love the Fa - ther,



shall my spir - it lan - guish, yearn - ing, Lord, for thee?
 ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear.
 nor thy threats a - larm me while I sing of peace.
 Naught to me thy sto - ry told with tempt - ing voice.
 though the storms may gath - er, still have peace with - in.



Thou art mine, O Lamb di - vine! I will suf - fer
 Light - nings flash and thun - ders crash; yet, though sin and
 God's great pow'r guards ev - 'ry hour; earth and all its
 Pain or loss or shame or cross shall not from my
 Yea, what - e'er I here must bear, thou art still my



naught to hide thee; naught I ask be - side thee.
 hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
 depths a - dore him, si - lent bow be - fore him.
 Sav - ior move me since he deigns to love me.
 pur - est plea - sure, Je - sus, price - less trea - sure!

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677, abr.; (sts. 1–2, 4–5): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; (st. 3): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

717 What Is the World to Me



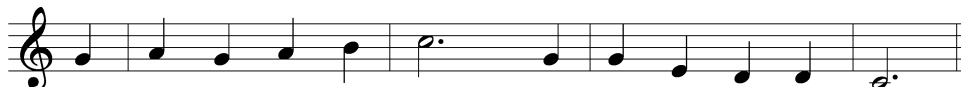
1 What is the world to me with all its vaunt-ed plea - sure
 2 The world seeks af - ter wealth and all that mon - ey of - fers,
 3 The world is like a cloud and like a va - por fleet - ing,
 4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,



when you and you a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!
 yet nev - er is con - tent though gold should fill its cof - fers.
 a shad - ow that de - clines, swift to its end re - treat - ing.
 my life, my health, my wealth, my friend, my love, my plea - sure,



You on - ly, dear - est Lord, my soul's de - light shall be;
 I have a high - er good, con - tent with it I'll be;
 My Je - sus shall re - main, though all things fade and flee,
 my joy, my crown, my all, my bliss e - ter - nal - ly.



you are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
 my Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!
 my ev - er - last - ing rock. What is the world to me!
 Once more then I de - clare: What is the world to me!

Text: Georg M. Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732, abr.; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701 Text and tune: Public domain

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THIS WEEK AT LINCOLN HEIGHTS

August 3 - 10, 2025

Sunday	8:00 am	Worship
	9:00 am	Homeless Meal Delivery
	10:30 am	Worship
	10:30 am	Kunama Worship

Tuesday	10:00 am	Pastors' Study Club
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Sunday	8:00 am	Worship with Communion
	9:00 am	Homeless Meal Delivery
	10:30 am	Outdoor Worship
	11:30 am	Church Picnic

In Our Prayers

The Lord is eager to hear the prayers of thanks and petitions for help from his people. Please keep these members and families in your prayers. Contact Pastor to add someone to this list:

Ukraine

Ray & Gloria Overson, Sherry Just and Randy Michael- shut-ins

George Kokke, Diane Butrum, Gary Finch, Merle Carter, Linda Thielke, Larry Borchert, Jeff Overson, Makenzie Phippen - health

Addyson Pender & Zach Ostendorf, Caleb Winecke & Makayla Gallentine - engaged couples

Online Giving

Thank you for your generous and cheerful offerings to the Lord.

www.LHELC.org/giving



Prepare for Next Sunday

For a simple devotional reading plan, review the readings for this week on Monday through Wednesday. Then read the Scripture for next Sunday on Thursday through Saturday. The Word for next Sunday:

Genesis 15:1-6, Hebrews 11:1-3, 4-16, Luke 12:22-34

Joint Worship and Picnic with Beautiful Savior

On Sunday, August 10, Lincoln Heights will worship with Beautiful Savior at Valley View Park on S. 88th Street in West Des Moines. Outdoor worship is at 10:30 am with the picnic to follow. Pulled pork and buns will be provided. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the narthex for hot side dishes, salads, fruits and vegetables and desserts. Please sign your name and what you plan to bring to share. If you prefer indoor worship, a service will be held at 8:00 am at Lincoln Heights.

Take Me Out to the Ballgame

Join us at Principal Park for an afternoon of fun and fellowship. The Iowa Cubs take on the Omaha Storm Chasers on Sunday, September 21 at 1:08 pm. Tickets are \$9 for those over age 3. Kids will be running the bases after the game. Money will be collected the week of the game by Pastor Pfeifer. A sign up sheet is on the table in the narthex.

Welcome New Member

Caleb Patterson will be brought into membership this morning. He comes to us from Cross of Glory in Peoria, AZ. Welcome to Lincoln Heights!

Pastor Pfeifer Away

Pastor Pfeifer will not have email or phone contact August 8–14. Please contact Greg Lewis (515.554.6677) and/or Pastor Schmidt (515.225.4392) for assistance.

Forward in Christ - August 2025

The August issue of Forward in Christ is available on the shelf outside the sanctuary. You may read it at forwardinchrist.net if you prefer.

Some notable articles are discussed below:

“Parent conversations” provides insights, ideas, and inspiration to help parents with the critical task of raising their children in the world today. Authors for August’s “Parent conversations” highlight ways to support young people in the faith to help prepare them to be church leaders in the future. See page 16.

Tao Nguyen prayed that one day he and his extended family would believe in Jesus and worship together. Find out how God answered his prayer on page 18.

Numbers tell stories. What story do the numbers from WELS’ 2024 statistical report convey and what could it mean for the future? See page 20.

What do seesaws have to do with our sinful nature? James Alderman explains the teeter-totter battle that we engage in daily on page 13.

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