



Gethsemane Lutheran Church

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glcportland.org | (503) 256-1835

<https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland>

14th Sunday after Pentecost

August 29, 2021

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. - James 1:22

GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you are visiting with us this morning, we'd love to meet you! We invite you to fill out a visitor card at <http://www.glcportland.org/visitor>.

Our interim pastor, Rev. Elizabeth, is away on fifth Sundays. Brandee Leibrand, one of our Synodically Authorized Lay Ministers, will offer the sermon this morning.

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

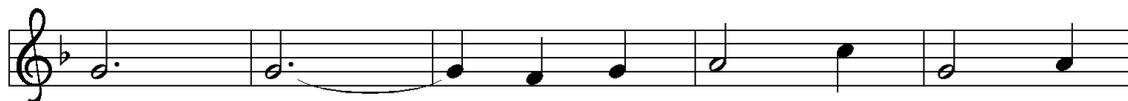
God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN, #798 "Will You Come and Follow Me"



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as -
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

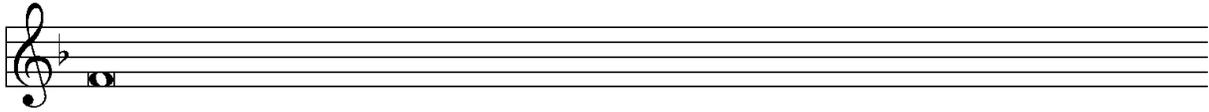
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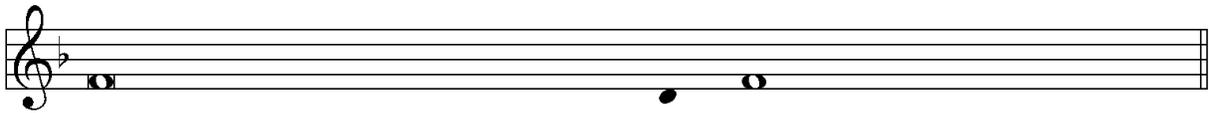
REETING

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



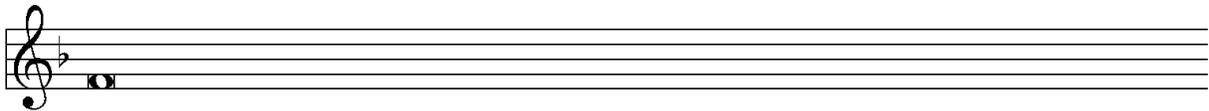
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

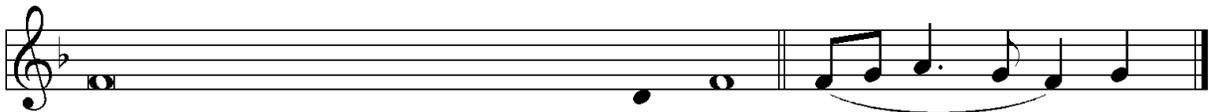


A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

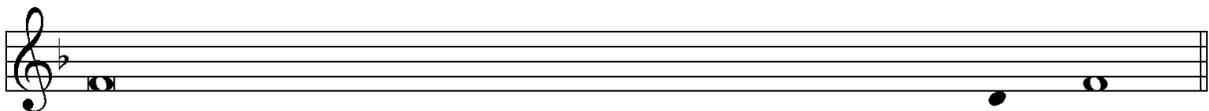
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **C** A - men



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. ① Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was



slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. ② Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. ③ Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for- ev - er. A - men.



☐ This is the feast of vic- to- ry for our God. Al- le - lu - ia,



al- le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. ☐ For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



☐ This is the feast of vic- to- ry for our God.



Al- le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Holy God, help us to live in right relationship with you. Cleanse us of any selfishness, bitterness or resentment. Grant us wisdom and discernment. Open our hearts to your Word, that hearing, we might act in boldness upon what we have heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Jasmine will offer the children a blessing. Mark your calendars for a special time with the children on September 12.

WORD

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

A reading from Deuteronomy.

