



FAITH
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Season of Pentecost

August 30, 2026

Service Theme

Bearing the cross comes before wearing the crown. With faith and hope in Christ, members of his Church bear the cross, fighting the good fight of faith until the day arrives when all struggles are past and Christ's people enter eternal rest.

Service Participants

Rev. Michael D. Schultz, pastor (404) 667-0948
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Note: Page numbers in this digital-only version of the bulletin vary from what may be announced in the live service.

Stand

Venite (First Latin word in the opening song of Matins/Psalm 95, meaning “Come, let us...”)

Psalm 95C



1 Come, let us praise the LORD, with joy our God ac -
2 Our God of match-less worth, our King be - yond com -
3 In wor - ship bow the knee, our glo - rious God con -
4 Come, hear his voice to - day, re - ceive what love im -



claim, his great - ness tell a - broad and bless his
pare, the deep - est bounds of earth, the hills, are
fess; the great Cre - a - tor, he, the LORD our
parts; his ho - ly will o - bey and hard - en



sav - ing name. Lift high your songs be -
in his care. He all de - crees, who
Right - eous - ness. He reigns un - seen: his
not your hearts. His ways are best and



fore his throne to whom a - lone all praise be - longs.
by his hand pre - pared the land and formed the seas.
flock he feeds and gent - ly leads in pas - tures green.
lead at last, all trou - bles past, to per - fect rest.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith; Tune: John Darwall

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Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow him wherever he leads; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

¹⁵LORD, you understand;
remember me and care for me.
Avenge me on my persecutors.
You are long-suffering—do not take me away;
think of how I suffer reproach for your sake.

¹⁶When your words came, I ate them;
they were my joy and my heart's delight,
for I bear your name,
LORD God Almighty.

¹⁷I never sat in the company of revelers,
never made merry with them;
I sat alone because your hand was on me
and you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain unending
and my wound grievous and incurable?
You are to me like a deceptive brook,
like a spring that fails.

¹⁹Therefore this is what the LORD says:

“If you repent, I will restore you
that you may serve me;
if you utter worthy, not worthless, words,
you will be my spokesman.
Let this people turn to you,
but you must not turn to them.

²⁰I will make you a wall to this people,
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you
but will not overcome you,
for I am with you
to rescue and save you,” declares the LORD.

²¹“I will save you from the hands of the wicked
and deliver you from the grasp of the cruel.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

¹⁸I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 31D

Adam Reusner studied at Heidelberg University in 1518. In 1523 he enrolled at the University of Wittenberg, where he studied alongside the likes of Martin Luther, Philipp Melanchthon, Justus Jonas, and pursued a degree in theology. From about 1530, he became known as a hymn writer. His paraphrase of Psalm 31, "In dich hab ich gehoffet, Herr" (In you, Lord, have I put my trust) is still included in the German hymnal.

1 I trust, O LORD, your ho - ly name; O let me
2 Bow down your gra - cious ear to me and hear my
4 With you, O LORD, I cast my lot; O faith - ful
not be put to shame nor let me
cry, my prayer, my plea; make haste for
God, for - sake me not, to you my
be con - found - ed. My faith, O LORD,
my pro - tec - tion, for woes and fear
soul com - mend - ing. LORD, be my stay,
be in your Word for - ev - er firm - ly ground - ed.
sur - round me here. Help me in my af - flic - tion.
and lead the way now and when life is end - ing.

Text: Adam Reusner; tr. Catherine Winkworth, alt.

Text: Public domain

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²¹From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. “Never, Lord!” he said. “This shall never happen to you!”

²³Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.”

²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn

694 *Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken*



1 Je - sus, I my cross have tak - en, all to leave and
2 Let the world de - spise and leave me; they have left my
3 Go, then, earth - ly fame and trea - sure! Come, dis - as - ter,
4 Haste, my soul, from grace to glo - ry, armed by faith and



fol - low you; des - ti - tute, de-spised, for - sak - en, you on
Sav - ior, too. Hu - man hearts and looks de - ceive me; you are
scorn, and pain! In your ser - vice pain is plea - sure, with your
winged by prayer; all but heav'n is tran - si - to - ry, God's own



earth once suf - fered, too. Per - ish ev - 'ry fond am - bi - tion,
not, like them, un - true. And, since you have smiled up - on me,
fa - vor loss is gain. I have called you Ab - ba, Fa - ther;
hand shall guide you there. Soon shall end this earth - ly sto - ry,



all I've ev - er hoped or known; yet how rich is
God of wis - dom, love, and might, foes may hate and
you my all in all shall be. Storms may howl, and
swift shall pass the pil - grim days, hope soon change to



my con - di - tion, God and heav'n are still my own!
friends may shun me; show your face, and all is bright.
clouds may gath - er, all must work for good to me.
heav'n - ly glo - ry, faith to sight and prayer to praise.

