

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

August 20th, 2023



MEMORIAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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Memorial Lutheran Church | Nevada, Iowa

Prelude: *"The Lord's My Shepherd/Sweet Hour of Prayer"* - arr. Anne Crosby Gaude
Stacie Link, harp

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who greets us in this and every season,
whose word never fails,
whose promise is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have hurt our community.
We have squandered your blessings.
We have hoarded your bounty.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have failed to be honest.
We have lacked the courage to speak.
We have spoken falsely.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.
God offers boundless grace when we fail.
Claim the gift of God's mercy:
you are freed and forgiven
in the name of + Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Gathering Song: "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" ELW #886

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

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Lector: Jeff Seyller

¹Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸Thus says the Lord God,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

The Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Lector: Jeff Seyller

[Paul writes:] ¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

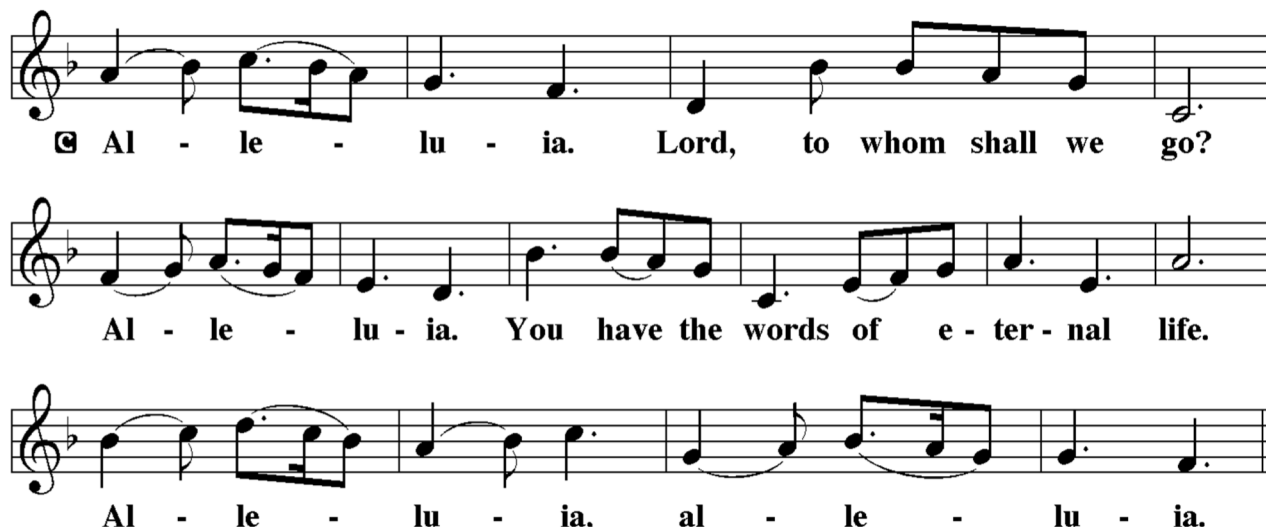
²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Children at Heart Sermon

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Reading: Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

The Gospel according to Matthew

Glory to You, O Lord

[¹⁰[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand:¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles."

¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" ¹³He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." ¹⁵But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." ¹⁶Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."]

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "Commonwealth is God's Commandment" ACS #1036



- 1 Com-mon-wealth is God's com-mand-ment; com-mon goods are meant to share.
- 2 Shar-ing lav-ish gifts and bless-ings, love that not one mite with-holds,
- 3 Gen-ders, rac-es, tribes, and na-tions, hear the Ho-ly One who calls,



Ta-bles set and doors wide o-pen wel-come an-gels un-a-ware.
stretch out arms to friends and strang-ers: God has sheep of man-y folds.
bid-ding all to work to-geth-er, bridg-ing lives and breach-ing walls.



Plead for the peace of all cre-a-tion. Pray for a place where grace is found.



Shan-ti, pax, sha-lom, mas-la-ha: com-mon good is ho-ly ground.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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Apostles' Creed

**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

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

Music Voluntary: *“Angel’s Hymn”* - Rhett Barnwell

Stacie Link, harp

Offering Prayer

God of field and forest, sea and sky,

you are the giver of all good things.

Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,

and multiply your graciousness in us,

that the world may be fed with your love,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

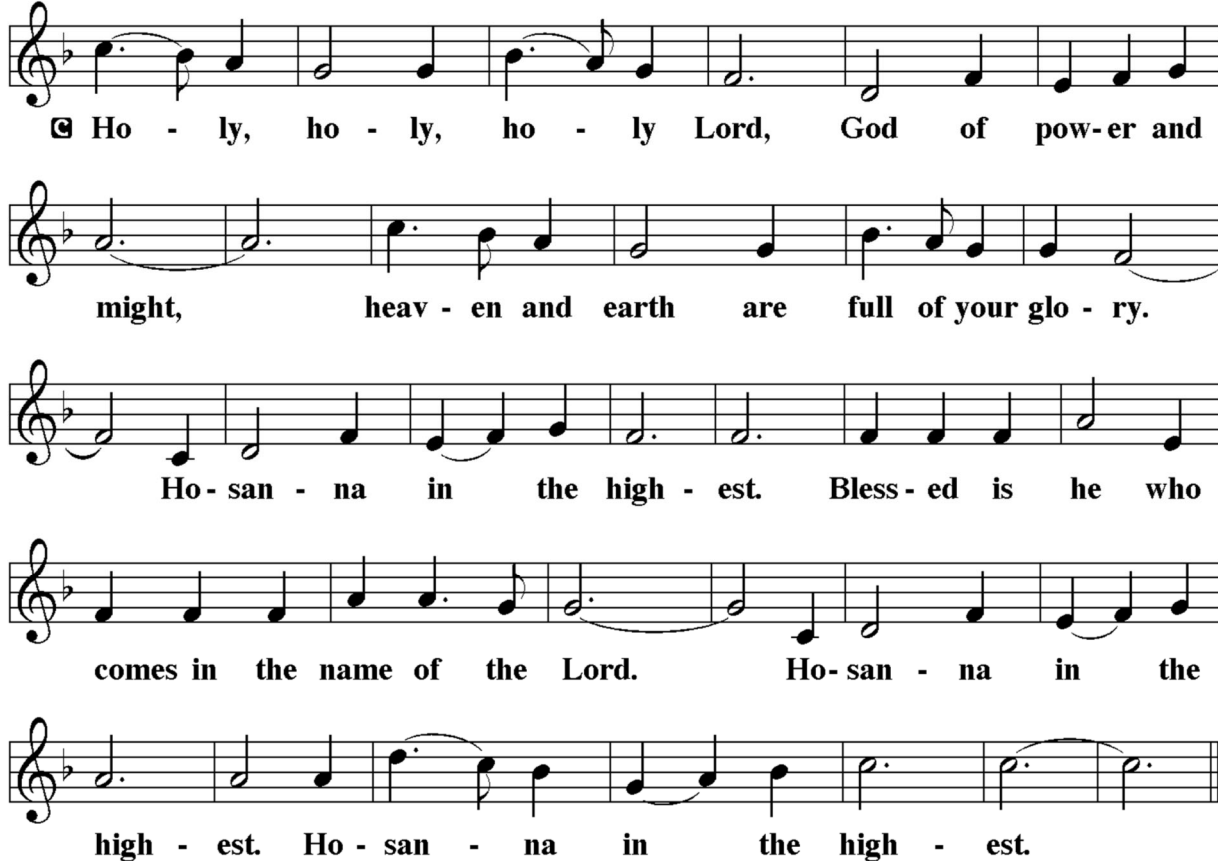
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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

All people are called to Christ's table.
Come, eat what is good.

Hymns during Communion

"We Come Now to Your Table" ACS #970

"My Faith Looks up to Thee" ELW #759

We Come Now to Your Table, Lord



We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread.



We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed.



You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed:



and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed with Liv - ing Bread.

Text: Caribbean Conference of Churches Jamaica workshop

Music: LIVING BREAD, St. Vincent traditional, adapt.; arr. Patrick Prescod, 1932–2013

Text and music © Caribbean Conference of Churches

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Prayer after Communion

We thank you, generous God,
for the refreshment we have received
at your banquet table.

Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,
through the one who is our dearest treasure,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Announcements

Blessing

The God who calls across the cosmos
and speaks in the smallest seed
+ bless, keep, and sustain you
now and to the end of the age.

Amen.

Sending Hymn: *“Rise, Shine, You People”* ELW #665

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude: *“Rose Madder”* - Anne Crosby Gaudet
Stacie Link, harp

Prayers for Healing

If you have a prayer request, please email pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org or emily@mlcnevada.org, or call the church office at 515-382-6509.

