



*13th Sunday  
after Pentecost*

*August 22, 2021*

To glorify God, to grow in faith,  
to give in service, together in Christ

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**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,  
the God of manna,  
the God of miracles,  
the God of mercy. **Amen.**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God’s abundance,  
let us confess our sin.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our provider,  
**help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share.**  
**We question your ways when they differ from the ways  
of the world in which we live.**  
**We turn to our own understanding  
rather than trusting in you.**  
**We take offense at your teachings and your ways.**  
**Turn us again to you.**  
**Where else can we turn?**  
**Share with us the words of eternal life  
and feed us for life in the world.**  
**Amen.**

Beloved people of God:  
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,  
you are fed and nourished.  
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,  
there is always more than enough.  
Through Jesus, the bread of life,  
you are shown God’s mercy:  
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.  
**Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN: "Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus" ELW 802



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,  
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.  
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,  
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.  
Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.  
he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.  
that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,  
Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:  
Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;  
we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.  
all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.  
and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.  
in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.  
Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.  
Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.  
Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

## **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**

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **WORD**

### **First reading: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18**

<sup>1</sup>Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. <sup>2a</sup>And Joshua said to all the people, <sup>14</sup>“Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. <sup>15</sup>Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

<sup>16</sup>Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; <sup>17</sup>for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; <sup>18</sup>and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

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

# Psalm 34

Ray Makeever

Verses: Cantor; Refrain: All

*Refrain*

I will bless you, O God, at all times; I will  
bless you, O God.

- 1 I will bless you, O God, at all times;  
your praise will be ever in my mouth.  
Let my soul trust in you, O God;  
the lowly will hear and be glad. *Refrain*
- 2 O my God, you have eyes for the just;  
your ears hear the crying of the poor.  
You confront apathy and greed  
and loosen their hold on the earth. *Refrain*
- 3 When your children cry out, you will hear,  
will rescue your people from distress.  
You are peace to the broken heart;  
the spirit that's crushed, you caress. *Refrain*

Psalm prayer

**Second reading: Ephesians 6:10-20**

<sup>10</sup>Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the

devil. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. <sup>15</sup>As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup>Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. <sup>19</sup>Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Word of God, Word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## **Gospel: John 6: 56-69**

The Gospel of the Lord, according to John, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] <sup>56</sup>“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” <sup>59</sup>He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

<sup>60</sup>When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. <sup>65</sup>And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

<sup>66</sup>Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON: “Whose Life is Yours, Anyway?”**

**Pastor Nancy Raabe**

## PRAYERS

To the petition “Lord, in your mercy” please respond, “Hear our prayer.”

## GREETING OF THE PEACE

*You are invited to greet those around you but we request that you refrain from shaking hands.*

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church, gathered today.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life,  
you have set this table with your very self,  
and called us to the feast of plenty.

Gather what has been sown among us,  
and strengthen us in this meal.

Make us to be what we receive here,  
your body for the life of the world.

**Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:  
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.  
You have filled all creation with light and life;  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.





We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:  
the promise to Israel,  
the rescue from Egypt,  
the gift of the promised land,  
the words of the prophets;  
and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,  
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed  
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

On the night in which he was betrayed....

