

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 18, 2021 | 9:45 am | Ascension Lutheran Church



Words of Welcome

Opening Sentences

P We begin in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P The Lord is our righteous Shepherd.

C He does not scatter us, but gathers us together.

P He makes us lie down in green pastures

C and feeds us with the bread of life.

P He leads us in paths of righteousness

C by breaking down our dividing walls of hostility.

P Jesus looked out upon the people and had compassion on them

C because they were like sheep without a shepherd. (Mark 6:34)

Opening Hymn

LSB 709 | "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in
fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
love He sought me And on His shoul - der
I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.

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Confession of Our Sins

P Beloved in the Lord, we have not lived a life worthy of our righteous Shepherd. We have all built dividing walls of hostility. Let us then confess our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

(Silence for personal reflection and confession.)

P Heavenly Father,

C we confess that we have been divisive and have failed to live at peace with one another. At times, we have treated others as inferior because of differences of language and race, intelligence and appearance, gender and age. Forgive us for our prejudice, and break down the walls that divide us from one another and from You. Amen.

Forgiveness of Our Sins

P You were once foreigners and strangers to God, but now you have been brought near by the blood of Christ. He Himself is our peace. Jesus Christ died and was raised for you so that you

might be reconciled with God and with one another. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen. Through Christ we are no longer strangers, but we are members of the household of God.

Hymn of Affirmation

LSB 709 | "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear
Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my
com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!

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Prayer of the Day

P God of compassion, when You saw that we were like sheep without a shepherd, You sent Your Son, Jesus, to shepherd us. Keep alive in us Your spirit of compassion for the world, until all people come to know Your Shepherd's care; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

First Reading | Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture! declares the LORD.

²Therefore, this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds who shepherd My people. You have scattered My flock. You have driven them away. You have not taken care of them, but I will certainly take care of you, because of the evil things you have done, declares the LORD. ³I will gather what is left of My flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their pastures. They will be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them. They will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing, declares the LORD. ⁵Listen, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, who will reign wisely as King and establish justice and righteousness on earth. ⁶In His days Judah will be saved and Israel will dwell securely. This is His name by which He will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Second Reading | Ephesians 2:11-22

¹¹Therefore, remember that at one time, you Gentiles in the flesh—the ones who are called “uncircumcised” by those called “the circumcised” (which is performed physically by human hands)—¹²remember that at that time you were separated from Christ, excluded from the citizenship of Israel, and foreigners to the covenants of the promise. You were without hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus, you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For He Himself is our Peace. He made the two groups one by destroying the wall of hostility that divided them ¹⁵when He abolished the law of commandments and regulations in His flesh. He did this to create in Himself one new person out of the two, in this way making peace. ¹⁶And He did this to reconcile both to God in one body through the cross by putting the hostility to death on it. ¹⁷He also came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸For through Him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. ¹⁹So then, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of God’s household. ²⁰You have been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the Cornerstone. ²¹In Him the whole building is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²²In Him you too are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Holy Gospel | Mark 6:30-44

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to Him all that they had done and taught. ³¹He said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a secluded place and rest a while.” For there were so many people coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat. ³²They went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³But many people saw them leave and knew where they were going. They ran there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴When Jesus stepped out of the boat, He saw a large crowd. His heart went out to them because they were like sheep without a shepherd. He began to teach them many things. ³⁵It was already late in the day when His disciples came to Him and said, “This is a deserted place and it is already very late. ³⁶Send them away so they can go into the surrounding country and villages and buy themselves something to eat.” ³⁷But He answered them, “You give them something to eat.” They asked Him, “Should we go and buy two hundred denarii-worth of bread and give them something to eat?” ³⁸He said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go see.” When they found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.” ³⁹He directed everyone to sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰They sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. ⁴¹Jesus took the five loaves and the two fish, looked up to heaven, and blessed the loaves and broke them. Then He kept giving pieces to His disciples to set in front of them. He also divided the two fish among them all. ⁴²They all ate and were satisfied. ⁴³Then they picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. ⁴⁴There were five thousand men who ate the loaves.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Response of Faith | A Statement of Belief

