

12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 31, 2025

9:30 a.m. & Livestream



FAITH . DISCIPLESHIP . COMMUNITY
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

The Rev. Drew McCaffery, Pastor

At The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, we embrace the uniqueness of every individual and respect their dignity and worth, for all are created in the image of God. We strive to welcome everyone in the fullness of who they are.

Let us call together for reconciliation, and live out God's vision of love for people of every sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, socio-economic status, age, physical or mental ability, political persuasion, race, ethnicity, and personal history. Let us walk together to strive for racial equity, as Jesus calls us to do.

All people are welcome here to worship, build community, and grow together as Jesus' disciples at this place.



✦ GATHERING ✦

Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

C **Amen.**

P *Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.*

Silence is kept for reflection.

P *Merciful God,*

C **you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

P *You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ✦ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.*

C **Amen.**

Entrance Hymn

Gather Us In

No. 532



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

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

How Great is Our God

Chris Tomlin

The splendor of the King
Clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice
All the earth rejoice
He wraps Himself in light
And darkness tries to hide
And trembles at His voice
And trembles at His voice

And age to age He stands
And time is in His hands
Beginning and the End
Beginning and the End
The Godhead three in one
Father Spirit Son
The Lion and the Lamb
The Lion and the Lamb

Chorus

How great is our God
Sing with me
How great is our God
And all will see how great
How great is our God

Chorus

Name above all names
Worthy of all praise
And my heart will sing
How great is our God
Repeat

Chorus

CCLI SONG #4348399

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

A *Let us pray. O God,*

C **you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

✦ THE WORD ✦

First Reading

Proverbs 25:6-7a

A *A reading from Proverbs.*

⁶ *Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,*

^{7a} *for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.*

A *The word of the Lord.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 112

A ¹ *Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in God's commandments!*

C ² **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

A ³ *Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.*

C ⁴ **Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

A ⁵ *It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.*

C ⁶ **For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance**

A ⁷ *They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.*

C ⁸ **Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

- A ⁹ *They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.*
- C ¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away;
the desires of the wicked will perish.**

Second Reading

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

- A *A reading from Hebrews. ¹ Let mutual affection continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence,
"The Lord is my helper;
I will not be afraid.
What can anyone do to me?"*
- ⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.*
- A *The word of the Lord.*
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Holy Gospel

Luke 14:1,7-14

P *The Holy Gospel according to Luke the fourteenth chapter.*

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

¹ *On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.*

⁷ *When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”*

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

P *The Gospel of the Lord.*
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Sermon

The Rev. Carla Christopher
Assistant to the Bishop for Justice Ministries

Please stand as you are able.



1 O God of light, your word, a lamp un - fail - ing,
2 From days of old, through blind and will - ful a - ges,
3 Un - dimmed by time, those words are still re - veal - ing
4 To all the world your sum - mons you are send - ing,



shall pierce the dark - ness of our earth - bound way
though we re - belled, you gent - ly sought a - gain,
to sin - ful hearts your jus - tice and your grace;
through all the earth, to ev - 'ry land and race,



and show your grace, your plan for us un - veil - ing,
and spoke through saints, a - pos - tles, proph - ets, sa - ges,
and quest - ing spir - its, long - ing for your heal - ing,
that myr - iad tongues, in one great an - them blend - ing,



and guide our foot - steps to the per - fect day.
who wrote with ea - ger or re - luc - tant pen.
see your com - pas - sion in the Sav - ior's face.
may praise and cel - e - brate your gift of grace.

A *Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:*
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.

A *Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.*

A brief silence.

After each portion of the prayers:

A *Hear us, O God,*

C **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers conclude:

P *Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.*

C **Amen.**

P *The peace of the Lord be with you always.*

C **And also with you.**

After sharing the peace, please be seated.

Offering

As the gifts are presented, please stand, as you are able.