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 15

REFRAIN

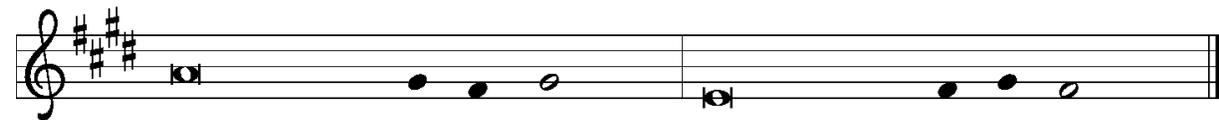


LORD, who may dwell in your tab - er - na - cle?

Psalm 15:1

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TONE



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? (*Ps. 15:1*)

¹LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,
who speak the truth | from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends;
they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.



LORD, who may dwell in your tab - er - na - cle?

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who |
fear the LORD.**

**They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their
word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes
a- | gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown. **R**



LORD, who may dwell in your tab - er - na - cle?

SECOND READING: James 1:17-27

A reading from James.

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
⁷in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

The gospel of the Lord.

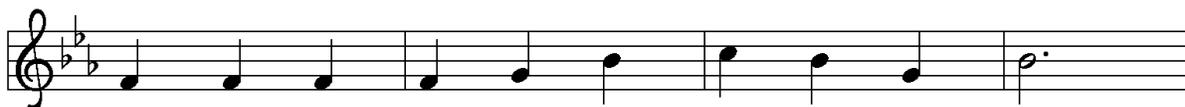
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY, *Be Thou My Vision* (ELW #793)



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

CREED

**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

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

We pray for the church, that it may practice true religion, caring for those in need, and working to break the systems of oppression which cause people to suffer. Purify our hearts from complacency, disturb our contentment with the status quo, and inspire us to collective action.

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the whole of creation, that plants and animals have the habitat and resources to thrive and flourish. Help us to heal our planet and work to ensure a sustainable future for generations to come. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for individuals in positions of authority. Raise up wise and discerning leaders in federal, state, and local governments and guide them to seek the benefit of every person. Empower those who seek justice, and the peace that justice brings. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are in need. Support and encourage those who are unemployed, underemployed, or experiencing poverty. Bring food, shelter, clothes, and stability for daily life. Show us how to support our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for those who work among the sick; give them courage and strength in all they do. Refresh them when weary; console them when anxious; comfort them in grief; and hearten them in discouragement. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for this congregation, for the needs among us that are known and those that are unknown. Give us the boldness to ask for prayer, faithfulness to pray for others, and increase our faith as we seek to follow you as one body in Christ. We pray especially for those we name now in heart and with voice... Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We give thanks for the faithful departed who showed us how to honor God with our heart. Inspire us by their example and renew our faith, trusting that we will be united with them in glory. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. We trust in your compassion and grace.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

We will now be sent into breakout rooms for 10 minutes to share words of greeting and peace. Breakout rooms are NOT recorded or broadcast on Facebook.

OFFERING

Thank you for your generous gifts to sustain the mission and ministry of Gethsemane Lutheran Church. You may give online at www.glcportland.org/give.

OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.

SENDING

BLESSING

Almighty God, Creator, ✚ Redeemer, and Sustainer, bless you now and forever. Amen.

SENDING SONG, *Children of the Heavenly Father* (ELW #781)

Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
 1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
 2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
 4 Though he giv - eth or he tak-eth, God his chil-dren ne'er for - sak - eth;

stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.
 nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
 un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
 his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace and love one another.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Music: TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA, Swedish folk tune

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Who are we? Who are our neighbors? What is God calling us to do?** Thanks to all who have participated in the “Connecting Conversation” small groups led by our Transition Team. If you have not participated in a small group yet, there is still time! A group will be held after worship today and on this coming Tuesday, August 31st, at 7:00 pm. Register at <https://forms.gle/Pjf9ddEe6RBd5RAk9> or look for a sign-up sheet in the narthex.
- **Youth Firefighter Collection items needed:** Prayers, bar soap, cotton boot socks, toothbrushes, pillows/sleeping bags, protein bars/high-calorie snacks, monetary donations.



venmo

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