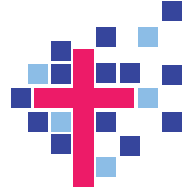


Eighth Sunday after PENTECOST



Welcome to Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

*By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to:
Worship God, Grow in faith, Share the Gospel, Serve others, Welcome all*



As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!



WELCOME

Pastor Dave Thomas

PRELUDE

Dean Robinson, organist

Kyrie – Girolamo Cavazzoni

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation.
Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

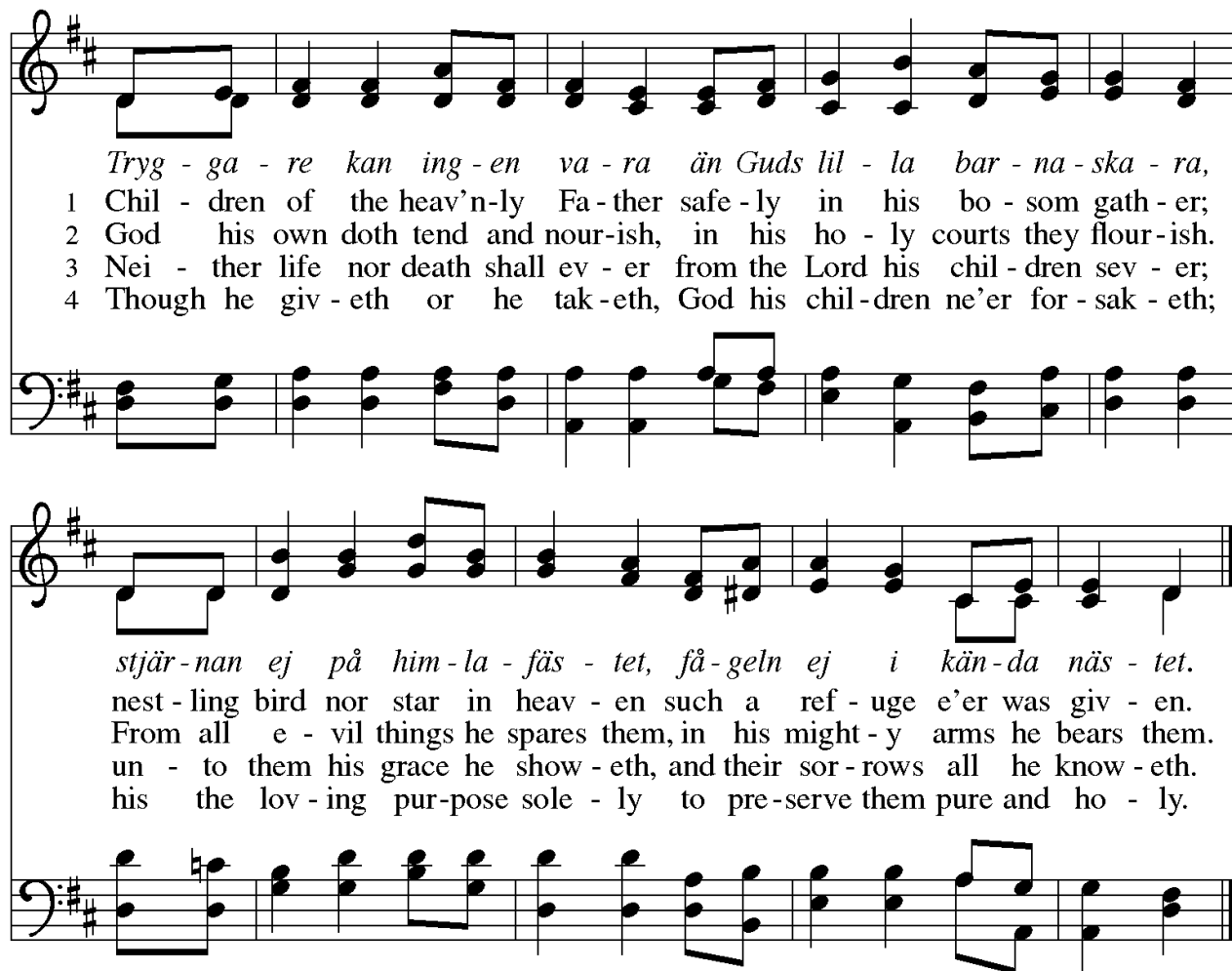
We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