A *We believe in one God. God the Almighty Father made everything that exists, even those things we cannot see.*

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ. He is the eternal Son of God, and is really God Himself. In order to save us from our sins, He came down from heaven and by the power of the Holy Spirit He was born a man, the child of the virgin Mary. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate, and died and was buried. As the Bible had foretold, He rose from the dead on the third day. He returned to heaven, and rules there with God the Father. He will come back in glory to judge all people, and He will rule forever.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who is the giver of life. He is to be worshiped and glorified together with the Father and the Son. He speaks to us in the Bible. We believe that all Christians are called to be members of the Body of Christ, the Church. We believe that our sins are forgiven in Baptism, and we look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and the eternal life promised to us. Amen.

Hymn of the Day

LSB 711 | "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we
2 We are Yours; in love be - friend us, Be the
need Your ten - der care. In Your pleas - ant pas - tures
guard - ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de -
feed us, For our use Your fold pre - pare.
fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray.
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us
bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,
chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,
bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.

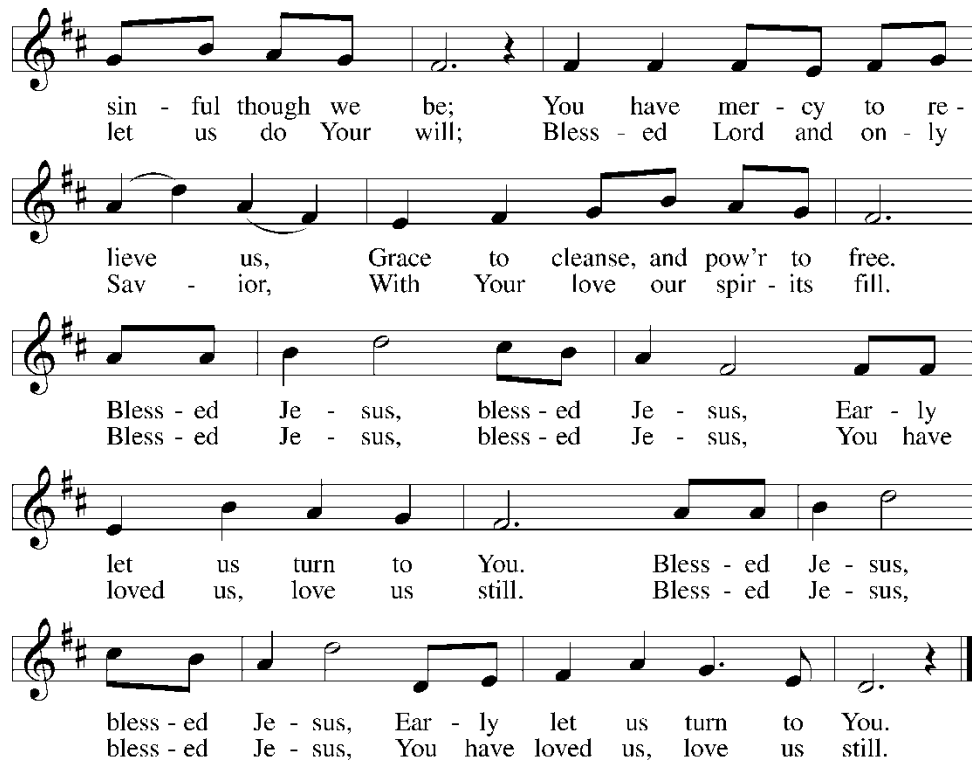
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Message

Hymn of Response

LSB 711 | "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and
4 Ear - ly let us seek Your fa - vor, Ear - ly



sin - ful though we be; You have mer - cy to re -
let us do Your will; Bless - ed Lord and on - ly

lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Sav - ior, With Your love our spir - its fill.

Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly
Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have

let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,
loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,

bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.
bless - ed Je - sus, You have loved us, love us still.

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Prayers of God's People

- P** Merciful Father, You have compassion upon Your people and supply our needs from the riches of Your grace. Grant to us hearts that trust in Your mercy and thankful spirits that we may acknowledge Your many blessings with a grateful heart. Lord in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** When we face challenges, give us hearts of faith that we may see Your hand at work in our lives. Give us a contented spirit that we may not be anxious about our wants. Help us learn that You supply all we need for this body and this life and that You lead us through death to the eternal life to come. Lord in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Guide those who lead us in this land; make them love peace and work to end violence and injustice wherever it is found. Bless the armed forces and support personnel who guard our freedom and bless those who protect us, from police to border patrol, firefighters to emergency personnel. Lord in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Raise up strong and faithful leaders in our congregation that we may all be inspired and encouraged in daily witness to Your Gospel and in daily service to those in need. Lord in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Guide husband and wife, parent and child, that they may trust in You for all things, show forth a forgiving heart in their relationships, and keep our homes as places of blessing and love in Christ. Lord in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

P Be the strength of the weak, the relief of the suffering, the comfort of the grieving, and the peace of the dying (especially . . .) that all who cry to You for mercy may find healing, relief, and peace in Your gracious will. Lord in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Make us strong in faith, that we may receive the gifts of Your table to our benefit, confessing Jesus Christ with our mouths and serving Him with our lives. Accept the tithes and offerings we bring as part of our worship and bring us at last to the day when we and all Your people will be one in Your presence forevermore. Lord in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

(Special petitions may be offered.)

P For these and whatsoever else we should ask, merciful Father, grant us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

Prayer before the Meal

P Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we ask You, dear Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament, that we may be renewed and refreshed. At the command and promise of our Lord, we are bold to pray:

A *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 Our Lord | Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ Blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Distribution Hymns

LSB 644 | "The Church's One Foundation"



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees her op - pressed,
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.
Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
By schisms rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis - tressed,
She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
 Yet saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
 Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
 And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.
 And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.

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LSB 710 | "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want"



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me
 2 My soul He doth re - store a - gain And me to
 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I
 4 My ta - ble Thou hast fur - nish - ed In pres - ence
 5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my life Shall sure - ly



down to lie In pas - tures green; He
 walk doth make With - in the paths of
 fear no ill; For Thou art with me,
 of my foes; My head Thou dost with
 fol - low me; And in God's house for -



lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.
 righ - teous - ness, E'en for His own name's sake.
 and Thy rod And staff me com - fort still.
 oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.
 ev - er - more My dwell - ing place shall be.

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LSB 725 | "Children of the Heavenly Father"



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
 2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
 4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
 Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose

heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
 show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
 sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

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LSB 649 | "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

1 Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris - tian love;
 2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne We pour our ar - dent prayers;
 3 We share our mu - tual woes, Our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
 4 When here our path - ways part, We suf - fer bit - ter pain;
 5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free

The fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds Is like to that a - bove.
 Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our com - forts and our cares.
 And of - ten for each oth - er flows The sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 Yet, one in Christ and one in heart, We hope to meet a - gain.
 And per - fect love and friend - ship reign Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

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Dismissal

P The body and blood of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, strengthen you in the true faith and preserve you in His grace to life everlasting. Depart in ☩ peace.

G Amen.

Benediction | Numbers 6:24-26

P The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

G Amen.

Parting Hymn

LSB 922 | "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

1 Go, My chil - dren, with My bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.
 2 Go, My chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
 3 Go, My chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, Clos - er to Me;

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My
 Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free. Here My

love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you Mine for - ev - er.
 heard My dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo - ry.
 Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here His ten - der com - fort stilled you.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing— You are My own.
Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Joy-ful and free.

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Sending

P Go in peace to compassionately serve in the name of our righteous Shepherd!

G Thanks be to God!

Postlude