

# SUNDAY WORSHIP

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



**UNDIVIDED  
ATTENTION**

New Life Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Shoreview, Minnesota  
July 13, 2025

# NEW LIFE

## EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

**W**elcome to New Life worship! We pray that you find strength and peace in God's Word of grace. Restrooms are located to the right of the main entrance. Hearing devices and a nursery are available if needed. "Let's Connect..." with cards in the pew rack or scan code. Great to meet you!



**July 13, 2025**

Path for Worship: CWH Setting 2



**The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

Hymns: 652, 841, 731

### **Today's Worship Theme: UNDIVIDED ATTENTION on a Neighbor in Need**

We tend to think of distraction and focus as opposites. If someone is focused, they are not easily distracted by random events and encounters. If someone is focused, every decision about how to spend time and resources is calculated. Though Christ gave us an example of focus and commitment, he also showed us how to love and serve those who others may think of as distractions. This week, we'll see how Jesus taught us that he has set us free to live a life of such distraction. No matter the neighbor and no matter his need, we are free to give him our undivided attention, even if that seems senseless or inefficient. Christ has set us free to bear any cost and go any distance to serve a neighbor as Christ himself would serve them.

### **Prayer Before Worship**

Dear Maker and Creator, thank-you for giving us eyes to see and minds to focus. Give us the wisdom and discernment to use both of these gifts to your glory and in service to others for the good of your Kingdom. Amen.

### **Summer Worship Schedule**

Thursday Worship	7:00 pm
Sunday Worship	10:00 am
Fellowship	11:00 am

### **Contact Information**

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Pastor Mark Cordes, Pastor Joel Gawrisch, Administrative Assistant Cora Wakeman, Accompanist Deb Maxson

*Our services are livestreamed and archived on the "New Life Shoreview" YouTube channel for the benefit of our membership and our ministry to the greater community. For more information about our livestream practice, please see an usher.*

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## PATH FOR WORSHIP

## Gather

## ENTRANCE HYMN

CWH 652 | Lord, Have Mercy

1 For what we have done and left un-done we fall on your  
count-less mer-cies. For sins that are known and  
those un-known we call on your name so ho-ly.  
For en-vy and pride, for clos-ing our eyes; for  
scorn-ing our ver-y neigh-bor. In  
thought, word, and deed we've failed you, our King; how  
deep-ly we need a Sav-ior. *Refrain*  
*Refrain*  
Lord, have mer-cy, Christ, have mer-cy, Lord, have mer-cy  
on us. Lord, have mer-cy, Christ, have mer-cy,  
Lord, have mer-cy on us. For

**Entrance Hymn**

Our opening hymn also serves as a prayer for mercy for all the ways we fail to love and serve the way Christ did — “for sins that are known, and those unknown. . . how deeply we need a Savior.”

In the final verse, after the absolution, we are reminded of the mercy we *have received*, because of Christ’s perfect life of love and sacrifice for us.

(3 For) hearts that are cold, for seiz - ing con - trol; for  
 scorn - ing our ver - y mak - er. In  
 thought, word, and deed we've failed you, our King; how  
 deep - ly we need a Sav - ior. *Refrain*  
*Refrain*  
 Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy  
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy,  
 Lord, have mer - cy on us.

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

**Confession &  
 Absolution**

These are words acknowledging that we inherit sinfulness from our parents and have fallen short of God's perfection ourselves. We refer to these conditions as original sin and actual sin, respectively. Yet Jesus' perfect life lived for us and his innocent death in our place removes the guilt of sin forever.

**CONFESSION**

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

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  $\dagger$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

