

Morning Worship

Bethesda Lutheran Church - 8:30 AM

Immanuel Lutheran Church - 11:00 AM

August 2, 2026

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Before we begin our worship this morning, I acknowledge that Bethesda Lutheran Church/Immanuel Lutheran Church stands on the traditional grounds of the Anishinaabe People, and we honor their elders both past and present. Their presence is imbued in the lands and waters surrounding us. We nurture our relationships with our indigenous neighbors, and the shared responsibilities to their homeland where we all reside today.

HOLY COMMUNION

Prelude

GATHERING

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,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
 In your mercy, call us back to you.
 Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
 Restore us to dwell in your peace.
 In Christ's name we pray,
 Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
 all you who are weary
 and are carrying heavy burdens,
 and I will give you rest."
 In the name of God,
 Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
 your sins are forgiven.
 Rest in God's love.
 Amen.

Gathering Hymn: ELW #817 (red hymnal) *"You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore"*

Greeting

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.

Kyrie WOV (blue hymnal) p. 28

Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
 Lord, have mer - cy:

Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son: Christ, have mer - cy.
 Christ, have mer - cy:

Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: Lord, have mer - cy.
 Lord, have mer - cy:

Hymn of Praise WOV (blue hymnal) p. 29-30 “Glory to God”

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-5

God invites Israel to a great feast at which both food and drink are free. God also promises to make an everlasting covenant with all peoples, with promises that previously had been limited to Israel. As David was a witness to the nations, these nations shall now acknowledge the ways in which God has glorified Israel.

¹ Hear, everyone who thirsts;
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread
and your earnings for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³ Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples,

a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵ Now you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

Refrain: You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Ps. 145:16)

⁸ The Lord is gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

⁹ **Lord, you are | good to all,
and your compassion is over | all your works. R**

¹⁴ The Lord upholds all | those who fall
and lifts up those who | are bowed down.

¹⁵ **The eyes of all wait upon | you, O Lord,
and you give them their food | in due season.**

¹⁶ You open | wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every | living thing.

¹⁷ **You are righteous in | all your ways
and loving in | all your works. R**

¹⁸ You are near to all who | call upon you,
to all who call up- | on you faithfully.

¹⁹ **You fulfill the desire of | those who fear you;
you hear their | cry and save them.**

²⁰ You watch over all | those who love you,
but all the wicked you | shall destroy.

²¹ **My mouth shall speak the praise | of the Lord;
let all flesh bless God's holy name forev- | er and ever. R**

Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5

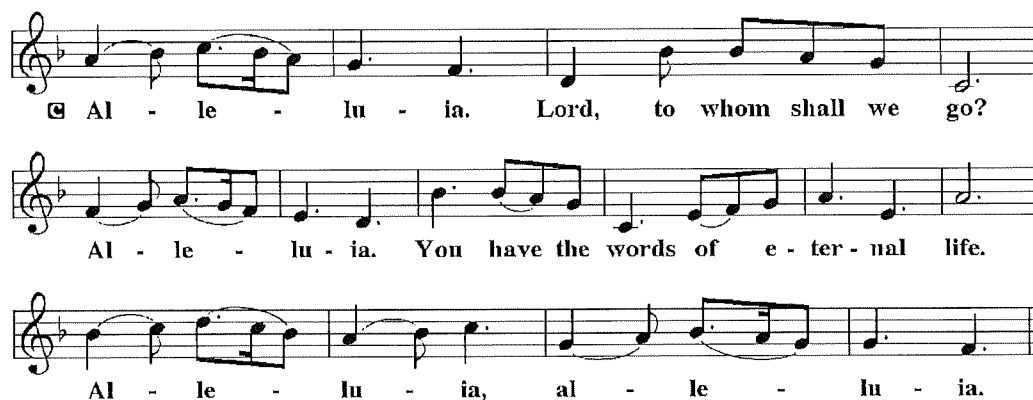
This begins a new section in Paul's letter in which he will deal with the place of Israel in God's saving plan. He opens by highlighting how Israel's heritage and legacy include being God's children, having God's covenants, being given God's law, participating in worship of God, and receiving divine promises.

¹ I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—² I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³ For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own brothers and sisters, my own flesh and blood. ⁴ They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵ to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Christ, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel acclamation:



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

After John the Baptist is murdered, Jesus desires a time of solitude. Still, his compassion for others will not allow him to dismiss those who need him, and he is moved to perform one of his greatest miracles.