Refrain / Estribillo

Va - mos to - dos al ban - que - te, a la
 Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the

me - sa de la crea - ción; ca - da cual con su ta - bu -
 feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is

re - te tie - ne un pues - to y u - na mi - sión.
 wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.

1 Hoy me le - van - to muy tem - pra - no; ya me es -
 1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -

pe - ra la co - mu - ni - dad; voy su - bien - do a le - gre la
 mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm

Refrain / Estribillo

cues - ta, voy en bus - ca de tu a - mis - tad.
 walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.

A *Let us pray. Creator God,*
C **in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

✦THE EUCHARIST✦

P *The Lord be with you.*

C **And also with you.**

P *Lift up your hearts.*

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

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

P *It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer
 You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.
 than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,
 Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.
 to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



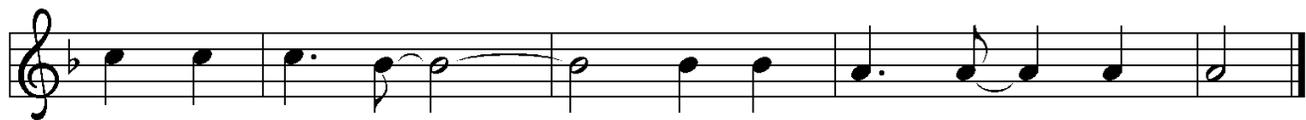
Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,
 You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!
 you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,
 Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.
 Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

P *Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise. When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.*

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.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C **Amen.**

P *Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

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.

P *The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.*

C **Thanks be to God!**

Please be seated.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table! Whether you are a member of this church or a visitor, the Communion celebrated here is "open" to all who trust that our Lord Jesus Christ—his true Body and his true Blood—is present for All of God's People.

(Note: should you prefer, we also offer gluten free wafers and white grape juice.)

During the distribution, the following is sung:



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer - cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer - cy now, we pray.
e - ter - nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang - ers; seek - er, be a wel - come guest.
3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil - der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
Come from rest - less - ness and roam - ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full - ness, all a - round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat - tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat - i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

After all have communed, please stand, as you are able.

P *The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.*

C **Amen.**

A *Let us pray. Mothering God,*

C **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 and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.**

✦ SENDING ✦

P *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.*

C **Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

No. 631



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

A *Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.*

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

We welcome and Thank Pastor Carla for leading worship today!

Pray for Those That Need God's Healing

*Paul, Ann, Kathy, Al, Andrea, Joan, Ed,
Marion, Betty, Jean, Lois, Barbara & Bruce*

The Altar Flowers are Given to the Glory of God

by Thelma Repp in loving memory of Lowell Repp

and by

Lee Siebold in loving memory of Neal Siebold on his birthday

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Rev. Drew McCaffery	Pr.Drew@lcgsselca.org	(O) 410-838-8081
Sherman Canapp, OSSD Deacon	canappsherman501@gmail.com	(M) 443-904-7013
Jessie Lim, Music Director	Music@lcgsselca.org	(O) 410-838-8081
Gina Miller, Office Manager	officemanager@lcgsselca.org	(O) 410-838-8081
Dawn Love, Church Secretary	officesecretary@lcgsselca.org	(O) 410-838-8081
Council President, Steve Starbuck	council_president@lcgsselca.org	
Treasurer, Linda Ruese	treasurer@lcgsselca.org	
Communications/Web/E-News	communications@lcgsselca.org	
Lois Dobart, Preschool Director	school@lcgsselca.org	(O) 410-838-8457
Web address	www.lcgsselca.org	
WiFi access	SSID: LCGS_Public	Passphrase: public@LCGS

Text and music contained in this bulletin owned by their respective copyright holder(s). Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-710797. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted with permission under Augsburg Fortress License # SAS01 Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-710797and Augsburg Fortress License # SAS012

SERVING TODAY

9:30 a.m.

Assisting Minister	Sherman Canapp, OSSD
Communion Assistants	Joan Serio
Ushers	Doyle McCracken
Livestream	Joel Raedecke