

HOLY COMMUNION



The treasure of the kingdom
Sunday, August 11, 2019
10:30 am Sung Eucharist

Exploring the promise of God for all

As head of this household, Christ is the waiter who serves his children

Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part of today in assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

*The Holy Spirit
gathers us in unity on the
first day of the week.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Allegro ben moderato

Frank Bridge

The carillon calls the assembly to worship. At the sound of the bell the assembly stands to face the worship leaders at the back of the church.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

- P** We bless you, almighty God, for the gift of water —
for the oceans, for the rivers,
for Mississippi and Missouri, for Minnehaha and Bde Maka Ska, and...
for Superior and Saint Croix that you provide for our community.
- AI** **We bless you, O God, for the waters of the earth.**
- P** We honor you, merciful God, for showering us with water —
for the rain that nourishes the plants and trees.
- AI** **We honor you, O God, for the waters you send.**
- P** We glorify you, gracious God, for the waters of baptism —
For the water of the Jordan that washed our Lord Jesus,
for the water that bathes the church universal.
- AI** **We glorify you, O God, for the waters of baptism.**
- P** We worship you, O God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
Well of forgiveness, you revive us,
Cup of cold water, you refresh us.
Pool of rebirth, you renew us.
- AI** **To you comes the worship of all your people, now and forever. Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun"

(hymn) 557

*stanza 1 – all; 2 – higher voices;
3 – all; 4 – lower voices; 5 – all*



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

God promises childless Abram (later called Abraham) that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise and through this faith, he is considered righteous.

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God need in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future.

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

AD And also with you.

P Let us pray.
Almighty God,
you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church.
Open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

AD Amen.

The presider continues with words of welcome.

WORD

CHILDREN'S WORD

Children are invited to come forward; parents are welcome to come with their children.

READING

God's promise of a child

Genesis 15:1-6

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great."² But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir."⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir."⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be."⁶ And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Word of God, word of life.

AD Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Abraham's faith

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

¹¹ By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old — and Sarah herself was barren — because he considered him faithful who had promised.

¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind,

they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Word of God, word of life.

AD Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly sings and welcomes the gospel, singing:



Jesus encourages his followers to recognize the true value of God's kingdom so that their hearts may be where their real treasure lies. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

The image of Christ as the Good Shepherd is one of the earliest depictions of Jesus in early Christian art. It also has been a recurring theme in church music and hymnody. The introduction to today's hymn of the day not only lays out the hymn tune but also references the well known melody "The King of Love My Shepherd Is."

GOSPEL

The treasure of the kingdom

Luke 12:32-40

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

AD Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus says: "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailling treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The gospel of the Lord.

AD Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

silence for reflection follows the sermon

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Have No Fear, Little Flock"

(hymn) 764

APOSTLES' CREED

A We have been made God's people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we proclaim our faith.

AD 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

Each petition concludes:

...hear us, O God;

AD your mercy is great.



*God feeds us with the
presence of Jesus Christ.*

MEAL

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

AD And also with you.

The assembly is invited to share God's peace with one another.

GATHERING OF GIFTS

The offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

During this time, the table is set. After the offering is gathered, bread, wine, money, and other gifts are brought forward. The assembly stands as the procession reaches the chancel.

"How Can I Keep from Singing?"

arr. John Helgen

Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray together.

AD God of all creation,
you open wide your hand
and satisfy the need of every living thing.

You have set this feast before us.

Open our hands to receive it.

Open our hearts to embrace it.

Open our lives to live it.

We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The assisting minister pours out the wine.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

AD And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

AD We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

AD It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Ⓟ ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n 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.

The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving, concluding:

Lord's Prayer (1975)

**Ⓜ 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.**

All who come seeking Jesus are invited to receive these gifts of God.

Communion at this service is served standing. Please follow the directions of the ushers to a communion station.

Grape juice and gluten-free bread are available upon request. The benefits of the sacrament are fully present in either the bread or the wine, should health reasons prevent you from receiving one of them.

Children are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.

Prayer after communion at the chancel kneelers is always welcomed.

Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion

Communion

"Lamb of God"

(ELW front) p. 154

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

"Just As I Am, I Come"

arr. Mary McDonald

silence for reflection concludes the Communion

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

*Following worship coffee
is served in the great room.*

*Brief sanctuary tours will be offered after
this service. Meet a docent at the pulpit.*

Prayer after Communion

- A** Let us pray.
Gracious provider,
you nourish us with holy food and drink,
and you open us up to the needs of others.
Refresh us with your Spirit,
that our words and deeds may proclaim
your creative and life-giving Word,
Jesus Christ our Lord.
- A** Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

- P** God almighty, God most powerful,
bless you, keep you, and grant you peace;
in the name of the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
- A** Amen.

SENDING HYMN

“Praise the Lord! O Heavens”

*(hymn) 823
sung in harmony*

DISMISSAL

Please face the processional cross for the dismissal.

- A** Go in peace. Love and serve the Lord.
A Thanks be to God.

The carillon sends the assembly into mission.

POSTLUDE

Prelude, Fugue and Chaconne

Dietrich Buxtehude

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor Melissa Pohlman	<i>presiding</i>
Pastor Stephanie Friesen	<i>preaching</i>
Lorene Gilliksen	<i>assisting minister</i>
Sharon Williams	<i>reader</i>
Shirley Dahl	<i>crucifer</i>
Mark Sedio	<i>cantor</i>
Jane Lien	<i>associate cantor</i>
Susan Troselius, Robin Helgen	<i>soloists</i>
Pastor Peter Nycklemoe	<i>communion minister</i>
Mark Kieffer, Marc Wilson	<i>sound operators</i>
Sue & Tom Jorgensen	<i>lead ushers for August</i>
Judith Hedman	<i>docent</i>
Mary Oelke, Patti Brestrup, Patrick Baker	<i>hosts & greeters</i>
Pastor D. Foy Christopherson	<i>liturgy director</i>

Chancel flowers this weekend are given by the Floral Guild. If you wish to donate flowers, contact Judy Korogi 10 days in advance at 612-788-1288.

This service is being streamed live on the internet at www.centralmpls.org.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



Large print service folders,

assisted listening devices, and access seating are available to aid your participation in worship.

Please inquire with an usher.





WELCOME TO CENTRAL

You are welcome. No exceptions.

Central Lutheran Church experiences God's expansive love and strives to share it abundantly. We affirm all people without regard to age, race, biological sex, housing status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, immigration, refugee or migration status, gender identity or expression, socioeconomic status, and physical or mental health or ability. All are a part of God's family, created in God's image. • We strive to practice radical hospitality with all people. Everyone is invited to immerse themselves in the life of this community of faith as we explore the promise of God for all. • Central Lutheran is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

Guests are welcome. We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. We invite guests to complete the "Welcome to Central" card found in the pew racks and leave it with an usher or place it in the offering plate. If you would like more information about Central, please contact us at 612-870-4416, or email info@centralmpls.org.

Children are welcome at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available at Sanctuary entrances. The nursery may be found near the welcome desk. Nursery staff are provided on Sunday mornings.

Welcome to the Lord's Table. All who come seeking Jesus are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to persons in designated access seating areas. If you are not in a designated access seating area and desire to commune where you are seated, please notify an usher who will direct communion ministers to come and serve you. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. Gluten-free breads and alcohol-free wine are available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

Welcome to the Holy Baptism. All who come seeking Jesus are welcome to receive Holy Baptism. Please visit with any worship leader, staff member, hospitality volunteer, contact the church office, or complete an information card, indicating that you wish to be baptized. A pastor will contact you.

Friends of Central...Stay connected

Across the country and beyond there are many people who have a soft spot in their heart for Central Lutheran Church – people who feel a connection both to the history and the ongoing mission of this congregation. If you're one of them, we invite you to join our network of Friends of Central. Pick up a brochure or visit our website for more information or to join.

Electronic Giving Opportunities: Online at www.centralmpls.org click on **Give Today**; or text 73256, enter code word *centralmpls* (lower case), and a numerical amount. Press send and fill in the details. All contributions from members and guests will appear in a contribution statement. WIFI is available as *Central Lutheran* (password *guestclc*). If you give electronically, use the green pew card to drop in the offering plate instead of an envelope. The ministries and mission of Central Lutheran are supported by givers like you. Questions? Contact the church office at 612-870-4416.



Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS

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333 South 12th St, Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-870-4416 | centralmpls.org