*Please keep Nancy Christian and family in your prayers
following the death of her husband, +Larry Christian*

*Please keep Norma Jean Smith and family in your prayers
following the death of her son, +Darrel Smith*

*Prayers for the family and friends of +Tina Palmisano following her death
(sister-in-law of Virginia Palmisano-Goettsch)*

Prayers for the family and friends of +Georgiann Grant following her death

Prayers for the family and friends of +David Blumer following his death

Andrea & John Snyder	Jacobson	Norma Dannan
Wayne Kinyon	Carol Vincent	<i>friend of Betty Runge</i>
Kathy Lynn Johnson	Cassie Harrell	Jami Tharp
Christina King	Jean Smith	Fred Samuelson
Sherry Kluever	Annette Dalthorp	Jaylee Bartleson
Dick Settle	Ellie Lynch	Sheila Collingwood
Kim Elliott	Ernie Ruhde	<i>mother of Lyndsey De Vos</i>
Jenny Adelmund	Sierra Parr	Judy Coverdale
Jan Seibel	<i>cousin of Kim Stieler</i>	Family and friends of +James Stephens
Jeanie & Jerry Gibson	Janet Jacques	George Forsyth
Marsha Kane	Easton Farrington	Janeen Driscoll
Pr. Marcia Kisner	Janice Hartz	Lynn Harris
Marlene Waddell	Connie Krupp	Julie Sutherland
<i>friend of Virginia Palmisano- Goettsch</i>	Jackie Byers	Jan Cook
	<i>daughter of Shellie Black</i>	
Sandy Muesburger	Donna See	
<i>friend of Virginia Palmisano- Goettsch</i>	Katie Brockmeier	
	<i>granddaughter-in-law of Ruth Brockmeier</i>	
John Bass		
<i>son-in-law of Ron & Gloria</i>		

Announcements

Attention Youth and Families: Introducing *Wednesday Night Live!*#

Calling kids and youth of all ages of Memorial Lutheran! **You're invited!** This year we are starting something new... We want to invite you to bring a friend and join us for *Wednesday Night Live!* Come and engage with God, Scripture, and other young people each Wednesday evening from 6:30-7:30 PM beginning August 30.

What will each night look like?

We'll all gather together in the Sanctuary for a time of opening before going into more age-specific groups. After the opening we will head into our small groups to go deeper with the Bible lesson for the day in various ways. We're looking forward to a variety of activities including art, games, service activities, and more. The plan is for the groupings to be as follows: pre-K/K, 1st/2nd, 3rd/4th, and 5th/6th, 7th-9th grade Confirmation students will go with Pastor Kathleen and remaining High Schoolers will go to Youth Group. Before the evening wraps up we'll head back to the big group to close our time out together.

Do I need to bring anything?

For most of you the answer is "Nope, just yourself and hopefully a friend!" If you are a Confirmation student, however, please bring your Bible with you.

What if I can't make it every single Wednesday?

No problem. We just hope you'll make it as often as you can. Activities tend to be more fun when more people show up. If we try to show up for each other we'll all help each other to have a positive experience.

Will there be anything happening for kids on Sunday mornings this year?

Yes! After kids have had an opportunity to enjoy a treat in the Fellowship Hall after church, they will be invited to watch the Whirl video based on the week's lessons in the Chapel. There will be conversation about the day's Bible readings and what it means for us today.

How do I get signed up for Wednesday Night Live?

You can grab a registration form at church or you can fill out the online form here: <https://bit.ly/459i0xu> or by visiting mlcnevada.org.

*There will be a raffle at our first gathering on August 30. Each student present will get one ticket for a chance to win a prize. Each student with their registration form submitted by Wednesday, August 23 will have a second ticket in the drawing on that first evening. Can't wait to welcome you at Wednesday Night Live!
See you Wednesday, August 30!*

Important Reminder Regarding Giving to Special Projects

We so appreciate gifts received for special projects such as “A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place” (heating and cooling) and “Drive for the Drive” (pavement). If you would like to support these projects, please make sure to specify the project name with your gift. This ensures that your gift goes directly to the project and helps us keep an accurate record of funds received / still needed. Thank you for your support!

Bishops RAGBRAI Ride has raised over \$70,000 to Fight Hunger

The Bishops' RAGBRAI Team completed an awesome week biking across the state. Supported by the hospitality and generosity of you and your congregations (and so much pie!) The current team total is over \$70,000 with more donations arriving at the synod offices daily.

