

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, E.L.C.A.

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13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2026

* Stand as you are able

GATHERING

INVOCATION, CONFESSIONS AND FORGIVENESS*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN*

ELW # 597 "My Hope is Built On Nothing Less"

GREETING*

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* (pages 138-139 in front of hymnal)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

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

Lord have mercy.

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.

Lord have mercy.

For his holy house, and for all who offer their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen

Hymn of Praise*- Pages 140-141 in front of hymnal

Prayer of the Day

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Isaiah 56:1-6

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you, for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out, and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

P: The Word of the Lord:

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm 138

¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

³ When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵ They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸ **You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

Romans 12:1-8

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Gospel Acclamation*

ELW #172 "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah"

P: THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 16:13-20

C: Glory to you O Lord.

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

P: The Gospel of the Lord: C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

“God’s Rock Collection”

Hymn of the Day *

ELW #652 (vs. 1, 3, 5) “Built On A Rock ”

The Apostles’ Creed * (Printed inside the back cover of the hymnal.)

**Welcome to our WTKM radio and online worshipers, Good News and Prayer
Petitions**

Prayers of the Church

Response P: God of Grace. **C: Hear Our Prayer**

Sharing the Peace

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

(you are encouraged to turn to one another and share the peace of the Lord.)

Offering Hymn *

ELW # 692 “We Are An Offering”

Offering Prayer *

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

MEAL

Thanksgiving *

P: The Lord be with you. C: **And also with you.**

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.**

The Preface *

P: Lord, it is indeed right and our joy that at all times and in all places we give thanks and praise to you. And so with the angels and archangels and with the church on earth and in heaven, we give glory to you O God, through Jesus Christ, as we praise your name and join in the unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna, in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest (pg. 144 ELW)

The Words of Institution*

The Lord's Prayer *

Invitation to Communion

P: God has come near. Come, share in the feast!

Hymn

Page 146 of hymnal

Distribution

Communion Hymn

ELW # 623 "Rock Of Ages, Cleft for Me"

SENDING

Communion Blessing *

Prayer After Communion *

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.

Blessing*

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✠ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
Amen.

Sending Hymn *

ELW #654 (vs. 1, 4, 5) “The Church’s One Foundation”

Dismissal *

P: God has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Redeemer Announcements

- Today's Lector is Tom Hostad, and our ushers are Kurt and Wendy Hintz.
- Next week's Lector is Michelle Burton and our usher is Don Horen
- Pastor will be **in the office on Thursday August 27th** from 9:00am - 12:00pm. Appointments are appreciated, but not necessary. If you wish to meet with Pastor at other times, please contact him directly. Looking ahead, he will be in the office **September 3rd** from **9am-12pm**.
- AED training will be done on **Today** at 10:45am.
- Our next Conversations with God will be on Thursday, **August 27** at 10:00am.

Ministry Partners

- Special Giving for August is **Outreach for Hope**.
- Community Lunch will be served on **Saturday, August 29th**, 11:30am, at First United Methodist Church. Fellowship prior to lunch.
- **Lincoln Elementary School is looking for volunteer readers!** Volunteers are invited to visit the school and share a favorite story with the children. The school asks volunteers to commit to a regular day and time for a period of time. This consistency gives volunteers the opportunity to build relationships and become a familiar, encouraging presence for both the students and their teachers. Interested in volunteering? Please let Pastor Steve know, and we will connect you with the school contact who coordinates the reading program.

In the Nest:

- Casa Guadalupe English Language Learners "ELL" meets Monday & Wednesdays from 6-7:30PM.
- Al-Anon Meetings are held Thursdays at 7:00PM.
- Girl Scouts meet the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays.

The Needs of Our Partners:

Casa Guadalupe

Snacks Kid snacks – **NO NUTS**, Fruit cups, cereal, canned goods.

Other Items: Books (gently used is okay), new toys.

See The Herald and the giving tree in the coffee area for these and other needs.

**PLEASE JOIN US AFTER TODAY'S SERVICE FOR COFFEE AND SNACKS
IN THE GATHERING ROOM**