Children of the Heavenly Father


Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
 1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak-eth, God his chil-dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.
 nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
 un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
 his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune

Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING

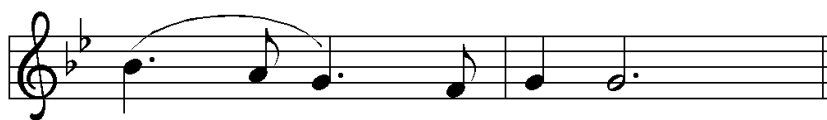
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

KYRIE

ELW Holy Communion: Setting Nine



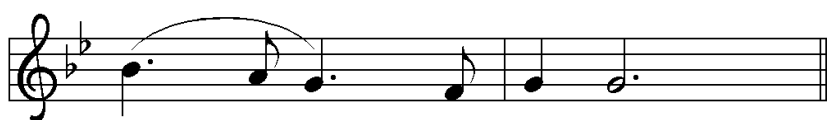
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



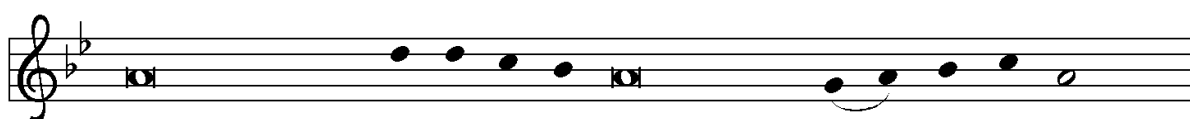
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



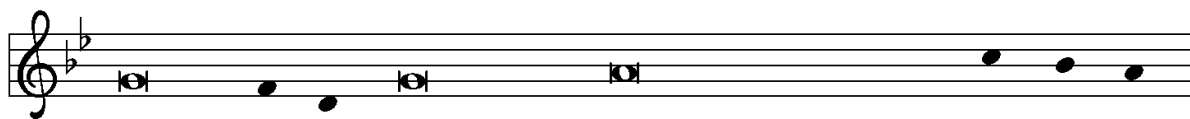
For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of



God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



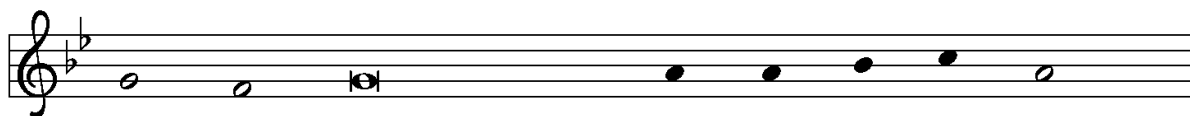
For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and



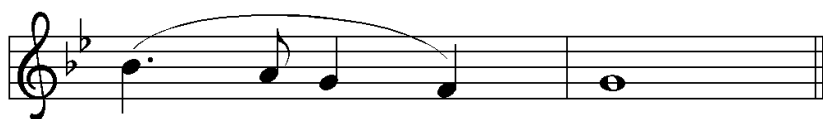
praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

CANTICLE

ELW Holy Communion: Setting Nine

Glory to God

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav'n - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the

Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the

Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray: Good and Gracious God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, inspire and enable us to grow in faith, share the gospel, and serve in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
- C **who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**



LESSONS

THE FIRST LESSON

1 Kings 3:5-12 (NRSV)

Because Solomon did not ask for long life, riches, or the defeat of his enemies, God gave him what he asked for: wisdom to govern the people well.

L A reading from First Kings.

