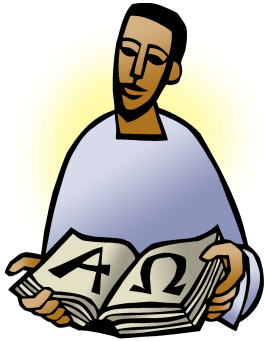


# LARGE PRINT EDITION



## HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday

August 25, 2024 + 9:30 am

*The bread of eternal life*

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Learn Live and Share God's Word

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***Do not take, but receive the bread of Christ with open hands***

*In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.*

## Gathering

### PRELUDE

"Thy Word"

A. Grant/M. Smith

*At the sound of the bell please stand if you are able.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. Hear the teaching of Christ: I am the bread that came down from heaven.

C **Spirit of God, give us this bread always.**

P God has promised forgiveness to all who truly repent, turn to Christ in faith and are themselves forgiving.

In silence we call to mind our sin.

*silence for reflection*

P Let us confess our sin.

**C Merciful God,  
your love compels us to come in  
though our hands are unclean and our hearts unprepared.  
We are not fit even to eat the crumbs from under your table.  
But you, Lord, are the God of our salvation,  
and share your bread with sinners.  
Cleanse and feed us with your word and holy supper.  
Wash away our sin  
that Christ may live in us and we in him,  
and that we may sit and eat in your kingdom. Amen.**

P Through the cross of Christ, God have mercy on you,  
pardon you and set you free. Know that you are forgiven and  
be at peace. God strengthen you in all goodness and keep you  
in life eternal.

**C Amen.**

## **GATHERING SONG**

*“Christ, Be Our Light”*

*(hymn) ELW 715  
stanzas 1, 2, 3 and 5*

**1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
light for the world to see.**

**Refrain**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

- 2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.  
Make us your living voice. Refrain**
- 3 Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
shared until all are fed. Refrain**
- 5 Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
signs of your kingdom come. Refrain**

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957  
Text © 1993 Bernadette Farrell. Published by OCP Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## **GREETING**

**P** Grace to you and peace from God our Creator,  
the love at our beginning and without end,  
in our midst and with us.

**C** God is with us, here we find new life.

## **SONG OF PRAISE**

*(hymn)* **ELW 531**

“The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing”

*stanza 1 and 2*

- 1 The trumpets sound, the angels sing, the feast is ready to begin.  
The gates of heaven are open wide,  
and Jesus welcomes you inside.**

### **REFRAIN**

**Sing with thankfulness... songs of pure delight.  
Come and revel in... heaven’s love and light.  
Take your place at the table of the King.  
The feast is ready to begin; the feast is ready to begin.**

**2 Tables are laden with good things;  
oh, taste the peace and joy he brings.  
He'll fill you up with love divine;  
he'll turn your water into wine. Refrain**

## **GATHERING PRAYER**

**P** Let us pray.

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

*The presider continues with words of welcome.*

# **Word**

## **CHILDREN'S WORD**

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

## **FIRST READING**

*dramatized*

*see Scripture insert*

*Serve the Lord*

**Joshua 24:1–2a, 14–18**

*In the Near East, covenant means agreement or alliance. It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.*

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. <sup>2</sup>And Joshua said to all the people, <sup>14</sup>Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in

faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. <sup>15</sup>Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

<sup>16</sup>Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; <sup>17</sup>for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; <sup>18</sup>and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.”

Word of God, bread of life.

### **C Thanks be to God.**

#### **PSALM**

Psalm 34:15--22 ICEL

*The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous. (34:15)*

A God confronts the wicked to blot them out for ever,  
but turns toward the just to hear their cry for help.

**C The troubled call out; God hears,  
saves them from all distress.**

A God stays near broken hearts, heals the wounded spirit.

**C The good endure great trials, but God comes to their rescue  
and guards their every bone so not one is broken.**

A Evil kills its own kind, dooms the wicked to death.

God saves those who keep faith; no trusting soul is doomed.

