

LARGE PRINT EDITION



HOLY COMMUNION

God's Work Our Hands Sunday

Blessing of the new school year

September 8, 2024 + 9:30 am

Christ heals a little girl & a deaf man

Learn Live and Share God's Word

Christ is the poor person waiting for good news

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings her or his need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

Gathering

GATHERING MUSIC

Shields / Raabe

"Open Your Ears, O Faithful People /
O Radiant Light, O Sun Divine"

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

GATHERING DIALOG

A Blessed be God who calls us together.

C Praise be God who makes us one people.

A Blessed be God who has forgiven our sin.

C Praise to God who gives hope and freedom.

A Blessed be God whose Word is proclaimed.

C Praise to God who is revealed as love.

A Blessed be God who alone has called us.

C We offer all that we are, and all that we shall become.

A Receive, O God, our sacrifice of thanks and praise.

C Accept our thanks for all you have done.

Our hands were empty, and you filled them.

GATHERING SONG

(hymn) ELW 519

“Open Your Ears, O Faithful People”

stanzas 1 & 2

**1 Open your ears, O faithful people,
open your ears and hear God's word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood,
God has come to you.**

Refrain *(sung in both languages)*

Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!

Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!

Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!

Torah ora, Torah ora, hallelujah!

God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!

God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!

God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!

God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!

**2 They who have ears to hear the message,
they who have ears, now let them hear;
they who would learn the way of wisdom,
let them hear God's word. Refrain**

Text: Hasidic traditional; Willard F. Jabusch, b. 1930, English version

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

(hymn) ELW 531

“The Feast is Ready”

- 1** The trumpets sound, the angels sing.
the feast is ready to begin.
The gates of heav’n 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**
 - 3** The hungry heart he satisfies,
offers the poor his paradise.
Now hear all heav’n and earth applaud
the amazing goodness of the Lord. **REFRAIN**

GATHERING PRAYER

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer 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.

BLESSING OF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

FIRST READING

God comes with healing

Isaiah 35:4–7a

These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Chapter 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

Praise to Christ the Word.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 146 ICEL

I will praise the LORD as long as I live. (146:2)

A Praise the Lord, my heart! My whole life, give praise.

C Let me sing to God as long as I live.

A Never depend on rulers: born of earth, they cannot save.

C They die, they turn to dust. That day, their plans crumble.

A They are wise who depend on God,

**C who look to Jacob's Lord, creator of heaven and earth,
maker of the teeming sea.**

A The Lord keeps faith forever,

**C giving food to the hungry, justice to the poor,
freedom to the captives.**

A The Lord opens the eyes and straightens the bent,

C comforting widows and orphans, protecting the stranger.

A The Lord loves the just

C but blocks the path of the wicked.

A Zion, praise the Lord! Your God reigns forever,
from generation to generation.

**C Hallelujah! 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

Faith without works is dead

James 2:1–10, 14–17

Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip-service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Praise to Christ the Word.

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

Christ heals a little girl and a deaf man

Mark 7:24–37

In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.

The gospel according to Mark.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet.²⁶ Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter.²⁷ He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs."²⁸ But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs."²⁹ Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go — the demon has left your daughter."³⁰ So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis.³² They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him.³³ He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue.³⁴ Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened."³⁵ And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.³⁶ Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the

more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

(hymn) ACS 1000

"Gods' Work Our Hands"

- 1 God's work, our hands: working together,
building a future, repairing the world,
raising up homes, planting new gardens,
feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold.
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
sharing the good news of your gospel.**
- 2 God's work, our feet: trav'ling together,
following Jesus to places unknown,
walking as friends, marching for freedom,
running the race with God's future the goal.
Bless, God, our feet as we follow your way,
sharing the good news of your gospel.**
- 3 God's work, our voice: singing together,
praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,
praying for peace, shouting for justice,
claiming God's love for the lost and the least.
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
sharing the good news of your gospel.**

**4 God is at work in and around us:
seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!
Washed and set free, humbled and honored,
gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.
Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call,
sharing the good news of your gospel.**

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954
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STATEMENT OF FAITH (*Maori, New Zealand*)

A Let us together proclaim the faith that we share
with Christians around the world...

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.

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.*

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

John Carter

Presentation of the Gifts

Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray together.

**C Blessed are you, God of all creation;
through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.
Blessed be God forever. 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.

Most loving God, creator and redeemer,
we give you thanks for this foretaste of your glory.

C Through Christ, and with all your saints,
we offer ourselves and our lives to your service.
We ask this through Jesus Christ, the servant,
our friend and brother. Amen.

Sending

BLESSING

P Be strengthened with the power of God,
+ the love of Christ,
and the help of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG

(hymn) ELW 612

“Healer of Our Every Ill”

Refrain

Healer of our ev'ry ill,
light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear,
and hope beyond our sorrow.

- 1 You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. Refrain
- 2 In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love. Refrain
- 3 Give us strength to love each other,
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. Refrain
- 4 You who know each thought and feeling,
teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. Refrain

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

DISMISSAL

Please face the worship leaders for the dismissal.

A Go now to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“God’s Work Our Hands.”

arr. David Johnson

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Serving Today

Pastor Foy Christopherson, *presiding*

Sinéad Carolan, *assisting minister*

Lory Dubbels, *reader*

Ruth Bills, *director of music & worship*

Julie Larson and Myrna Flatland, *technology desk*

Janell Partyka, *sacristan/altar guild*

Rich Feist and Patrick Kutzer, *ushers*

Al Erickson, *bus ministry*

Nordeen Family, *coffee hosts, salty carmel hosts*

Chancel flowers this weekend are given by Allison and Matti Gurney
in honor of Tessa’s 16th birthday.

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:

| OPPORTUNITY | COORDINATOR | DUE |
|--|---------------|--------------------|
| Selling/donating used church equipment | Steve Panning | Autumn |
| Paint the childcare shed gables | Steve Panning | Autumn |
| Stewardship Team | Al Erickson | September |
| Coffee hosts | Karen Moeller | Sign up downstairs |
| Salty Carmel hosts | Pastor C | Sign up in narthex |

SALTY CARMEL SERVING TEAM – September 2024

Nordeen family

SOCKTOBERFEST!

Shoes & socks for St. Crispin's Day

Donate new or gently used shoes and new socks.

September 9 - October 25

God's Work, Our Hands - St. Crispin's Day

Sponsored by the GA & MCLC Better Together team



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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

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 for more information or to join.



Digital giving is available at Mt. Carmel. You can easily donate online through our website at 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.

MT. CARMEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

learn, live and share God's word

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