Text: Henry Francis Lyte, 1793–1847, abr., alt.

Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–1887

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

There's a Whole Lotta Groanin' Goin' On

Offering

Grateful for a gift that enabled its purchase, today we dedicate to God's glory a paschal candle.

Paschal Candle—For the Easter Season

The paschal candle is the large candle in our chancel. The paschal candle is lit beginning on Easter Sunday to symbolize that Christ is alive and lives among his people. It is then lit for every service during the 40 day period that follows Easter as we celebrate the resurrection, the greatest of God's miracles and mercies.

At the Festival of the Ascension, the paschal candle is carried from the chancel to symbolize that Jesus did not remain with his Church in bodily form but returned to his heavenly Father's right hand in glory. The recession of the paschal candle does not imply that Jesus is no longer present among us, for he promised, "Where two or three come together in my name, there am I among them" (Matthew 18:20). Wherever his Word and Sacraments are, there Jesus is truly present. The recession of the paschal candle helps us to remember that Jesus does not himself carry the gospel in Word and Sacraments to the world, but has appointed us to "go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:20). With Jesus' power and presence, we are indeed witnesses of grace.

Paschal Candle—For Funerals

The paschal candle is a symbol of the Resurrection. It is lit three times during the year: during the Easter season, at baptisms, and at funerals. The Apostle Paul explains the extraordinary connection between these three events in Romans 6: “Don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.”

Name was baptized and given new life in Christ; he/she is now united with his/her risen Lord in the glories of Paradise. The candle reminds us that because Christ lives forever, so does our friend.



The symbols on the paschal candle include Easter lilies, the cross with alpha and omega, and the Lamb of victory.

DEDICATION OF GIFTS THAT ADORN THE SANCTUARY

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord, you have blessed us with a place of worship where we may proclaim the forgiveness of sin in Word and sacrament and praise your grace in our prayers, hymns, and offerings. As you enrich our lives with beauty every day, you also enable us to adorn our place of worship with splendid gifts that testify to your greatness and love. Bless our use of *this gift* so that it may enhance the beauty of the gospel in our hearts and minds.

Amen.

Paschal candle

We dedicate this paschal candle for service in the house of God in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

May it remind us that in Baptism we have been joined to Christ Jesus and that because he lives, we also will live.

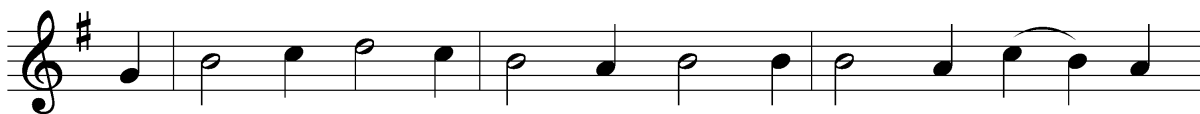
After the dedication, the minister may pray:

Lord, direct us with your gracious favor in everything we do and guide us with your continual help that in all our works—begun, continued, and ended in you—we may glorify your holy name and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Dedication Hymn

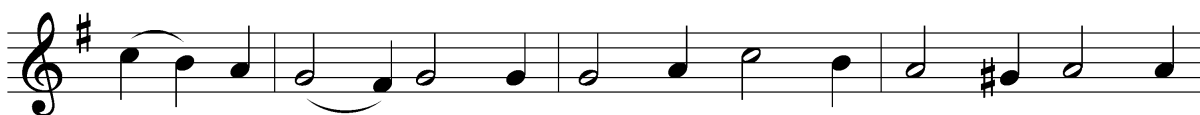
957 Rejoice, Angelic Choirs, Rejoice



1 Re - joice, an - gel - ic choirs, re - joice! Re-joice now, all cre -
2 O earth, ex - ult in ra-diance bright, il - lu - mined by Christ's
3 Let all who gath - er round this flame, the sign of Christ's a -



a - tion! Let trum-pets loud - ly raise their voice to hail the
splen - dor! Your dark-ness now is put to flight; to him due
ris - ing, the death-less light of Christ ac-claim, his sav - ing



Lord's sal - va - tion. Let all Christ's ho - ly priest-hood sing the
prais - es ren - der! Be glad, O Church! Sing out your songs! Your
mer - cy priz - ing; that all may live by faith in him who



tri - umph of their might - y King in fes - tive cel - e - bra - tion!
tem - ples fill with shout-ing throngs to hail the glo-rious vic - tor!
con-quer'd death, de - spair, and sin to make us his for - ev - er.

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. Joel W. Lundeen, 1918–1990

Tune: plainsong, 10th cent.; adapt. Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 739977

Tune: Public domain

Stand

Lord, Have Mercy

The musical score for 'Lord, Have Mercy' is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: 'In the morn - ing, O Lord, I call to you; be mer - ci - ful to me and hear my prayer. Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.'

