

**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. Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**FAREWELL AND GODSPEED**

**BLESSING**  
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.**

**SENDING SONG** “*LEAD ON, O KING ETERNAL!*” **ELW 805**

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

**POSTLUDE**

**Saint Luke’s Lutheran Church**

3200 Park Road The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost  
Charlotte, NC 28209  
(704) 523-7981 August 24, 2025



**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVNESS**  
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin. Merciful God, **you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God’s children through faith. In the cross of Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG** “*WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD*” **ELW 870**

**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. O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S CHURCH SUMMER PROGRAM**

**TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS**

The Rev. Dr. Keith Copeland  
Chris Micci, Organ button pusher

Assisting Minister:

Greeter:

Reader: Julie Bartlett

Communion: Julie Bartlett &

Assistants: Kristy Elgart

Audio/Video:

Ushers: Bob Morris

Altar Guild: Yvonne Poole Ritchie

Altar Flowers:

Friendship Room: NO FRIENDSHIP ROOM

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**FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:9b-14 (NRSV OT p.842)**  
<sup>9b</sup> If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, <sup>10</sup> if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. <sup>11</sup> The LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail. <sup>12</sup> Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. <sup>13</sup> If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests or pursuing your own affairs; <sup>14</sup> then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

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

**SECOND READING: Hebrews 12:18-29 (NRSV NT p.275)**  
<sup>18</sup> You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, <sup>19</sup> and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. <sup>20</sup> (For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.” <sup>21</sup> Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.”) <sup>22</sup> But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, <sup>23</sup> and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup> and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. <sup>25</sup> See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! <sup>26</sup> At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.” <sup>27</sup> This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. <sup>28</sup> Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, <sup>29</sup> for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

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 13:10-17 (NRSV NT p.92)**

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

<sup>10</sup> Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. <sup>11</sup> And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. <sup>12</sup> When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” <sup>13</sup> When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. <sup>14</sup> But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day.” <sup>15</sup> But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? <sup>16</sup> And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?” <sup>17</sup> When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

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

**SERMON**  
**HYMN OF THE DAY “GUIDE ME EVER, GREAT REDEEMER” ELW 618**  
**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**  
...Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**  
...through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **Amen.**

**PEACE**  
**OFFERING**  
**OFFERTORY VIOLINIST, ELIZA JOHNSON**

**OFFERING RESPONSE ELW 181**  
*Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.*

**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)**  
**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.*