



OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Southern Pines, North Carolina

ORDER FOR WORSHIP
11th Sunday after Pentecost – August 21, 2022

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, (+) one God,
Who forgives all our sin,
Whose mercy endures forever.

Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor,
Let us remember the gift of baptism and forgiveness of sin.

God of mercy,

**We confess that we have sinned against you,
Against one another,
And against the creation entrusted to our care.
We're worried and distracted by many things,
And we fail to love you above all else.
We look after ourselves
And turn our back on those unlike us.
We participate in separating ourselves from others
Creating distinctions that divide us
We create hostility where you desire peace.
Forgive us, that we may live in the unifying freedom of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

When we were laid low by sin and guilt,
God made us alive together with Christ,
Forgiving us (+) all our trespasses
By taking our sins to the cross.
For freedom Christ has set us free,
But this freedom is not for selfish consumption,
We are freed from sin to be free for service.
Rejoice in this good news!

THE GATHERING SONG: *We Believe*

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

THE HYMN OF PRAISE - ELW p. 139

Pastor: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

People: **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE FIRST READING: Esther 8

1 On that day King Ahasuerus gave to Queen Esther the house of Haman, the enemy of the Jews, and Mordecai came before the king, for Esther had told what he was to her. 2 Then the king took off his signet ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it to Mordecai. So Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman. 3 Then Esther spoke again to the king; she fell at his feet, weeping and pleading with him to avert the evil design of Haman the Agagite and the plot that he had devised against the Jews. 4 The king held out the golden scepter to Esther, and Esther rose and stood before the king. 5 She said, "If it pleases the king, and if I have won his favor, and if the thing seems right before the king, and I have his approval, let an order be written to revoke the letters devised by Haman son of Hammedatha the Agagite, which he wrote giving orders to destroy the Jews who are in all the provinces of the king. 6 For how can I bear to see the calamity that is coming on my people? Or how can I bear to see the destruction of my kindred?" 7 Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther and to Mordecai the Jew, "See, I have given Esther the house of Haman, and they have hung him on the pole because he plotted to kill the Jews. 8 You may write as you please with regard to the Jews, in the name of the king, and seal it with the king's ring, for an edict written in the name of the king and sealed with the king's ring cannot be revoked."

9 The king's secretaries were summoned at that time, in the third month, which is the month of Sivan, on the twenty-third day, and an edict was written, according to all that Mordecai commanded, to the Jews and to the satraps and the governors and the officials of the provinces from India to Cush, one hundred twenty-seven provinces, to every province in its own script and to every people in its own language, and also to the Jews in their script and their language. 10 He wrote letters in the name of King Ahasuerus, sealed them with the king's ring, and sent them by mounted couriers riding on fast steeds bred from the royal herd. 11 By

these letters the king allowed the Jews who were in every city to assemble and defend their lives, to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate any armed force of any people or province that might attack them, their children, and their women, and to plunder their goods 12 on a single day throughout all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar. 13 A copy of the writ was to be issued as a decree in every province and published to all peoples, and the Jews were to be ready on that day to take revenge on their enemies. 14 So the couriers, mounted on their royal steeds, hurried out, urged by the king's command. The decree was issued in the citadel of Susa.

15 Then Mordecai went out from the presence of the king, wearing royal robes of blue and white, with a great golden crown and a mantle of fine linen and purple, while the city of Susa shouted and rejoiced. 16 For the Jews there was light and gladness, joy and honor. 17 In every province and in every city, wherever the king's command and his edict came, there was gladness and joy among the Jews, a festival and a holiday. Furthermore, many of the peoples of the country professed to be Jews because the fear of the Jews had fallen upon them.

Here ends the reading. Word of God, Word of Life...
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 103:1-8 (*Read responsively by half verse.*)

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul,
**and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.**
- 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—
- 3 who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
- 4 who redeems your life from the Pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
- 5 who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- 6 The Lord works vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
- 8 The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

THE SECOND READING: *Hebrews 12:18-29*

18 You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, 19 and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice

whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. 20 (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.") 21 Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") 22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, 23 and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

25 See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking, for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! 26 At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." 27 This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. 28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe, 29 for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

Here ends the reading. Word of God, Word of Life...

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON - Heather Lussier

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – *How Firm a Foundation, verse 1* – ELW 796

**How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled? Amen.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL: *Luke 13:10-17*

10 Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. 11 And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. 12 When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." 13 When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God.

14 But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the Sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured and not on the Sabbath day."

15 But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it to water? 16

And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the Sabbath day?" 17 When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame, and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things being done by him.

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

The People: **Thanks be to God!**

THE SERMON: *For Just Such a Time as This: Free At Last!*

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: *We are All One in Mission, ELW 576*

THE APOSTLES' CREED - ELW p. 104

People: **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.**

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE PEACE

THE OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

THE OFFERING HYMN – *The Doxology*

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God,
For the greening earth given for all,
For the talents are given to share,

And for this bread and wine.
Transform us to be the body of Christ,
That, feasting on this food and drink,
Our lives may reflect your generosity,
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - ELW p. 144

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THE PREFACE (*Sung by Pastor.*)

THE SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power 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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Spoken)

**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.**

THE EUCHARISTIC INVITATION

COMMUNION SONGS:

Lamb of God / O Come To The Altar

Lamb of God

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.

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

O God, in this holy communion
You have welcomed us into your presence,
Nourished us with words of mercy,
And fed us at your table.
Amid the cares of this life,
Strengthen us to love you with all our heart,
Serve our neighbors with a willing spirit,
And honor the earth you have made,
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

Pastor: Live your lives in Christ, rooted and built up in him, and abound in thanksgiving; and the blessing of the holy Trinity (+) one God, be upon you and remain with you forever.

People: **Amen**

THE SENDING SONG: *Forever*

THE DISMISSAL/ POSTLUDE