**C Give praise to the Father Almighty;  
to the Son, Jesus Christ, the Lord;  
to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts;**

**both now and forever. Amen.**

## **SECOND READING**

*Put on the armor of God*

**Ephesians 6:10–20**

*Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.*

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

<sup>13</sup>Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

<sup>14</sup>Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. <sup>15</sup>As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup>With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

<sup>18</sup>Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

<sup>19</sup>Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Word of God, bread of life.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*setting 4; ELW page 151*

*The assembly stands and welcomes the gospel, singing:*

**C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

## **GOSPEL**

*The bread of eternal life*

John 6:56–69

*The “hard saying” that offends Jesus’ disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: “To whom shall we go?”*

The holy gospel according to John.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus says,*

“Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.” <sup>59</sup>He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

<sup>60</sup>When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?” <sup>61</sup>But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, “Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? <sup>63</sup>It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>But among you there are some who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. <sup>65</sup>And he said, “For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.”

<sup>66</sup>Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. <sup>67</sup>So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go

away?" <sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

The gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY

*(hymn)* **WOV 783**

"Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God"

- 1 Seek ye first the kingdom of God,  
and its righteousness,  
and all these things  
shall be added unto you.  
Alleluia, Alleluia.**
- 2 Ask and it shall be given unto you,  
seek and you shall find;  
knock and the door shall be  
opened unto you,  
Alleluia, Alleluia.**
- 3 We do not live by bread alone,  
but by every word  
that proceeds from the mouth of God,  
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

### STATEMENT OF FAITH *(Maori, New Zealand)*

**A** Let us together proclaim the faith that we share with  
Christians around the world, using words of a Maori creed...

**C** You, O God, are supreme and holy,  
You create our world and give us life,  
your purpose overarches everything we do.

You have always been with us. You are God.  
You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you.  
You have revealed and proved your love for us  
in Jesus Christ,  
who lived and died and rose again.  
You are with us now. You are God.  
You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.  
You are our God. We worship you.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Prayers are offered for the Church, the earth, the nations, and those in any need.*

*each petition concludes:*

...Hear our prayer, O God of grace,

**C Your mercy endures forever.**

*finally:*

P Merciful God, you look with compassion on all who turn to  
you. Hear the prayers of your people.

**C Grant that what we have asked in faith  
we may by your grace receive;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

# Meal

## PEACE

P Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace,  
C **who breaks down the walls that divide.**

P May the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.  
C **May the word of Christ dwell in us richly.**

*The assembly is invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.*

## OFFERING

*When bread and wine are broken and shared in the Lord's Supper an offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Please leave your offerings in the baskets in the aisles or give online. During this time, the table is set. Please stand as the offering procession reaches the chancel. Thank you for your generosity.*

### Presentation of the Gifts

"Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup"

*(hymn)* ELW 492

#### Refrain

**Eat this bread, drink this cup.  
Taste and see the goodness of God.  
Bread of life, cup of love,  
we rejoice in your presence.**

- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times,  
praise with heart and voice;  
in my God I glory forever:  
listen and rejoice! Refrain**
- 2 Look upon the Lord, be radiant,  
never turn away.  
God will save in ev'ry affliction,  
hear us when we pray. Refrain**
- 3 Angels fold their wings around us,  
guard through good and ill.  
Those who seek the Lord will lack nothing;**

**taste, and have your fill. Refrain**

**4 Saints of God, bow down and worship,  
bless the holy name.  
Rise to tell God's greatness forever,  
wondrous deeds proclaim! Refrain**

Text: Jeremy Young, b. 1948, refrain; With One Voice, stanzas, based on Ps. 34  
Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

### **Offertory Prayer**

**A** Let us pray together.

**C** **God of all creation,  
all you have made is good,  
and your love endures forever.  
You bring forth bread from the earth  
and fruit from the vine.  
Nourish us with these gifts,  
that we might be for the world  
signs of your gracious presence  
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*The assisting minister pours out the wine.*

### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**P** The Lord is here.

