



OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Southern Pines, North Carolina

ORDER FOR WORSHIP
8th Sunday after Pentecost – July 31, 2022

PRELUDE- *Organ*

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: *Now Thank We All Our God - ELW #840*

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: Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE FIRST READING: Esther 5

On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace, opposite the king's hall. The king was sitting on his royal throne inside the palace opposite the entrance to the palace. As soon as the king saw Queen Esther standing in the court, she won his favor, and he held out to her the golden scepter that was in his hand. Then Esther approached and touched the top of the scepter. The king said to her, "What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? Even to half of my kingdom, it shall be given you." Then Esther said, "If it pleases the king, let the king and Haman come today to a banquet that I have prepared for the king." Then the king said, "Bring Haman quickly, so that we may do as Esther desires." So the king and Haman came to the banquet that Esther had prepared. While they were drinking wine, the king said to Esther, "What is your petition? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Esther answered, "This is my petition and request: If I have won the king's favor, and if it pleases the king to grant my petition and fulfill my request, let the king and Haman come tomorrow to the banquet that I will prepare for them, and then I will do as the king has said."

Haman went out that day happy and in good spirits, but when Haman saw Mordecai in the king's gate and observed that he neither rose nor trembled before him, he was infuriated with Mordecai; nevertheless, Haman restrained himself and went home. Then he sent and called for his friends and his wife Zeresh, and Haman recounted to them the splendor of his riches, the number of his sons, all the promotions with which the king had honored him, and how he had advanced him above the officials and the ministers of the king. Haman added, "Even Queen Esther let no one but myself come with the king to the banquet that she prepared."

Tomorrow also I am invited by her, together with the king. Yet all this does me no good so long as I see Mordecai the Jew sitting at the king's gate." Then his wife Zeresh and all his friends said to him, "Let a pole fifty cubits high be made, and in the morning tell the king to have Mordecai hung on it; then go with the king to the banquet in good spirits." This advice pleased Haman, and he had the pole made.

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 49 (*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.

Such is the fate of the foolhardy,

 the end of those[□] who are pleased with their lot.

Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol;

 Death shall be their shepherd;
straight to the grave they descend,
 and their form shall waste away;

Sheol shall be their home.
But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol,
for he will receive me.
Do not be afraid when some become rich,
when the wealth of their houses increases.
For when they die they will carry nothing away;
their wealth will not go down after them.
Though in their lifetime they count themselves happy
—for you are praised when you do well for yourself—
they will go to the company of their ancestors,
who will never again see the light.
Mortals cannot abide in their pomp;
they are like the animals that perish.

THE SECOND READING: *Colossians 3:1-11*

St. Paul writes, "So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!"

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 12:13-21*

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "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

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

THE SERMON: *For Just Such a Time as This: Banquet of Divine Reversal*

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: *God of Grace and God of Glory - ELW #705*

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- *Organ*

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 God, Why Are You Silent - ELW #703

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: *O God of Every Nation - ELW #713*

THE DISMISSAL/ POSTLUDE