

Peace Lutheran Church of Lake Zurich



Sunday, September 8, 2024
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

WELCOME

Peace to all who enter here. You are welcome in this place.

PRELUDE

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Please rise as you are able and face the font. You may make the sign of the cross as a way of remembering your baptism.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us
cause conflicts and disputes.**

**In our desire to be first
we make distinctions among ourselves.**

We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.

In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.

**Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ,
the source of eternal healing,
your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” (ELW 886 sts. 1, 3, 4-5)

1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

3 The name of Jesus charms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings life and health and peace.

4 He speaks, and list'ning to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

GREETING (ACS p. 30)

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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 (ELW p. 33)

Let us pray.

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord.

Amen.

You may be seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S WORD

Children from birth through Sunday School are invited forward for a special moment of preparation before the proclamation of God's word in the assembly.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a (pg. 578)

A reading from Isaiah.

These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ^{7a}the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 146 (pg. 507)

Let us respond to the word we heard in unison with Psalm 146.

¹**Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!**

²**I will praise the LORD as long as I live;**

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³**Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.**

⁴**When they breathe their last, they return to earth,
and in that day their thoughts perish.**

⁵**Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the LORD their God;**

⁶**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps promises forever;**

⁷**who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The LORD sets the captive free.**

⁸**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed
down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹**The LORD cares for the stranger;
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the
wicked.**

¹⁰**The LORD shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING: James 2:1-17 (pg. 980)

A reading from James.

Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. [¹¹For the one who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.]

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please rise as you are able to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ACS p. 33)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Mark 7:24-37 (pg. 819)

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be seated.

MESSAGE

Rev. Daniel Morris

A moment of silence for reflection is kept after the message.

Please rise as you are able to proclaim the gospel in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY *“Healer of Our Every Ill” (ELW 612 sts. 1-3)*

Refrain: Healer of our ev'ry ill,
light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear,
and hope beyond our sorrow.

2 In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love.

Refrain

1 You who know our fears and
sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts.

Refrain

3 Give us strength to love each other,
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide.

Refrain

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Awaken in our communities of faith a spirit of radical hospitality. Encourage our churches to celebrate and embrace people of diverse backgrounds, experiences, and abilities. Deepen our commitment to ecumenical and interreligious partnerships.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bring forth water to nourish plants and animals in places suffering from drought. Renew our commitments to protect rivers, lakes, and streams, and make us good stewards of water in our homes and communities. Preserve wetland habitats and the creatures that make their homes there. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Inspire leaders of cities, nations, and tribes to lead with wisdom and humility. Bring peace among peoples in conflict and strengthen global commitments to nonviolent solutions. Guide all who seek refuge from war to a safe haven. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Comfort all who live with chronic illness. Surround them in your tender embrace and sustain all who provide ongoing care and support. Bring hope and healing to people struggling with addiction and nourish the spirits of all who are in recovery. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Nurture in all people the gift of your creating Spirit. Inspire artists and musicians, woodworkers and quilters, poets and dancers. Revive those whose artistic wells have run dry and enliven all who doubt their creative talents. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Give every good gift to those we remember in prayer this week, especially Mike, Wally, Chuck, Stephen, MaryKate & Ivy, Bruce & Anne, and Ethan. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Hear now the prayers we offer aloud and in the silence of our heart...(*...long pause.....*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for all who have died and now find their rest in you. May their faithful witness guide us in our daily life with you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE (*ELW p. 35*)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

All may greet one another with a handshake in the name of the Lord, saying "Peace be with you." Afterwards, you may be seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Your offering this morning supports the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

OFFERING "*Light Dawns on a Weary World*" (*ELW 726*)

1 Light dawns on a weary world
when eyes begin to see
all people's dignity.

Light dawns on a weary world:
the promised day of justice comes.

2 Love grows in a weary world
when hungry hearts find bread
and children's dreams are fed.
Love grows in a weary world:
the promised feast of plenty comes.

Refrain

Refrain: The trees shall clap their hands;
the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and mountains shall break forth
with singing!

We shall go out in joy,
and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in wonder echoes
shalom.

3 Hope blooms in a weary world
when creatures, once forlorn,
find wilderness reborn.
Hope blooms in a weary world:
the promised green of Eden comes.

Refrain

Please rise as you are able when the offering is brought forward.

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God,
source of every gift of your creation.
By these gifts and with our lives,
help us to serve one another and all in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE *(ACS p. 36)*

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 *(ACS p. 36)*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *(ACS p. 36)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and God of might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,

you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.

You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,

and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.

You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life given for us and his rising from the grave,

we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:

strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,

and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER (ACS p. 39)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

Jesus welcomes you to this table.

Come, here is your God.

You may be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord Jesus Christ welcomes you to the table. He is truly present for you in the eating and drinking offering forgiveness of sin, eternal life, and salvation to all who trust his words.

Children are welcome to commune, "for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs" (Luke 18:16). The ushers will invite you forward to encircle the Lord's Table and receive the bread with wine (red) or grape juice (white). Gluten free wafers are available upon request. You may join hands to receive the blessing before returning to your seat.

COMMUNION SONG (ACS p. 40)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN “*Here Is Bread*” (ELW 483)

1 Here is bread, here is wine,
Christ is with us, he is with us.
Break the bread, taste the wine,
Christ is with us here.

2 Here is grace, here is peace,
Christ is with us, he is with us.
Know his grace, find his peace,
feast on Jesus here. *Refrain*

4 Here we are, joined in one,
Christ is with us, he is with us.
We'll proclaim till he comes
Jesus crucified. *Refrain*

6 In this place, we are healed,
Christ is with us, he is with us.
He the plow, we the field,
Grain to feed the world. *Refrain*

Refrain

In this bread there is healing, in this
cup is life forever.

In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is
with us here.

3 Here we are, joined in one,
Christ is with us, he is with us.
We'll proclaim till he comes
Jesus crucified. *Refrain*

5 Here we pray, sing our songs,
Christ is with us, he is with us.
Knows our words, sings along,
Feeds us with his love. *Refrain*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy God,
you have welcomed us to this meal
and fed us with dignity at your table.
Send us now to welcome others a
nd to be at peace with one another,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please rise as you are able for the blessing.

BLESSING

God all mighty,

God most merciful

✝ bless you, keep you,
and give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING SONG “*Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace*” (ELW 716)

1 Lord of all nations, grant me grace
to love all people, ev'ry race;
and in each person may I see
my kindred, loved, redeemed by thee.

3 Forgive me, Lord, where I have
erred
by loveless act and thoughtless word.
Make me to see the wrong I do
will crucify my Lord anew.

5 With thine own love may I be filled
and by thy Holy Spirit willed,
that all I touch, where'er I be,
may be divinely touched by thee.

2 Break down the wall that would
divide
thy children, Lord, on ev'ry side.
My neighbor's good let me pursue;
let Christian love bind warm and true.

4 Give me thy courage, Lord, to
speak
whenever strong oppress the weak.
Should I myself the victim be,
help me forgive, rememb'ring thee.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

GRATITUDE – So much gratitude for everyone who has contributed to worship today.