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

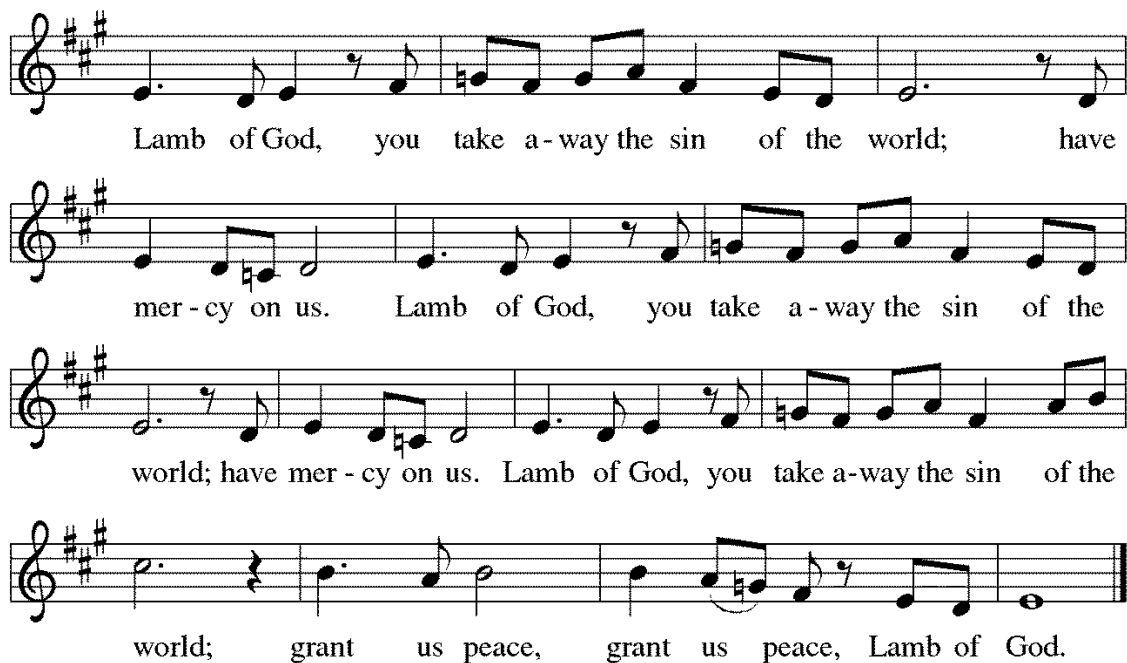
**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## Invitation to Communion

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

*Communion will be received in your seat.*

## LAMB OF GOD



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

## Prayer after Communion

Jesus, Bread of life,  
we have received from your table  
more than we could ever ask.  
As you have nourished us in this meal,  
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.  
In your name we pray. **Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

May our glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom  
to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus.

The God of life,

Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Announcements**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace.

You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please remain standing until the candles are extinguished.*

**Postlude:** “I Love to Tell the Story”

arr. Dale Wood

## **Serving today**

Preacher and presider, Rev. Nancy M. Raabe

Organist, Kevin Freaney

Cantor, Bill Raabe

Lector and communion assistant, Bruce Schmidt

Ushers, Harold Schaefer, Bob Smyrl

Audio team, Harold Schaefer, Dan Sarm, Tami Sarm

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# The Whole Armor of God

T	N	E	S	L	S	P	I	R	I	T	U	A	L
A	R	R	O	W	S	T	L	I	T	R	U	T	H
A	L	I	M	W	S	S	E	N	K	R	A	D	T
S	I	L	R	D	O	O	C	I	M	S	O	C	O
S	G	W	N	E	N	O	I	T	A	V	L	A	S
W	T	E	A	V	N	M	F	L	E	S	H	N	E
I	S	R	L	I	P	T	E	M	L	E	H	R	I
T	S	S	E	L	G	P	O	W	E	R	S	I	M
H	I	I	O	N	S	N	S	H	I	E	L	D	E
S	T	R	O	N	G	B	I	T	E	A	S	W	N
T	A	R	M	O	R	T	I	M	P	E	A	C	E
A	F	W	A	I	S	T	H	D	A	E	T	H	T
N	O	M	T	I	C	P	R	O	C	L	A	I	M
D	F	R	M	B	L	O	O	D	E	I	F	E	R

FLAMING  
 DEVIL  
 PEACE  
 DARKNESS  
 STRENGTH  
 COSMIC  
 SPIRITUAL  
 HELMET  
 BLOOD  
 ARMOR  
 ARROWS  
 FLESH  
 WAIST  
 PROCLAIM  
 SHIELD  
 SALVATION  
 STRONG  
 ENEMIES  
 WITHSTAND  
 TRUTH  
 POWERS

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/2668609/>

*Words in this puzzle are taken from our second reading today.*

*Hint: No words are spelled backwards.*

*Find the solution at the web site listed above.*