

July 19, 2026 | 11:00am



Bethlehem

LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost



Morning Song

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LARGE PRINT

MORNING SONG WORSHIP

-ORDER OF SERVICE-

Welcome & Announcements

Invitation to Worship (*Please Stand*)

But For the Cross of Christ

What is the truth that ever anchors me
Amidst the waves of all my guilt?
That Christ has shed His blood and pardoned me
At the cross, at the cross.

He bore my sin, I bear His righteousness.
Oh what a glorious exchange.
The wrath of God laid on the spotless Lamb.
Oh what grace, oh what grace.

Chorus: Behold the cross,
There is no greater love.
Heaven's Son
Laid down His life for us.
Oh my soul would be lost
With no hope to find,
But for the cross of Christ.

How do I walk with humble confidence?
I look to Christ Who is my peace.
He sealed my hope and my inheritance
At the cross, at the cross.

When I am weak and stumble into sin,
There is an ever-flowing stream.
His cleansing blood revives my soul again.
Oh what grace, oh what grace. (chorus)

One day I'll stand before the King of Kings.
One day I'll see Him face to face.
For Jesus rose, death lost its bitter sting.
Christ has won, Christ has won. (chorus 2 times)

Oh my soul would be lost
With no hope to find,
But for the cross of Christ,
But for the cross of Christ.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, You are the Author of our salvation. Please forgive us when we are selfish and prideful. Fill us with Your Spirit to renew our hearts and our minds. Remind us of the hope and assurance we have in the redeeming work of Your Son, Jesus. It is in His name we pray. Amen.

Words of Grace

Song of Response

God is For Us

We won't fear the battle, we won't fear the night.
We will walk the valley, with You by our side.
You will go before us, You will lead the way.
We have found a refuge, only You can save.

Chorus: Sing with joy now, our God is for us.

The Father's love is a strong and mighty fortress,
Raise your voice now, no love is greater.
Who can stand against us if our God is for us?

Even when I stumble, even when I fall,
Even when I turn back still Your love is sure.

You will not abandon, You will not forsake.
You will cheer me on with never ending grace. (chorus)

Neither height nor depth can separate us.
Hell and death will not defeat us.
He who gave His Son to free us,
holds me in His love. (repeat)
(chorus 2 times)

Scripture Readings *(Please Sit)*

Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

"I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

⁷ Who is like me? Let him proclaim it.

Let him declare and set it before me,
since I appointed an ancient people.

Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen.

⁸ Fear not, nor be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
And you are my witnesses!

Is there a God besides me?

There is no Rock; I know not any."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Romans 8:18-27

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility,

not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

(Please Stand)

Matthew 13:24-43

²⁴ He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷ And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' ²⁸ He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want

us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."'"

³¹ He put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. ³² It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³ He told them another parable. "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened."

³⁴ All these things Jesus said to the crowds in parables; indeed, he said nothing to them without a parable. ³⁵ This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet:

"I will open my mouth in parables;

I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world."

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin

and all law-breakers, ⁴² and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Kid's Talk *(Please Sit)* Eric Oswald, DCE

Message

No Vacancy

Pastor Dudley Nolting

Offering

Bringing tithes and financial gifts to the Lord is an act of worship. These offerings help to accomplish ministry both here at Bethlehem and around the world. May God bless your response of faith.

Please join our members in signing the Red Friendship Registers
in your pew. Thank you!

What He's Done

See on the hill of Calvary
My Savior bled for me,
My Jesus set me free.
Look at the wounds that give me life,
Grace flowing from His side,
No greater sacrifice.

Chorus: What He's done, what He's done.
All the glory and the honor to the Son.
My sins are forgiven; my future is Heaven.
I praise God for what He's done.

Sing for the freedom He has won.
Even death is dead and done.
His life has overcome.
Speak, say the Name above all names
Over every broken place.
He is risen from the grave. (chorus)
Now on a throne of majesty,
the Father's will complete,
He reigns in victory.
Sing hallelujah to the King,
He is worthy to receive
All the worship we can bring. (chorus 2 times)
I praise God for what He's done.

Prayers of the Church & The Lord's Prayer

(Please Stand)

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.

Words of Institution

Distribution Songs *(Please Sit)*

Come to the Table

We all start on the outside,
The outside looking in.
This is where grace begins.
We were hungry, we were thirsty,
With nothing left to give.
Oh, the shape that we were in.

Chorus: Just when all hope seemed lost,
Love opened the door for us.
He said: Come to the table.
Come join the sinners who have been redeemed.
Take your place beside the Savior.
Sit down and be set free.
Come to the table.

Come meet these saints and meet these sinners,
The ones whom Christ set free.
No one's unwelcome here.
That sin and shame that you brought with you,
You can leave it at the door
And let mercy draw you near. (chorus)

Come to the table.

Come to the table.

Just As I am

Just as I am without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot.
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Chorus: I come broken to be mended.
I come wounded to be healed.
I come desperate to be rescued.
I come empty to be filled.
I come guilty to be pardoned
By the blood of Christ the Lamb.
And I'm welcomed with open arms,
Praise God, just as I am.

Just as I am I would be lost,
But mercy and grace my freedom bought.
And now to glory in Your cross,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come. (chorus 2 times)

Praise God, just as I am.

Communion Blessing (*Please Stand*)

P: Now may the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in true faith unto life everlasting.

C: Amen.

Post Communion Prayer

P: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with his favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Praise

This is Amazing Grace

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness,
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger?
The King of glory, the King above all kings.
Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder
Who leaves us breathless in awe and wonder?
The King of glory, the King above all kings.

Chorus: This is amazing grace,
This is unfailing love,
That You would take my place,
That You would bear my cross.
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free.

Oh, Jesus, I sing for all that You've done for me.

Who brings our chaos back into order,
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter?
The King of glory, the King of glory.
Who rules the nations with truth and justice,
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance?
The King of glory, the King above all kings. (chorus)

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave!
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!
Worthy, worthy, worthy! (chorus)

Sending

P:Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C:Thanks be to God.

But For The Cross Of Christ
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Come To The Table

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