¹³ Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist,] he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – Yvonne Cox

Hymn of the Day: ELW (red hymnal) #479 “We Come to the Hungry Feast”

Affirmation of Faith

**O God, the source of our being and the goal of all our longing,
we believe and trust in you.**

**The whole earth is alive with your glory
and all that has life is sustained by you.**

We commit ourselves to cherish your world and to seek your face.

**O God, embodied in a human life,
we believe and trust in you.
Jesus our brother, born of the woman Mary,
you confronted the proud and the powerful,
and welcomed as your friends those of no account.**

**Holy Wisdom of God, firstborn of creation,
you emptied yourself of power,
and became foolishness for our sake.
You labored with us upon the cross,
and have brought us forth to the hope of resurrection.**

**We commit ourselves to struggle against evil and to choose life.
O God, life-giving Spirit, Spirit of healing and comfort,
of integrity and truth, we believe and trust in you.
Warm-winged Spirit, brooding over creation,
rushing wind and Pentecostal fire,
we commit ourselves to work with you and renew our world.
Amen.**

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Prayers of Intercession

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church,
those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

For your church in every place, that it satisfies those who hunger for
your word. Bless the ministry of readers, translators, Bible study leaders,
and writers, that God's word is broken open and shared with all.
Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For your wondrous creation and all the bounty it provides, that your
creatures are fed and nourished. Bless the work of farmers, farmworkers,
those who fish, and all whose labor brings your abundance to our tables.
Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For your children in every nation, that they learn to love justice and live in harmony. As this week we remember the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, keep us mindful of the horrors of war; draw our hearts instead toward your reign of love, hope, and peace. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For all who cry out with great sorrow and unceasing anguish, that they are comforted. Feed all who struggle with food insecurity; have mercy on all who are suffering in body, mind, and spirit (*especially*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For this congregation, that it bears faithful witness to the abundance and joy of life in you. Bless all your faithful people gathered here, that they may become blessings for this community. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Other intercession: Lord, you know the need for healing, comfort, help or resolution for those we name before you today: Myrna & Richard, Kermit, Ed, Lorayne, Lois, Courtney, Bill, Chuck & Marcia, Colleen, Rhiannon, Holly, Bennett, Jennifer, Casey, Donnie, Jeanna, Jaycee, Gary & Janet, Britni, Luke, Jarrett, Darlene, Melinda, Rex, John, Shirley, and those whose names we hold in our heart. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We pray for our migrant neighbors who, like most of us and our ancestors, came to this country for a better life. You who freed the captives, protect them from harm. Help us guard their rights to representation and due process. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

With thanksgiving for the faithful who now rest in your mercy, that their witness continues to inspire the church. By their example, may we trust your promises in life and in death. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. (Share a sign of God's peace with one another.)

Offering

We receive two kinds of offerings in gratitude for all that God has done and is doing: a monetary offering for the work of the church in our community and the world, and a food offering for our friends at the BRICK food pantry. If you have brought food or supplies this morning, you can place them in the basket at the front of the sanctuary at any time. The offering plate is located in the narthex at the beginning of the service; if you missed it, you are welcome to approach the altar after the service with your gift, or catch us next time!

Offering Prayer

Loving God,

we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.

**Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.**

**We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

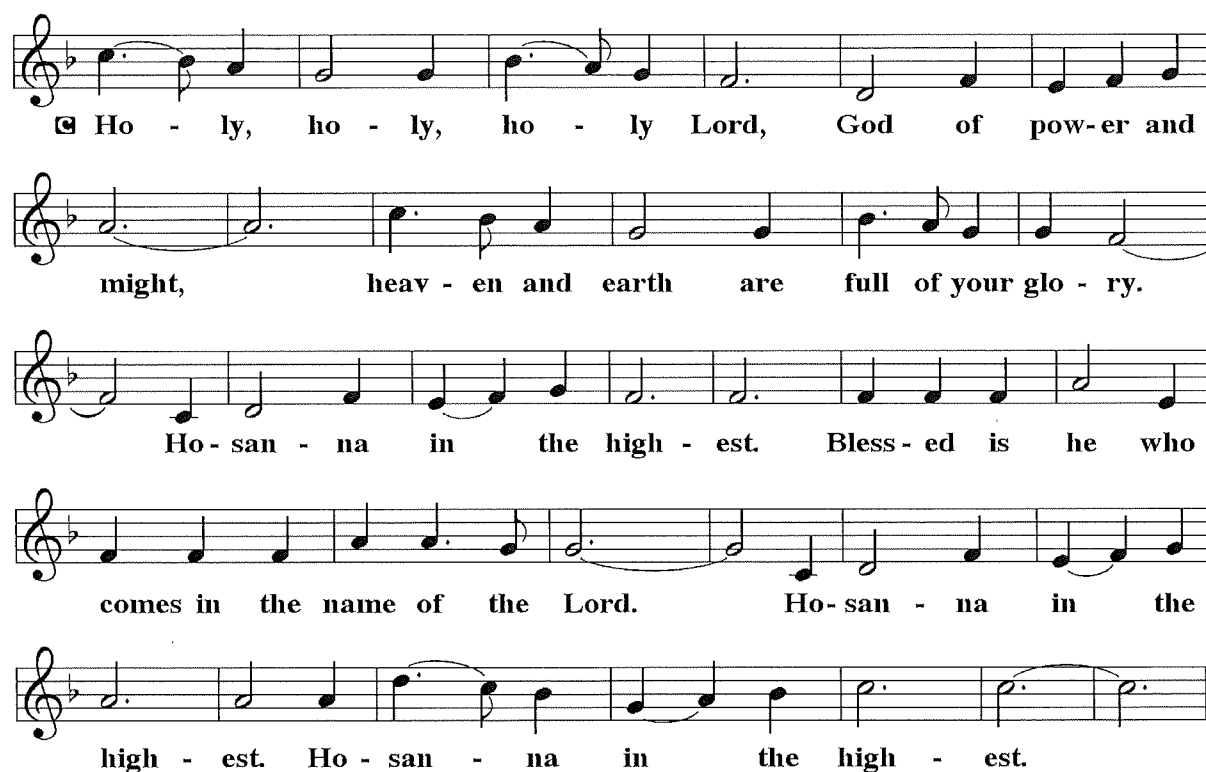
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:



Words of Institution

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.

The 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

Heaven has come near.

Come, share in the feast!

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Prayer after Communion

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

Amen.

Communion Hymn ACS #955 *"Come to the Water of Life"* See next page

HOLY BAPTISM

955

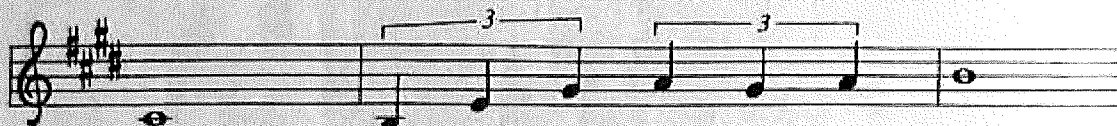
Come to the Water of Life



1 All who are thirst-y for mer - cy, all who are thirst-y for
 2 All who are thirst-y for heal - ing, all who are thirst-y for
 3 All who are thirst-y for beau - ty, all who are thirst-y for
 4 All who are thirst-y for jus - tice, all who are thirst-y for



love; all who are thirst - y for love, for mer - cy,
 touch; all who are thirst - y for touch, for heal - ing,
 truth; all who are thirst - y for truth, for beau - ty,
 peace; all who are thirst - y for peace, for jus - tice,



come: come to the Wa - ter of life.
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.
 come: come to the Wa - ter of life.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943

Music: Ray Makeever

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WATER OF LIFE
 87117

Announcements:

Sunday: AA, 7 pm, Immanuel; Mike Buccanero's birthday

Monday: South Shore Quilters, 9 am; Book Study on Zoom, 1 pm;

Tuesday: Brunch Bunch, 10 am, Bethesda; Bible Study Immanuel and Zoom, 2 pm

Wednesday: South Shore Quilters, 9 am; Carol Lyon's birthday

Thursday: Sandy Brue's birthday

Friday: ROMEO, 9 am, Farmhouse; Knit Wits, 1 pm, Coffee Shop

Saturday: Gary Johnson's birthday

Blessing

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,

✠ one God,

bless, heal, and hold you

today and always.

Amen.

Sending Hymn: ELW #674 (red hymnal) *“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”*

Dismissal

Go in peace; serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Postlude

Reconciling in Christ Statement

*There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free,
there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*

Galatians 3:28

We welcome YOU to Bethesda and Immanuel to participate fully in our congregational life. You who may have experienced exclusion, injustice or racial inequity; You who are young, old, rich, poor; You of all abilities; You from all nations and ethnic backgrounds; You of all sexual orientations, gender identities or gender expression.

We are committed to racial equity, economic equity, gender equity, sexual equity. We are committed to learn, celebrate, advocate and welcome everyone through a series of forums and educational opportunities. May we grow in acceptance and become a voice for inclusion, equity and justice.

No matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.