The three synods will continue adding to the total until September 1, so it's not too late to join the cause! Be on the lookout for highlights of 50 ministries fighting hunger across Iowa and photos and videos from the ride in the coming weeks. **THANK YOU!**

CROP Walk at Lincoln Highway Days Parade

Watch for the CROP Walk float on Saturday, August 26th at 10am. Want to walk with us? Contact Pr. Kathleen at pastorkathleen@mlcnevada.org or call the office at 515-382-6509.

Golf Outing at Indian Creek Country Club

We have reserved some Tee Times between 2pm and 3pm on Sunday, September 17th, 2023 at Indian Creek Country Club. The format will be 9 hole best shot so it doesn't matter if you are a golfer or not. We just want folks to come out for the fellowship and enjoy a nice fall day outside. The cost is \$25 per person to golf 9 holes with a cart, and we will also be accepting donations for Memorial's “Drive for the Drive” pavement project. Please contact Emily at the church office at 515-382-6509 to sign up or just show up Sunday, September 17th at 2pm and we will put you with a group if you don't have one.

There's room for YOU in our handbell and vocal choirs!

Memorial Handbells: Rehearsals resume on Tuesday, August 29, 6:00 - 7:15 pm. Several anthems programmed for this year are scored for two choirs. Hence, we are seeking more people to build our ringer list. Now is a great time to try playing this beautiful instrument that requires no previous musical knowledge. Contact Lois Theesfield if interested.

Memorial Choir: Rehearsals resume on Tuesday, August 29, 7:30 - 8:45 pm. This is a great time to join our family of singers. Our intergenerational choir welcomes high schoolers through seniors. Singing for two Sunday liturgies a month, Memorial Choir is dedicated to supporting the congregational song and enhancing worship with attendant choral literature. We warmly welcome YOU into our singing family! "O Come, let us sing unto the Lord."

You're Invited: Thursday Morning Bible Study in Chapel

You're invited to join Pr. Kathleen in reading the upcoming weekend texts together every Thursday morning from 8:30-9:30am in the Chapel. All are welcome to stop in!

Camping with Memorial September 23rd - 24th

Planning for our annual camping outing at Hickory Grove is in the works! It's not too early to reserve your spot for the weekend of September 23/24: **please note that if you intend to stay the night, you must secure your own campsite by contacting the campground.** Stay tuned for more details for this fun weekend.

Online Giving with Tithe.ly

Thank you for joining us for worship today! If you would like to support our ministries, online gifts can be made using <http://tithe.ly/give> or by scanning the QR code.

Did you know? In Tithe.ly, you can select to give to the General Fund, A Welcoming Space = A Welcoming Place (heating and cooling project), or the Drive for the Drive pavement project!



Save the Date

Thursday Morning Bible Study

When: Thursday, August 24th, 8:30—9:30 am

Where: MLC Chapel

CROP Walk at Lincoln Highway Days Parade

When: Saturday, August 26th 10am

Memorial Handbell and Vocal Choir Rehearsals Resume

When: Tuesday, August 29th: Handbells meets from 6:00 - 7:15 pm,
Memorial Choir meets from 7:30 - 8:45 pm.

Wednesday Night Live

When: Wednesday, August 30th, 6:30—7:30pm

Memorial Serves Food at First

When: Thursday, August 31st

Beer & Theology (first Thursday of every month)

When: Thursday, September 7th, 6:30 pm

Where: Old Chicago (Ames)

God's Work Our Hands Sunday

When: Sunday, September 10th

Golf Outing

When: Sunday, September 17th (tee times between 2:00 and 3:00)

Where: Indian Creek Country Club

Cost: \$25/person for 9 holes with a cart; we will also be accepting donations for the driveway project.

Camping with Memorial

When: September 23rd - 24th

Where: Hickory Grove

Nevada CROP Walk for Hunger

When: Sunday, October 1st

Blessing of the Animals

When: Saturday, October 7th

Trunk-or-Treat

When: Saturday, October 28th

Rite of Confirmation

When: Sunday, October 29th during 9:00 worship

Ministry Endowment Fund Reception

When: Thursday, November 9th

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Kathleen Lotz, Pastor | Lois Theesfield, Director of Music Ministry
Emily Dalthorp, Parish Administrator for Outreach & Engagement
Mike Coverdale, Custodian