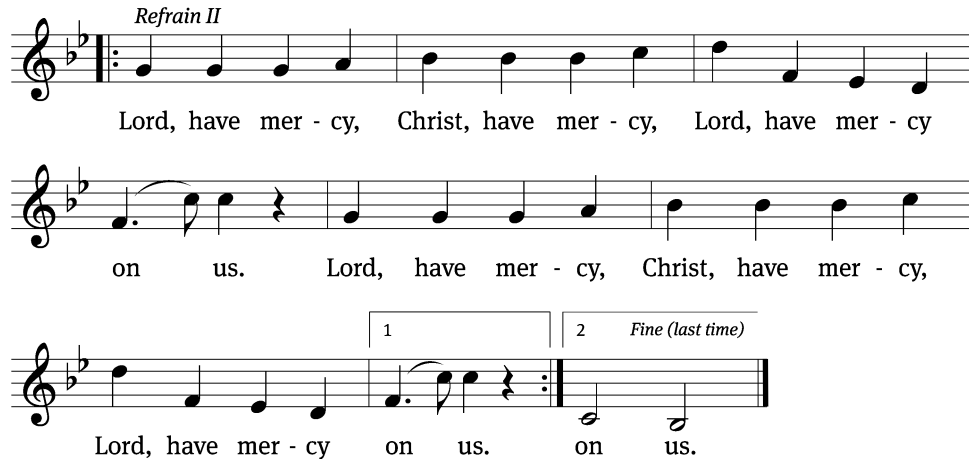
**Amen.**

*Then all join in singing...*



(2 For) what you have done, your life of love you per - fect - ly  
 lived, we praise you. Though tempt - ed and tried, you  
 fixed your eyes; you fin - ished the work God gave you.  
 And there on the tree, a King a - mong thieves, you  
 bled for a world's be - tray - al. You  
 loved to the end, our mer - ci - ful friend; how  
 pure and for - ev - er faith - ful. *Refrain II*

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### **The Word**

God continues to speak to his people through his powerful Word. The Prayer of the Day, the readings, and the psalms or anthems are all chosen according to the *Lectionary*. The *Lectionary* is a listing of readings for each Sunday of the Church Year. The readings have been chosen to bless the gathered believers with balance, discipline, direction, and freshness.

**The First Reading** is typically taken from the Old Testament and occasionally from the Book of Acts. This lesson often contains events or prophecy that find fulfillment in the Second and Gospel Lessons.

## **The Word**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; 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**

Ruth 1:1-19a (EHV)

*The LORD moves a Moabite woman named Ruth to care for her widowed mother-in-law, even though it meant leaving her people, her country, and her way of life behind.*

During the days of the judges, a famine occurred in the land. So a man left Bethlehem in Judah to stay awhile in the territory of Moab—he, his wife, and his two sons. <sup>2</sup>The man's name was Elimelek, his wife's name was Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were from the clan of Ephrath from Bethlehem in Judah. They entered the territory of Moab and remained there.

<sup>3</sup>But Elimelek, Naomi's husband, died, so she was left with her two sons. <sup>4</sup>They then married Moabite wives. The name of the first was Orpah, and the name of the second was Ruth. They lived there for about ten years. <sup>5</sup>But Naomi's sons, Mahlon and Kilion, also died. So the woman was left without her two children and without her husband.

<sup>6</sup>Then Naomi set out with her daughters-in-law to return from the territory of Moab, because while she was in the territory of Moab, she had heard that the LORD had graciously visited his people by providing them with food. <sup>7</sup>So she left the place where she had been, and her two daughters-in-law left with her. They set out on the road to return to the land of Judah.

<sup>8</sup>But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back. Both of you return to your mother's house. May the LORD show you kindness as you have shown kindness to the dead and to me. <sup>9</sup>May the LORD grant that each of you finds security in the house of a husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept loudly.

<sup>10</sup>But they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people."

<sup>11</sup>Then Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters. Why should you go with me? Am I going to give birth to any more sons who could become your husbands? <sup>12</sup>Turn back, my daughters. Go! For I am too old to be married to another husband. Suppose I say, 'I have hope, and I will be married to another husband tonight, and I will even give birth to sons.' <sup>13</sup>Would you wait for them until they grow up? On the basis of that hope would you give up the chance to marry another husband? No, my daughters. It is much more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has reached out against me."

<sup>14</sup>They once again wept loudly. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth would not let her go.

<sup>15</sup>Naomi said, "Look, your sister-in-law has returned to her people and to her gods. Go back! Follow your sister-in-law."

<sup>16</sup>But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to abandon you or to turn back from following you. Because wherever you go, I will go, and wherever you make your home, I will make my home. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God. <sup>17</sup>Wherever you die, I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD punish me severely and double it if anything but death separates me from you."

<sup>18</sup>When Naomi saw that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

<sup>19</sup>Then the two of them traveled until they arrived at Bethlehem.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# **Psalm**

Along with Old Testament believers we respond to God's gracious promises in the word and song of the Psalms. The singing of the Psalm, while connecting believers of both the Old Testament and New Testament ages, also serves as a bridge between today's Bible readings.