**C** **God's spirit is with us.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **it is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P** ... we give you thanks and sing:

*setting 4, ELW p. 153*

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the  
highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving, concluding:*

**Lord's Prayer (1789)**

**P As Christ teaches we pray:**

**C 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.**

**Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion**

**Communion**

**"Lamb of God"**

*setting 4; ELW page 154*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have  
mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

*silence for reflection concludes the communion*

## **Prayer after Communion**

A Let us pray.

O God, we thank you for the living bread  
that rains down from heaven.

**C From this feast of love**

**may we carry your eternal life  
as daily food for the well-being of the world;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## **Sending**

### **BLESSING**

P Christ, the Bread of Life, sends out all who love,  
renewed by word and sacrament.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be among you now and remain with you forever.

**C Amen.**

### **SENDING SONG**

*(hymn)* ELW 543

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

**1 “Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
In my love’s baptismal river  
I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”**

- 2 “Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son’s story,  
here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”
- 3 “Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.  
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit’s power filled you,  
here my tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.  
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

### DISMISSAL

*Please face the worship leaders for the dismissal.*

A Go in peace. Feed the hungry.  
C Thanks be to God.

### POSTLUDE

“Go, My Children”

*V. Shields*

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**CHRIST**  
THE BREAD OF LIFE

# Serving Today

Pastor Foy Christopherson, *presiding*

Karen Moeller, *assisting minister*

Diane Langer, *reader*

Ruth Bills, *director of music & worship*

Matt Nordeen, *summer music*

Ralph Matthes, *gift of bread*

Erik Ruser and Matti Gurney, *technology desk*

Janell Partyka, *sacristan/altar guild*

Wayne Halverson, *usher*

Rich Feist, *bus ministry*

Carolan/Kutzer family, *coffee hosts*

**Chancel flowers** this weekend are given to the glory of God.

*If you wish to donate flowers sign up in the narthex or call the church office.*

*Please join us for coffee fellowship in the lower-level following worship.*

*This service is being streamed live on the internet.*

*The language of our worship this summer  
is based on language in the New Zealand Prayer Book.*

## **SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK**

Contact the coordinator below if you can help to accomplish these tasks:

<b>OPPORTUNITY</b>	<b>COORDINATOR</b>	<b>DUE</b>
Water butterfly garden	Dave Olson	Weekly opportunity
Autumn coffee hosts	Karen Moeller	Sign up downstairs
Salty Carmel hosts	Pastor C	Sign up in narthex
MCCC Board secretary	Brenda W; C Pudney	open position
Selling/donating used church equipment	Steve Panning	Autumn
Paint childcare shed gables	Steve Panning	Autumn

# Welcome

**Everyone is welcome.** We are a faith community participating in the life of God, a life that is a gift to us and in which we are actively engaged. That gift compels us to be actively engaged in the neighborhoods of Northeast Minneapolis as well. We are a multigenerational community that proudly celebrates our history while joining together with younger generations to follow where God is leading. We build our community through faith practices like prayer, dwelling in the Word and hospitality.

**Guests are welcome.** We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. If you would like more information about Mt. Carmel, please contact us at 612-781-2796, or email [pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org](mailto:pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org)

**Children are welcome** at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available outside the sanctuary.

**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 you where you are seated if you require accessibility accommodation. Please inform the ushers. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. White grape juice is 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. Our pastor will contact you.

#### **Friends of Mt. Carmel...Stay connected**

Across the country and beyond there are many people who have a soft spot in their heart for Mt. Carmel 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 a new network of Friends of Mt. Carmel. Email [pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org](mailto:pastor@mountcarmelmpls.org) for more information or to join.



**Digital giving** is available at Mt. Carmel. You can easily donate online through our website at [mountcarmelmpls.org](http://mountcarmelmpls.org) and click on **Give**. Mt. Carmel Lutheran is supported by generous people like you. Questions? Contact the church office at 612-781-2796.



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## **MT. CARMEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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