⁵At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

THE PSALM

*Psalms 119:129-136 (NRSV)**When your word is opened, it gives light and understanding. (Ps. 119:130)*

- ¹²⁹Your de- | crees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with | all my heart.
- ¹³⁰**When your word is opened | it gives light;
it gives understanding | to the simple.**
- ¹³¹I open my | mouth and pant
because I long for | your commandments.
- ¹³²**Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,
as you always do to those who | love your name.**
- ¹³³Order my footsteps | in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion | over me.
- ¹³⁴**Rescue me from those | who oppress me,
and I will keep | your commandments.**
- ¹³⁵Let your face shine up- | on your servant
and teach | me your statutes.
- ¹³⁶**My eyes shed | streams of tears,
because people do not | keep your teaching.**
-

THE SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:26-39 (NRSV)

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

L A reading from Romans.

²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

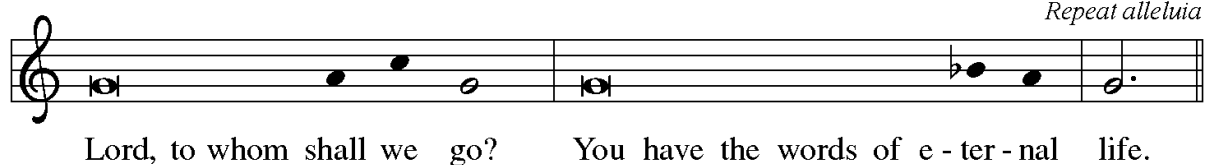
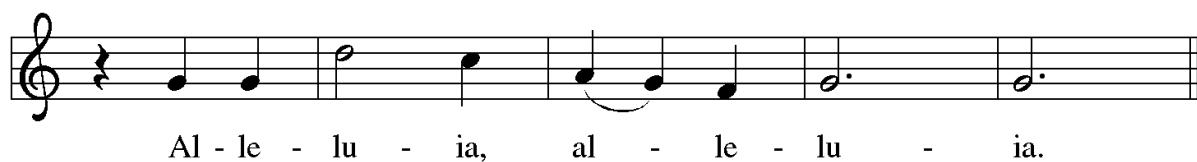
³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW Holy Communion: Setting Nine



THE GOSPEL

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (NRSV)

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.

P The Holy Gospel as recorded in St. Matthew the 13th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Dave Thomas

Parallel Parables: From Small Beginnings Come Great Results

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #776

What God Ordains is Good Indeed

1 What God or-dains is good in-deed, for all life well pro - vid - ing.
 2 What God or-dains is good in-deed: my light, my life, my Sav - ior!
 3 What God or-dains is good in-deed. When hope seems like de - lu - sion,
 4 What God or-dains is good in-deed. My Lord will nev - er fail me

The will of God is best for me, the ground of my con - fid - ing.
 No ill can get the best of me; God's care will nev - er wa - ver.
 I taste the bit - ter cup and plead, "Lord, quench my fear, con - fu - sion."
 on dan-ger's path, in deep-est need, when death in grief shall veil me.

My faith - ful God, on ev - 'ry road you know the way un -
 Through joy and pain I shall at - tain the dawn dis - clos - ing
 God ends the night, re - stores de - light; by faith I face to -
 My God so dear will draw me near, in lov - ing arms will

fold - ing and my hand you are hold - ing.
 clear - ly that God has loved me dear - ly.
 mor - row and yield to God all sor - row.
 hold me, at last in light en - fold me.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Each petition ends, "Lord, in your mercy."

To which the congregation responds, "**Hear our prayer.**"

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

OFFERING

Dean Robinson, organist

Our Father, God in Heaven Above – ELW #746

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

- P May God Creator bless you and keep you.
May Christ be ever light for your life.
May the Spirit of Love be your guide and your path for all of your days.
In the name of the Father, and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**
-



For the Fruit of All Creation

1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

SENT TO SERVE

P Jesus said, "As I have been sent, so also I send you."

By God's grace, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, we are called to:

**C Worship God,
Grow in Faith,
Share the Gospel,
Serve Others,
Welcome All. — Thanks be to God!**