The Church sings Psalm 101 to remember Jesus as the only one who has lived a blameless life.

## **PSALM**

Psalm 101A | *I Will Sing of Your Love*

### *Refrain*



### *Tone*



I will conduct the affairs of my house with a / blameless heart.  
 I will not look with approval on anything / that is vile.  
 I hate what faithless / people do;  
 I will have nothing to do with what is / evil.  
 Whoever slanders their neighbor in secret, I will put to / silence;  
 whoever has haughty eyes and a proud heart, I will not / tolerate. *Refrain*

My eyes will be on the faithful in the land, that they may / dwell with me;  
 the one whose walk is blameless will minis- / ter to me.  
 No one who practices deceit will dwell / in my house;  
 no one who speaks falsely will stand in my / presence.  
 Every morning I will put to silence all the wicked / in the land;  
 I will cut off every evildoer from the city / of the LORD.

**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***

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## SECOND READING

Galatians 5:1, 13-25 (EHV)

*Those who have been set free from the law by Christ  
naturally bear fruit that benefits their neighbor.*

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not allow anyone to put the yoke of slavery on you again. . . .

<sup>13</sup>After all, brothers, you were called to freedom. Only do not use your freedom as a starting point for your sinful flesh. Rather, serve one another through love. <sup>14</sup>In fact, the whole law is summed up in this one statement: "Love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>15</sup>But if you keep on biting and devouring one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

<sup>16</sup>What I am saying is this: Walk by the spirit, and you will not carry out what the sinful flesh desires. <sup>17</sup>For the sinful flesh desires what is contrary to the spirit, and the spirit what is contrary to the sinful flesh. In fact, these two continually oppose one another, so that you do not continue to do these things you want to do. <sup>18</sup>But if you are led by the spirit, you are not under the control of the law.

<sup>19</sup>Now the works of the sinful flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, complete lack of restraint, <sup>20</sup>idolatry, sorcery, hatred, discord, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissensions, heresies, <sup>21</sup>envy, murders, drunkenness, orgies, and things similar to these. I warn you, just as I also warned you before, that those who continue to do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup>But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup>Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup>If we live by the spirit, let us also walk in step with it.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 John 4:11

**Alleluia.**

**Dear friends, since God so loved us,  
we also ought to love one another.**

**Alleluia.**

### The Second Reading

is from the New Testament letters of the apostles or the Revelation to St. John. It stresses Christian faith and Christian living as a response to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

### Gospel Acclamation

The congregation stands for the Gospel Acclamation and the reading of the Gospel. (In the past soldiers put down their weapons and kings removed their crowns when the Gospel was read.)

This Gospel verse serves as a prelude to the reading of the Gospel, as a reflector of the season of the Church year, or as a bridge between the Second Reading and the Gospel.

**Gospel**

Christ - his life, his words of law and gospel, his suffering and death, his resurrection, his ascension, his assignment to his Church, his promise to return - is the center of the Gospel. The faithful have waited for this moment, this reading. They stand in reverence.

**GOSPEL**

Luke 10:25-37 (EHV)

*In a well-known parable, Jesus teaches us how one loves their neighbor.*

Just then, an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus, saying, "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

<sup>26</sup>"What is written in the law?" he asked him. "What do you read there?"

<sup>27</sup>He replied, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind; and, love your neighbor as yourself."

<sup>28</sup>He said to him, "You have answered correctly. Do this, and you will live."

<sup>29</sup>But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

<sup>30</sup>Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho. He fell among robbers who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup>It just so happened that a priest was going down that way. But when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup>In the same way, a Levite also happened to go there, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup>A Samaritan, as he traveled, came to where the man was. When he saw him, he felt sorry for the man. <sup>34</sup>He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He put him on his own animal, took him to an inn, and took care of him. <sup>35</sup>The next day, when he left, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him. Whatever extra you spend, I will repay you when I return.' <sup>36</sup>Which of these three do you think acted like a neighbor to the man who fell among robbers?"

<sup>37</sup>"The one who showed mercy to him," he replied.

