

# **King of Kings Lutheran Church and Preschool**

*Following Christ, Living Faithfully, Serving Others*

## **Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

*10am Worship In-person and Online*

**August 31, 2025**

*In a world that moves at a relentless pace, we're invited to reflect on how we invest every moment—with purpose, intention, and gratitude. May our hearts be open to wisdom, guiding us to use our hours not merely as a resource, but as a gift to nurture, share, and honor in all we do.*

*Let us steward our time well, shaping each day for lasting impact.*

Our Assisting Minister today is Colin Stoffer

Our Greeters are George Basil and Chuck Swan

Mike Hanson and Linda Walker are assisting with ushering.

Barbara Cushman and Ruthann McDivitt are serving on Altar Care.

A/V operations are provided by Matt and William Sourwine

### **+ Gathering +**

#### **Prelude**

#### **Welcome and Worship Notes**

*You are invited to share in our table fellowship – gather with us around bread and wine/grape juice at home. As we are united by the Spirit of God who transcends all space and time, we are fed and nourished by Christ's gift of himself that fills us with holy love, divine peace, and new life.*

#### **\*Call to Worship**

All that we are is a gift from God.

**The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it.**

All that we have is a gift from God;

**all of the world, and all those who live in it.**

There are no words to describe the wonders of God's creation.

**For God has founded it on the seas and established it on the rivers.**

Rejoice as we join together in praise for God's great gifts.

**Hosanna! Hallelujah!**

#### **\*Confession and Forgiveness**

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

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins to God our Father, imploring him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

God of grace, you have called us to give ourselves completely to you.

Yet, we often hold back and instead focus on worldly pursuits. **Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.**

You have given us the gift of time. You give us time to serve, time to learn, time to grow, and time to share. Yet we too often spend our time serving our own interests. **Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.**

You provide us with opportunity to serve in numerous ways using the talents and abilities which you have given us. However, we tend to hide these gifts. **Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.**

You have provided even the least among us with more financial resources than most of the world. We resist sharing because of fear for the future. **Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.**

You have provided us with a beautiful creation to enjoy.

We take it for granted and abuse this incredible earth. **Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.**

While God knows our sin, God also hears our cries.

In our sin, God still reaches out to forgive and restore us.

Having confessed our sins, rejoice in the assurance of God's love.

With a heart full of mercy and compassion, God saves us and forgives us all our sins.

Christ, the dawn from on high, shines upon us, and by the light of the Holy Spirit guides our feet into the way of peace. **Amen.**

## \*Gathering Song

W&P #42

### Glorify Thy Name

Words and Music by  
Donna Adkins

**VERSE**

$\text{♩} = 80$  C F/C C G G2sus G C2 C F C/GDm7/A

1. Fa ther, we love You, we wor - ship and a - dore You, glo - ri - fy Thy name in all the  
2. Je sus...  
3. Spir it...

7 Gsus G F2/A G/B C C/E F E7 D/F# E7/G# Am Am/G

earth. Glo - ri - fy Thy name, glo - ri - fy Thy name,

13 F G7 F/A G7 F/G G7 Csus C

glo - ri - fy Thy name in all the earth.

CCLI Song # 1383

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**\*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.**

**\*Prayer of the Day**

Loving Father, today we choose to open our hands and hearts, releasing our tight grasp on control, our anxieties, and our own agendas. Help us to rest in you, yielding our will to yours, so that your Spirit may shape these surrendered hearts and lead us in your way of grace, peace, and purpose, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**+ WORD +**

**Time with Our Children**

**Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 8:18-19**

*A reading from the 8<sup>th</sup> chapter of Deuteronomy.*

But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today. If you do forget the Lord your God and follow other gods to serve and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you shall surely perish.

*Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.*

**Psalm 92:1-4 (read responsively)**

It is good to give thanks to the Lord,

**to sing praises to your name, O Most High,**

to declare your steadfast love in the morning

**and your faithfulness by night,**

to the music of the lute and the harp,

**to the melody of the lyre.**

For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work;

**at the works of your hands I sing for joy.**

**Scripture Reading: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15**

*A reading from the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter of 2 Corinthians.*

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad; he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us, for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your partnership with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

*Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.*

## Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word. Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood. When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way. Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.'

