

Order of Worship

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost August 3, 2025

The Greater Way



A Sermon Series in Hebrews

PRELUDE

WELCOME

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 aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our ± Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

I was glad when they said unto me, let us go to the house of the Lord! Unless the Lord builds the house, in vain do the builders labor. Surely the Lord is in this place. This is the house of God, this is the gate of heaven! Oh, come let us worship!

Oh, come let us worship!

GATHERING SONG - O God of Light - ELW #507 v. 1-3

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on us; People: Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on us.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Holy God, mold our minds and melt our hearts to receive what the Spirit is saying

to us through the Word of God this day; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

WORD OF GOD:

FIRST READING: Hebrews 7:1-10

This "Melchizedek, king of Salem, priest of the Most High God, met Abraham as he was returning from defeating the kings and blessed him," and to him Abraham apportioned "one-tenth of everything." His name, in the first place, means "king of righteousness"; next, he is also king of Salem, that is, "king of peace." Without father, without mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life but resembling the Son of God, he remains a priest forever.

See how great he is! Even Abraham the patriarch gave him a tenth of the spoils. And those descendants of Levi who receive the priestly office have a commandment in the law to collect tithes from the people, that is, from their kindred, though these also are descended from Abraham. But this man, who does not belong to their ancestry, collected tithes from Abraham and blessed him who had received the promises. It is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. In the one case, tithes are received by those who are mortal; in the other, by one of whom it is testified that he lives. One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him.

Here ends the reading. Word of God, word of life.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 49:1-12 (Read responsively by half verse.)

Hear this, all you peoples;

give ear, all inhabitants of the world,

both low and high,

rich and poor together.

My mouth shall speak wisdom;

the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.

I will incline my ear to a proverb;

I will solve my riddle to the music of the harp.

Why should I fear in times of trouble, when the iniquity of my persecutors surrounds me,

those who trust in their wealth

and boast of the abundance of their riches?

Truly, no ransom avails for one's life; there is no price one can give to God for it.

For the ransom of life is costly and can never suffice,

that one should live on forever and never see the Pit.

When we look at the wise, they die; fool and dolt perish together and leave their wealth to others.

Their graves are their homes forever, their dwelling places to all generations, though they named lands their own.

Mortals cannot abide in their pomp; they are like the animals that perish.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - In Christ Alone v. 1

In Christ alone, my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My Comforter, my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL READING: Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord. People: Praise to you, O Christ!

THE SERMON - The Greater Way: ANCESTOR - Pastor Frank Waugh

SONG OF THE DAY - Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation - ELW #645 v. 1-3

THE APOSTLES' 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 THE PEOPLE

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG - ELW #186

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Wise and gracious God,

receive the labor of our hands—these gifts of money, time, talents, bread, and wine—along with the offering of our very lives. Nourish us with the life of your Son, that we might be his body in the world, making known your abundant mercy in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DIALOGUE

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

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS - ELW p. 144

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

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, for you have had mercy on us and given your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for the priceless grace you have bestowed upon us through Jesus Christ, who died upon the tree of Calvary and rose again to make us living branches, drawing our life from him and bearing fruit in all the world. Send your Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth and power, to renew our faith as we receive our crucified and risen Lord who comes to us in his body and blood.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE 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.

COMMUNION SONG – ELW #146

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of our ancestors, God of all people, before whose face the human generations pass away, we thank you that as the broken bread was gathered into one loaf, the broken fragments of our history are gathered up and healed by the redeeming act of Christ. Send us forth in peace,

form us into what we celebrate, the body of Christ in the world.

Nourished by this sacrament, give us strength and courage to serve you in daily life with joy and singleness of heart.

In the name of Christ we pray.

Amen.

SONG OF THANKSGIVING - ELW #207

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done. Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ. Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

COMMISSION

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support your sisters and brothers, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and (+) give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG - O Zion, Haste - ELW #668

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE