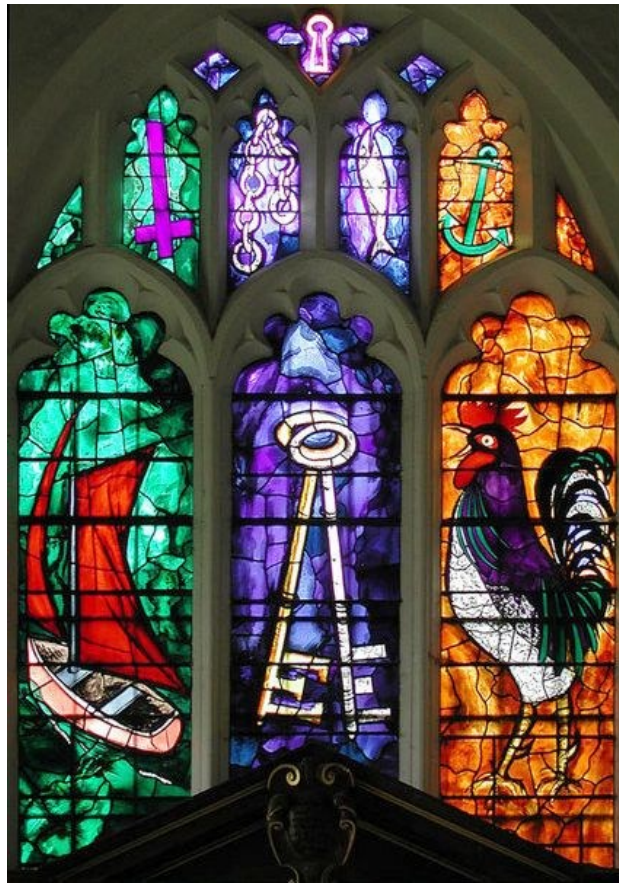


Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2026

9:30 a.m. Worship



Como Park Lutheran Church, ELCA, RIC

Reaching out in Christ to a changing world.

1376 Hoyt Ave W | Saint Paul, MN 55108

(651) 646-7127

www.ComoParkLutheran.org



We welcome all to worship here: those who are strong in faith and those who are seeking, those who are hurting and those who give comfort; all who are drawn to worship, community, and faith.

We acknowledge and celebrate the rich diversity within and around us. As a community rooted in the body of Christ, we commit ourselves to creating a space where people of all races, ages, ethnicities, abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions are not only included but deeply valued and seen as essential to our shared journey.

Together, we value human diversity as a divine gift and blessing—a reflection of God's boundless creativity and love. Because of this, we commit ourselves in ministry to fully embracing all people and advancing racial equity in our ministry.

We recognize that we hold a variety of beliefs, perspectives, and lived experiences; and yet we gather in Christ to worship God together. If you have questions, feedback, or needs for assistance, please ask. We seek to grow together in ministry, community and faith, and we are glad that you are here with us today.

~ The People of Como Park Lutheran Church

**Coffee hour will take place immediately after the service.
Join us in the Narthex for coffee and light snacks.**

Upcoming events and announcements can be found at the back of the bulletin.

This service is broadcast live on YouTube and recorded for later viewing:
www.youtube.com/c/ComoParkLutheranChurch



Regular - Liturgist
Bold - Congregation
✠ - Stand as able



ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Cantilena in G

Arthur Foote

WELCOME, GREETING, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✠CONFESSIOIN AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

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.

Amen.

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

~ Silence is kept for reflection. ~

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.

✠OPENING HYMN

The Church's One Foundation

ELW 654

✠THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

(2 Corinthians 13:14)

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.

✠KYRIE

ELW 157

Assistant: In peace, in peace,

Assistant:

All:

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,
Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have
mer - cy.

The musical notation is for the Assistant's part of the Kyrie. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for "Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,". The second staff continues with "Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have". The third staff concludes with "mer - cy." and a final cadence.

Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all... (Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word... (Refrain)

Assistant:
Help, save and de - fend us, O God.
All:
A - - - men.

The musical notation for the Assistant's part of the Kyrie consists of two staves. The first staff is for the Assistant's part, starting with "Help, save and de - fend us, O God." and ending with a final note. The second staff is for the All's part, starting with "A - - - men." and ending with a final cadence.

✠NOW THE FEAST

ELW 167

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great

To refrain

peo - ple of God.

Verse 2

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and

might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ

To refrain

for ev - er.

Verse 3

3. For God has come to dwell with us,

to make us peo - ple of God; to make

To refrain

all things new.

✠PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

¹ Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 138



- ¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with | my whole heart;
before the gods I will | sing your praise.
- ² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your
name, because of your steadfast | love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word a- | bove
all things.**
- ³ When I called, you | answered me;
you increased my | strength within me.
- ⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise | you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words | of your mouth.**
- ⁵ They will sing of the ways | of the LORD,
that great is the glory | of the LORD.
- ⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares | for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty | from afar.**
- ⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you | keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right | hand shall save me.
- ⁸ **You will make good your pur- | pose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not
abandon the works | of your hands.**

SECOND READING: Romans 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function,

⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith;

⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching;

⁸ the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

✠GOSPEL VERSE

Congregation:

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! *Repeat optional*

✠GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mathew the Sixteenth Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Meg Duncan

(Jesus Loves Me! ELW 595)

SERMON

Pastor Peter Coen-Tuff

✠HYMN OF THE DAY

We All Are One in Mission

ELW 576

✠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

... Lord, in your mercy,
... **hear our prayer.**

✠THE PEACE

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

(In sharing God's Peace we share with each other our hope for God's blessing by shaking hands, or turning to one another and nodding, or bumping fists and saying "God's peace be with you.")

THE MEAL

OFFERING

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Nevin

Elsa Ballata and Aaron Purdham

Electronic offerings can be made using smart phones and tablet devices by going to www.ComoParkLutheran.org and clicking on the "donate" button. You may also use the giving kiosk in the narthex located by the staircase.



✠OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray...

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

✠WORDS OF INSTITUTION (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

In the night in which he was betrayed...
... Do this for the remembrance of me.

✠THE LORD'S PRAYER (Matthew 6:9-13; Revelation 11:15)

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

**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.**

DISTRIBUTION

All who believe Christ is truly present in the sacrament are invited to receive communion. At the server, hold out the flat of your palm to receive the wafer. If you desire gluten-free wafers, simply say to the first server “gluten-free.” Then, step to the second server and take the wine in the small cup. The cups hold red wine and grape juice. If you are allergic to grapes, you are free to receive only the bread, knowing that Christ is fully present within each element. Children who do not yet commune will receive a blessing from pastor or first server.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have
you break the chains of ha - tred and fear:
you are the way of jus - tice and peace:
you are the way of mer - cy and love:

mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us.

Lamb of God, your take a - way the sins of the world:

grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

✠POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

✠POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks, O God, that you make your home with us, bringing heaven to earth in this holy meal. Fill us with your Spirit as we go from here, that we may wipe away tears, tend to those in mourning and pain, seek the healing of the nations, and bring to earth the presence of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE SENDING

✠BENEDICTION (Numbers 6:24-26)

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

✠CLOSING HYMN

Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen

ELW 548

✠DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

A Mighty Fortress

Charles Ore

Please pray for...

Anders N.	Tyler F. (brother-in-law of Ginger F.)
Kathy H.	J.J. K. (great grandson of Bill H.)
Ann L.	Joe (friend of Sandra H.)
Ruth R.	Cheryl & Jim (quilter & husband)
Gina K.	Nichole (friend of Como Connects)
Gary (friend of Deb S.)	Mary C.
Heidi G.	Ginger F.
Betty H	Duane B.
Charlie	... and all in need of prayers

We welcome names of members, family, and friends on our prayer list.



Serving in the Military

Dane Beecham, Jonathan Lund, Kristian Nelson
... and all others who serve



We pray regularly for all members and friends of our congregation.

This week in worship, we pray for:

Jim Chresand & Margo Rowe Chresand, Ted

JoAnne Christensen

Beth Cregan

Fay Cushman, Ellie Elmquist

Jim & Missy DeLeo, Kristiana, Talia

Tore & Beth Detlie, Annelise

Rick Distad & Diane Holmgren, Hannah, Lauren

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP

Pastor: Peter Coen-Tuff

Director of Music Ministry: Tom Ferry

THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Date	August 23, 2026
Time	9:30 AM
Acolyte	Sofi Duncan
Communion Prep	Polly Heaton
Assisting Minister	Meg Duncan
Communion Asst 1	Sasha Weber
Communion Asst 2	Elizabeth Weber
Greeter	David Harris
Coffee Servers	Barbara Reiter & Kevin Johnson
Children's Message	Meg Duncan
Reader	Morgan Bracewell
Liturgist	Tom Spivey
Ushers	Team 1
Welcome Desk	Sheila Skone
Bus Driver	Tom Spivey
Video Tech	Ruth Pechauer

USHER TEAM

Team 1: Darrell Anderson, Fred Halberg, Paul McCreight, Sam Schultz

Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #A-703921. All rights reserved.

Feast and Celebration liturgy by Marty Haugen © 1990 GIA Publications

The Church's One Foundation Text: Samuel J. Stone, public domain

AURELIA music: Samuel Wesley, public domain

We All Are One in Mission Text: Rusty Edwards © 1986 Hope Publishing

KUORTANE Music: Finnish folk tune, hymnal version © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

A Mighty Fortress by Charles Ore © 1990 Concordia Publishing House

Cantilena in G by Arthur Foote, public domain

My Faith Looks Up to Thee by George B. Nevin, public domain