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950  
Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson  
Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

### \*Gospel: Luke 6:37-38

*The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke beginning in the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.*

“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

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

**Sermon**

The Rev. Elijah Mwitanti  
*Lead Pastor*

## You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

### *Gift of Finest Wheat*



- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude  
3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?  
4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:  
5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' - n - ly food.  
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?  
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.  
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997  
Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996  
Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

### \*Profession of Faith

*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 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

Eternal God, we pray that we will make stewardship a way of Life.

We acknowledge you as the source of all we have and all we are.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Help us to place you, our loving Creator, first in our lives by becoming more prayerful, more focused on loving and caring for our families and our neighbors in need, and by becoming less preoccupied with material things. Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Help us to hear your call to be good stewards, caretakers, and managers of all your gifts by sharing them for your purposes. Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Help us make your priorities our priorities and to put our faith into action.

Help us plan to “give back” the talents, treasures and time with which we have been blessed.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Help us plan to serve our church, our community, and our world with your gifts. May we serve you and pray with a joyful spirit of mind and heart. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

### **\*Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

+ **MEAL** +

### **Offering of Gifts**

*We appreciate your ongoing support of our work in the community and the world.*

*At King of Kings we see our offering as a practice of gratitude, sacrifice and joy.*

You can give online at...[Kofk.org](http://Kofk.org) Resources/Online Giving.

You can Text-to-Give at 844-251-6727 and follow the one-time setup.

### **Special Music**

### **Offering Prayer**

Loving God, you have given us life and freedom.

Everything we have and everything that we are is a gift from you.

You call us to be stewards of this gift.

As caretakers of all that you have provided, we give back now.

We dedicate these gifts to you.

Bless these tithes and offerings. Help us to always use your gifts wisely.

Lead us as we share them generously with others.

Help our faithful stewardship to show Christ to others.

We pray these things in the name of our Messiah, Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

### **Offering Song**

*ELW #692*

# We Are An Offering

*Words and Music by  
Dwight Liles*

♩ = 60

G7 C Dm7 C/E F C/E

**CHORUS 1**

We lift our voice - es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an

of - fer - ing. Lord, use our voice - es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our

F C/E Dm7 G7sus G7 C Dm7 C/E

**BRIDGE**

lives, they are Yours, we are an of - fer - ing. All that we have, all that we are,

Esus D/F# E/G# Am F C/E Bb/C A/C# Dm7 G7sus G7

all that we hope to be, we give to You, we give to You. We lift our

C Dm7 C/E F C/E Dm7 G7sus

**CHORUS 2**

voice - es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an of - fer - ing, we are an

1 2

C G7sus G7 C

of - fer - ing. We lift our of - fer - ing.

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## \*Dialog

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**And also with you.**

**We lift them to the Lord.**

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## \*Words of Institution

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

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen**

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

### \*Invitation to Communion

Come and receive the gifts of God's love. Be inspired to live a life of abundant generosity.

### Distribution

*All are welcome to the table, where Jesus is host and offers himself to all who desire to receive.*

*This is truly our Lord's table. This meal is indeed given for you for the forgiveness of sins and as a promise of our Lord's eternal presence with you. Take and eat – take and drink.*

### Communion Song

W&P #41

#### Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One,  
give thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ, his Son.  
Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One,  
give thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ, his Son.  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am  
rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. And  
now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am  
rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

*Last time*

Text: Henry Smith

Music: GIVE THANKS, Henry Smith

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## + SENDING +

### \*Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

### \*Prayer after Communion

Loving God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace.

Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves, share the gifts that we've been given, and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

### \*Benediction

The love of God abound in you;

the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;

and the life of the Spirit **✠** bless you and give you peace. **Amen.**

### \*Sending Song

ELW #689

## Praise and Thanksgiving



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things  
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our  
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's  
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the  
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work  
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -  
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.  
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.  
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.  
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.  
Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune  
Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

### \*Dismissal

We go out in mission:

**Following Christ, Living Faithfully, Serving Others.**

Go in peace. Share the love and blessings of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

