

**LORD’S PRAYER** (ELW p. 208)  
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**  
The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

**COMMUNION**  
*All are welcome to God's table of Grace! Individually wrapped gluten free wafers are available for you to pick up from the table in front of the baptismal font.*

**COMMUNION SONG** (ELW p.208)  
*O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away; you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray. O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away; you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray. O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away; eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**  
Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**BLESSING**  
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. **Amen.**

**SENDING SONG** “O LIVING BREAD FROM HEAVEN” ELW 542

**DISMISSAL** (ELW p. 209)  
Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS		CONTACT US:	
The Rev. Dr. Keith Copeland Mike Hix, Organ button pusher		Pastor - Rev. Dr. Keith Copeland; (704) 201-6633 <a href="mailto:pastorkeith@stlukeselca.org">pastorkeith@stlukeselca.org</a>	
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Communion	Dreema Brunnemer &	<u>Mailing Address</u>	
Assistants:	Kristy Elgart	P.O. Box 11063	
Audio/Video:	Ami-Lusie Vucovich	Charlotte, NC 28220-1063	
Ushers:	Mark Elgart		
Altar Guild:	Karen Smith		
Altar Flowers:			
Friendship Room:	NO FRIENDSHIP ROOM		

**Saint Luke’s Lutheran Church**  
3200 Park Road Charlotte, NC 28209 (704) 523-7981  
The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 3, 2025



**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVNESS**  
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 sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG** “IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST ” ELW 650

**GREETING** (ELW p. 203)  
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.**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE** (ELW p. 204)  
*Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth. Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth: we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise. Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love. Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav’n above; on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God’s right hand. Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand. Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call; Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all: Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father’s splendor bright. For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** (ELW p. 205)  
Let us pray. Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S CHURCH SUMMER PROGRAM**

**FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23 (NRSV OT p.754)**  
<sup>2</sup> Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. <sup>12</sup> I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. <sup>14</sup> I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind. <sup>2:18</sup> I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, <sup>19</sup> and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. <sup>20</sup> So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, <sup>21</sup> because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. <sup>22</sup> What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? <sup>23</sup> For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

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

**SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-11 (NRSV NT p.246)**  
<sup>1</sup> So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. <sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup> On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup> These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup> But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup> In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)**  
*Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.*

**GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21 (NRSV NT p.90)**

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” <sup>16</sup> Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup> And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup> Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup> So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY “BREAK NOW THE BREAD OF LIFE ” ELW 515**

**CREED (ELW p. 105)**  
**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 OF INTERCESSION**  
...God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

...and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

**PEACE**

**OFFERING**  
**OFFERTORY - SAXAPHONE SOLIST - ERIC HILLESTAD**  
We wanted to share the words of this song with the congregation. We will be singing later this month.

For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread,  
A shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead.  
And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:  
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!  
For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be,  
To work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free.

**OFFERING RESPONSE ELW 188**  
*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.*

**OFFERING PRAYER**  
Creator God, 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.**

**DIALOGUE (ELW p. 206)**  
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 our thanks and praise.**

**PREFACE (ELW p. 207)**

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 207)**  
*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow’r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest,*

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 207)**