



HOLY COMMUNION

*Labor Day blessing of vocation
& meaningful work*

*Parable of the wedding guests:
Invite the poor to your banquet
Sunday, September 1, 2019
10:30 am Sung Eucharist*

Exploring the promise of God for all

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

At the table of Christ, no price is charged for this meal

Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church. By God’s grace in holy baptism we have a place at the banquet table of the Lord. When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still. (S

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Prelude & Aria from “Suite for Organ”

Robert J. Powell

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.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“As We Gather at Your Table”

(hymn) 522

stanza 2 in harmony

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.

O God, you resist those who are proud
and give grace to those who are humble.

Give us the humility of your Son,
that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.

AD **Amen.**

The presider continues with words of welcome.



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

WORD

CHILDREN’S WORD

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

The Book of Proverbs is known as wisdom literature. Proverbs presents a view of life that is orderly, simple, and practical. The truth of the advice on humility in the presence of the ruler is self-evident.

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains many suggestions for the conduct of life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.



In Luke's gospel, Jesus often tells parables about meals in order to illustrate God's unexpected grace and lead people to a faithful response. Here, we have two examples of these stories, one extolling humility and the other, inclusivity

READING

Do not put yourself forward

Proverbs 25:6-7

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great;
7 for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

Word of God, word of life.

AI Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

God with us

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Let mutual love continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you."

⁶ So we can say with confidence,
"The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.
What can anyone do to me?"

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Word of God, word of life.

AI Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The assembly sings and welcomes the gospel, singing:



GOSPEL

Invite the poor to your banquet

Luke 14:1, 7-14

P The holy gospel according to Luke.

AI Glory to you, O Lord.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable.

⁸ When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you.

¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled,
and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid.

¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.

¹⁴ And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you,
for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

The gospel of the Lord.

AD Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

silence for reflection follows the sermon

This version of the popular African-American spiritual “Welcome Table is from “This Far by Faith” the ELCA’s African-American hymnal published in 1999.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“I’m a-Goin’-a Eat at the Welcome Table”



1 I’m a - goin’ - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
2 I’m a - goin’ - a feast on milk . . and hon - ey,
3 I’m a - goin’ - a wade ’cross Jor - dan’s riv - er,



I’m a - goin’ - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
I’m a - goin’ - a feast on milk . . and hon - ey, some of these days.
I’m a - goin’ - a wade ’cross Jor - dan’s riv - er, some of these days.



I’m a - goin’ - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble,
I’m a - goin’ - a feast on milk . . and hon - ey,
I’m a - goin’ - a wade ’cross Jor - dan’s riv - er,



I’m goin’ - a eat at the wel - come ta - ble, some of these days.
I’m goin’ - a feast on . . . milk and hon - ey, some of these days.
I’m goin’ - a wade ’cross . . . Jor - dan’s riv - er, some of these days.

APOSTLES’ CREED

A Let us proclaim the faith that we share.

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.



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

**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.

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.

Basse et Dessus de Trompette

Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

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.**

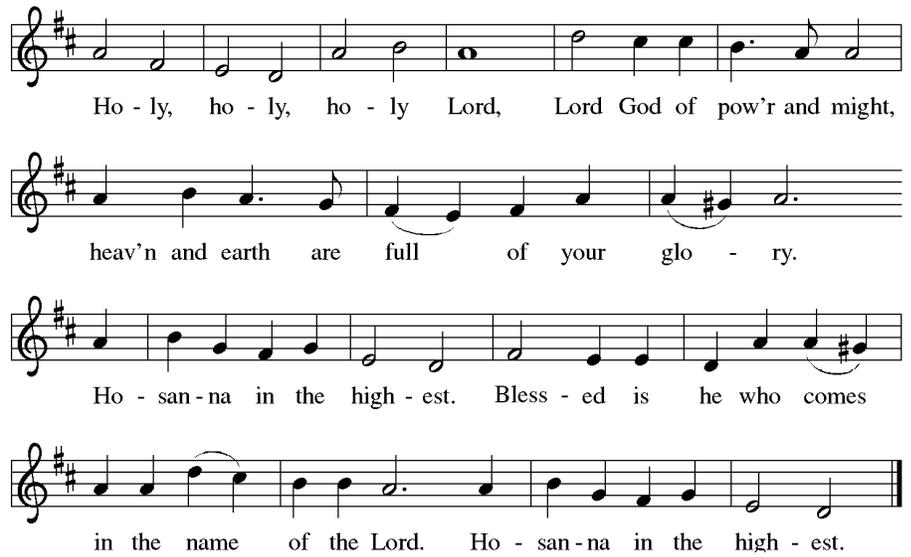
P Lift up your hearts.

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.**

P ...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)

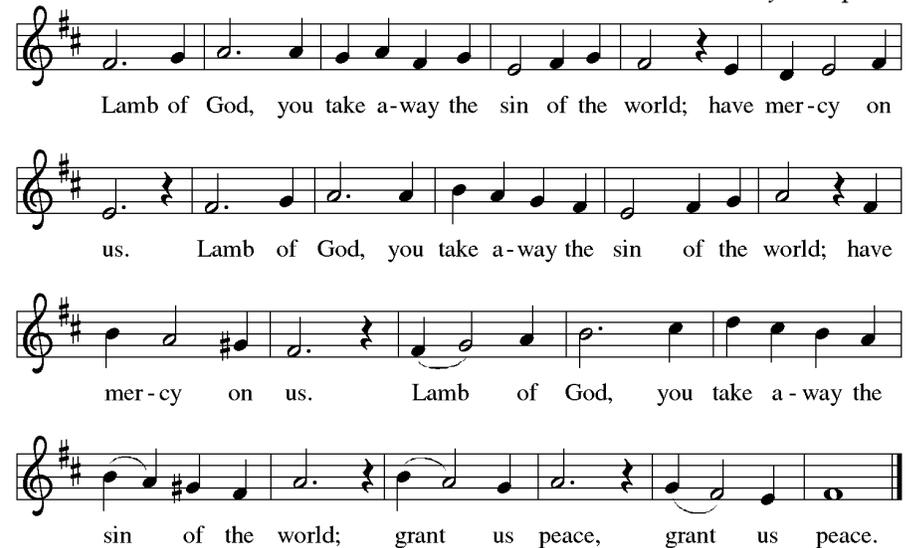
**Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
 your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory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

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.

"Nocturne"

Edvard Grieg

silence for reflection concludes the Communion

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.

*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 to You, O God of Mercy"

(hymn) 208

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

"Marche en Rondeau" from the Te Deum

Marc-Antoine Charpentier

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**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.



SERVING TODAY

Pastor Stephanie Friesen	<i>presiding</i>
Pastor Melissa Pohlman	<i>preaching</i>
Diane Olson	<i>assisting minister</i>
Floyd Ward, Oscar Gunsch	<i>readers</i>
Sara Gunsch	<i>crucifer</i>
Deacon Mark Sedio	<i>cantor/organist</i>
Jane Lien	<i>associate cantor</i>
Mark Kieffer, Marc Wilson	<i>sound operators</i>
Varney Kiazolu	<i>lead usher for September</i>
Karen Snyder	<i>docent</i>
Name	<i>hosts & greeters</i>
Pastor D. Foy Christopherson	<i>liturgy director</i>

Chancel flowers this weekend are given by Carol Henderson in loving memory of her husband Ole and in remembrance of his 100th birthday. 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.



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

Exploring the promise of God for all
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