Then Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*Be seated*

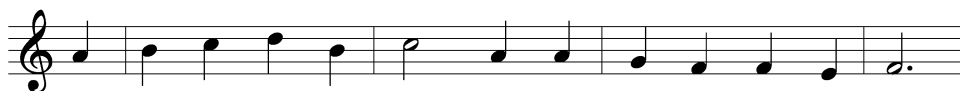
## HYMN OF THE DAY

CWH 841 | *Entrust Your Fear and Doubting*

1 En - trust your fear and doubt - ing and all that pains your life  
 2 Have faith in God's vast mer - cy; con - sid - er all he's done;  
 3 In vain the pow'rs of e - vil op - pose the Lord's de - signs;  
 4 Take hope, O wea - ry spir - it, be strong and un - a - fraid;  
 5 These trou - bles that dis - tress us, Lord, bring them to an end;



to him whose hand is guid - ing your way thro' storm and strife.  
 his might - y acts in his - t'ry, sal - va - tion he has won.  
 in all of life's up - heav - al his prom - ise ev - er shines.  
 God prom - is - es a res - pite for hearts that are dis - mayed.  
 with strength and cour - age bless us, your love to us com - mend,



He gov - erns times and sea - sons in ways that none can see,  
 When sor - rows o - ver - whelm you and self - tor - ment - ing care,  
 For God holds firm the end - ing, though now it seems un - clear;  
 Your Sav - ior's per - fect tim - ing is gov - erned by his grace;  
 that we, till death ac - cept - ing your hid - den, lov - ing ways,



so trust his hid - den rea - sons, though dark your path may be.  
 your wor - ry will not help you— ap - proach his throne in prayer.  
 his pur - pose is un - bend - ing, and thus you need not fear.  
 the day is sure - ly com - ing when joy will light your face.  
 may then, new life at - tain - ing, give praise for end - less days.

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## SERMON

Luke 10:25-37

## Go and Do Likewise

† Do what?  
 † To whom?  
 † Why?

*Following the Sermon, Stand***Hymn of the Day**

This hymn is representative of the best of the Christian Church's hymnody. It is specially assigned to this day for its rich content, and its connection with today's Gospel.

**Sermon**

is the Word of God, proclaiming the living voice of the Gospel to God's redeemed people. The preacher is the appointed representative who illuminates the Scripture for the congregation and applies it to our contemporary situation. He is neither lecturer nor entertainer, but a link through whom the Holy Spirit brings law and gospel to bear upon the hearts and minds of the worshipers and enlivens their faith and life.

**Statement of Faith**

Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word.

The Creed is a summary and profession of the Christian faith.

The Nicene Creed was written in defense of the pure teachings of the Scriptures on the triune God, with special emphasis on to the personhood of Jesus Christ as true God from all eternity.

**The Prayer of the Church**

is spoken in response to our Lord's invitation to pray for all people and in all circumstances. Often spoken responsively, it reflects and gives voice to the individual thoughts, requests and deep and unexpressed needs of God's people ascending to his throne of mercy.

**STATEMENT OF FAITH**

*Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Be seated*

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.*

Lord God, from whom all blessings flow, we praise you for everything you provide to sustain our lives. Lead us every day to be thankful for your gifts and content with what you have given. Today we pray that you would guide us to manage your blessings wisely for the good of your kingdom.

**As we use your gifts to meet our needs, move us also to support the ministry of the gospel with our offerings.**

Before your Son ascended to your throne, he called us to preach the good news to every creature. In grace you created the public ministry so that we may answer his call by sending others in our place. Impress on us the immense importance of the task you have given us to proclaim your Word to the world.

**In our words and in our offerings, move us to be faithful witnesses of your grace.**

Work in our hearts so that our gifts do more than support a cause or meet a need. Move us to give out of love for you, our King and Redeemer.

**Lead us to bring our gifts first to honor you, the Giver of all things.**

Teach us to give as an ongoing part of life since the work of the gospel continues every day. Forgive us for the sins of apathy and carelessness and for giving that reacts only to urgent pleas or crises.

**Help us see the wisdom of planning our offerings as a regular routine of our faith.**

Teach us to determine our offerings in view of your blessings to us. The widow's coins were meager, but they were all she had. Move us to believe that to whom much is given, much is also expected.

**Give us courage to bring gifts that reflect your gifts to us.**

Teach us to give our offerings as a cheerful response of our faith in you and your Son. Spare us all feelings of obligation or resentment as we give. Help us to see our offerings as the vehicle that carries the gospel to the lost, and lead us to rejoice with the angels of heaven over every sinner who repents.