In the morn - ing, O Lord, I call to you; be
mer - ci - ful to me and hear my prayer.
Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have
mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Tune: Kermit G. Moldenhauer

Tune: © 2002 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: License no. 170000602

Lord's Prayer

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.

Prayer for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger. And in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.

Benedicamus



Let us praise the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

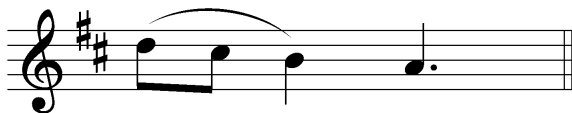
Tune: Marty Haugen

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Blessing



The Lord bless and keep you.



A - men.



The Lord's face ev - er shine up - on you.



A - men.



The Lord grant you peace for all your days.



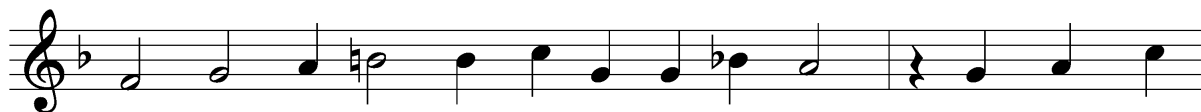
A - **men.**

Text: Marty Haugen

Text and tune: © 1995, 1996 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 739977

Hymn

464 I Am Content! My Jesus Lives Again



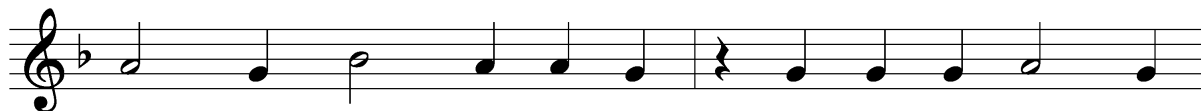
3 I am con-tent! My Je-sus is my light, my ra-diant
4 I am con-tent! Lord, set me ev-er free and wake me



sun of grace. His cheer-ing rays beam bless-ings forth for all:
from the dead that I may rise for-ev-er-more to be



sweet com-fort, hope, and peace. This Eas-ter
with you, my liv-ing head. The chains that



sun has brought sal-va-tion and ev-er-last-ing
hold my bod-y, sev-er; then shall my soul re-



ex-ul-ta-tion. I am con-tent! I am con-tent!
joyce for-ev-er. I am con-tent! I am con-tent!

Text: attr. Johann J. Möller, 1660–1733, abr; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

Text and tune: Public domain

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Dates to Save

Wednesday, September 2nd, 7pm – choir resumes

Tuesday, September 8th, 7pm – Financial Peace University (see Gary Graves)

Thursday, September 10th, 6:30pm – Jesus Cares

Friday, September 18th, 7pm – next Ladies' Book Club

Sunday, October 11th, 10:30am – Fall Festival (one service; meal; activities)

Sunday, December 6th, 2pm to 4pm – Ladies "Advent by Candlelight"

Saturday, December 12th, 9am to Noon – Christmas for Kids

Sunday, December 20th – Christmas Sing Along

Choir resumes this Wednesday at 7pm. Members of Faith are always welcome to join the choir.

Financial Peace University beginning **Tuesday, September 8th**.

For details and to share via your social media contacts...

Contact: Gary Graves (850) 445-4389



Lutheran Women's Missionary Society Rally – Saturday, October 10th

Location: Victory Lutheran Church, Jacksonville

Cost: \$12.00 RSVP deadline: Thursday, October 1st, 2026

Rally registration: 8:45 AM – 9:30 AM Rally begins: 9:30 AM

Rally Presenter: Linda Petersen, Special Projects Coordinator for Branch Lutheran Schools, will be speaking on Branch Lutheran Schools' 11 years of ministry. If you are interested in attending contact Candi Aubin 850-508-3107 cuaubin@gmail.com

Fall Festival – October 11th



Ways you can help and be involved...

- Usher crew
- Guest Services
- Click the QR code and use “share” to post to your social media contacts
- Food donations / food serving (detailed list in early September)
- Grill crew
- Set up / take down / clean up
- Game set up and coordination
- Activities assistance (things like pumpkin painting)
- Personal invitations to guests
- Thrivent event grant (available for Thrivent members)
- Photo “booth” (to populate congregational directory)

Contact: Richard Hackmann (228) 224-8458

VIEW OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE!

FREE App for iPhone, iPad
& Android



Our church directory is a great resource tool that allows you to get to know our church family better!

Simply go to the App Store, search for *Instant Church Directory*  and download the FREE app to begin.

Enter your email listed in the directory, and click "Send Secure Sign-In Link." Check your email, and click the "Log in to Instant Church Directory" button.

If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.



Next Session Now Being Scheduled

Register with Pastor Schultz asap