**Help us to balance our duty to give with the joy of giving.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

Precious Lord, all our blessings come from you. Lead us again and again to thank you and then move us to be wise and faithful stewards of your gifts. May our gifts and offerings bring souls here and far away to the gracious gift of Jesus and his love.

**Lord, hear us and grant us this blessing. Amen.**

**OFFERING**      *Stand as an offering plate is brought forward and placed on the altar.*

We thank our generous Creator for richly and daily blessing us with more than we need for this body and life. God owns everything because "the earth is the Lord's and everything in it, the world and all who live in it." (Psalm 24:1) We gratefully return a portion to him who gives us all. Offerings may be placed in a plate near the entrance coming or going. With E-giving and drop-off at church we support our collective gospel ministry at New Life. Please also give generously to those in need, being confident of this: "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1:6 EHV)



#### **Offering**

Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him.

# The Sacrament

## Preface

The words of the Preface mark the beginning of the Sacrament section of the service and lift worshippers' hearts in praise. These are among the oldest sentences in the Christian liturgy.

## PREFACE

CWH 183

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## Holy, Holy, Holy

*Sanctus* means "holy." Used as early as the second century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians by the fourth century. It incorporates elements of Isaiah 6:3 and Matthew 21:9.

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

CWH 184

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,  
 God of might. Heav - en and earth are full of your  
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the  
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho -  
 san - na in the high - est!

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**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.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Jesus took bread and gave thanks.  
See Matthew 26:26.

### Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer was given by our Savior to his Church in response to the disciples' request to be taught to pray. See Matthew 6:9-13.

The conclusion to the prayer, also known as the Doxology, was a common conclusion to ancient prayers.

### Words of Institution

As he speaks the Words of Institution, the minister both proclaims the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's use. The sign of the cross reminds us of Christ's death. See Matthew 26:26-28 and 1 Corinthians 11:24,25.

**Jesus, Lamb of God**

Jesus is God's Lamb (Agnus Dei), who was offered as a sacrifice for sin once for all. (John 1:29)

**JESUS, LAMB OF GOD**

CWH 186

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us your peace.

Tune: Marty Haugen

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*Be seated*

**DISTRIBUTION**

*We are a "sacramental" church. We believe that in Baptism and the Lord's Supper God comes to us with forgiveness in very tangible means. Because the Bible has convinced us that Jesus' body and blood are present in the sacrament and that receiving the sacrament together is a public statement of oneness in our beliefs and commitment, we ask our guests to speak with the pastor before communing. We don't want to be presumptuous and put you in the position of stating your agreement with our convictions before we have had an opportunity to explain them. We do look forward to any opportunity to discuss with you the Christian faith.*

*Personal preparation for Holy Communion may be found on the back cover.*

*Following Distribution, stand*



## Depart

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Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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.**

*Be seated*

### Depart

We give thanks for the grace we have just received in our Savior's Holy Supper. At peace, we prepare to go back into the world as witnesses of our hope in Christ.

### Blessing

The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them" (Numbers 6:27).

**Closing Hymn**

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion,<sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.<sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves,<sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 2:1-5a)

**CLOSING HYMN**CWH 731 | *Oh, How Good It Is*

1 Oh, how good it is when the fam - 'ly of God dwells to -  
 2 Oh, how good it is on this jour - ney we share to re -  
 3 Oh, how good it is to em - brace his com - mand to pre -



geth - er in spir - it, in faith and u - ni - ty. Where the  
 joice with the hap - py and weep with those who mourn. For the  
 fer one an - oth - er, for - give as he for - gives. When we



bonds of peace, of ac - cept - ance and love are the  
 weak find strength, the af - flict - ed find grace when we  
 live as one we all share in the love of the



fruits of his pres - ence here a - mong us.  
 of - fer the bless - ing of be - long - ing.  
 Son with the Fa - ther and the Spir - it.



Refrain  
 So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord,



and with one heart we'll live out his word,



till the whole earth sees the Re - deem - er has come,



for he dwells in the pres - ence of his peo - ple.





## Personal Preparation for Holy Communion

Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

A: *He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.*

Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

A: *I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?*

Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

A: *I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.*

Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

A: *His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.*

Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

A: *In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.*

Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

A: *I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."*

Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

A: *I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.*

### Prayer

*Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.*