

ST. TIMOTHY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
GRAND ISLAND, NY

August 7, 2022
The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

SERVICE OF GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God, **we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.**

Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves. **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

OPENING HYMN

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

ELW 771

1 God, who stretched the spangled heavens infinite in time and place, flung the suns in burning radiance through the silent fields of space: we, your children in your likeness, share inventive powers with you; great Creator, still creating, show us what we yet may do.

2 We have ventured worlds undreamed of since the childhood of our race; known the ecstasy of winging through untraveled realms of space; probed the secrets of the atom, yielding unimagined power, facing us with life's destruction or our most triumphant hour.

3 As each far horizon beckons, may it challenge us anew: children of creative purpose, serving others, honoring you. May our dreams prove rich with promise; each endeavor well begun; great Creator, give us guidance till our goals and yours are one.

GREETING

P. 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

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: 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 this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen, amen.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Let us pray. **Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-6

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ²But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” ⁵He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

R: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 33:12-22

¹²Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD!
Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!
¹³**The LORD looks down from heaven,
and sees all humankind.**
¹⁴God sits firmly enthroned and watches
all who dwell on the earth.
¹⁵**God fashions all their hearts
and observes all their deeds.**
¹⁶A king is not saved by the size of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.
¹⁷**The horse gives vain hope for victory;
despite its great strength it cannot save.**
¹⁸Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD,
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,
¹⁹**to deliver their lives from death,
and to keep them alive in time of famine.**
²⁰Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD,
our helper and our shield.
²¹**Surely, our heart rejoices in you,
for in your holy name we put our trust.**
²²Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us,
even as we place our hope in you.

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

R: The word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL READING

Luke 12:32-40

R. The holy gospel according to Luke, the twelfth chapter.

C. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

R: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

You may be seated.

SERMON

Duane Keeler

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Have No Fear, Little Flock

ELW 764

1 Have no fear, little flock; have no fear, little flock, for the Father has chosen to give you the kingdom; have no fear, little flock!

2 Have good cheer, little flock; have good cheer, little flock, for the Father will keep you in his love forever; have good cheer, little flock!

3 Praise the Lord high above; praise the Lord high above, for he stoops down to heal you, uplift and restore you; praise the Lord high above!

4 Thankful hearts raise to God; thankful hearts raise to God, for he stays close beside you, in all things works with you; thankful hearts raise to God!

THE APOSTLE’S 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 INTERCESSION

After each petition ends with the words, “God, in your mercy,” we respond, “**hear our prayer.**”

PASSING OF THE PEACE

- P. The peace of Christ be with you always.
 C. **And also with you.**

Please be seated.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERING & PRESENTATION OF COMMUNION ELEMENTS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A. Let us pray. **God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

Please stand.

THE GREAT 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 PROPER PREFACE

- P. Blessed are you, Lord our God, Creator and Sovereign of the universe. You loved the world so much you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior. He suffered and died for the sin of the world. You raised him from the dead that we, too, might have new life. He ascended to be with you in glory and, according to his promise, is with us always. And so, with your people on earth and the whole company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
 pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the
 name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P. Truly holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

On the night when he gave himself for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Pour out anew the power of your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that in the breaking of this bread and the drinking of this wine we may know the presence of the living Christ; be one body with him, cleansed by his blood; faithfully serve him in the world; and look forward to his coming in final victory.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P. Now with the confidence of children of God, let us pray with one heart and voice as Jesus teaches.

C. **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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

You may be seated.

SHARING OF THE HOLY FEAST

We invite all to partake in the Lord's supper. As you are comfortable, please come to the front of the sanctuary to receive communion or pick up a packet at the entrance to the sanctuary and deposit the used packaging in the small containers at the ends of the pews.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P. The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A. Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

SERVICE OF SENDING

Please stand.

BLESSING

P. The God of peace, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

The God of Abraham Praise

ELW 831

1 The God of Abr'ham praise, who reigns enthroned above; Ancient of everlasting days, and God of love - "I Am the One I Am," - by earth and heav'n confessed; I bow and bless the sacred name forever blest.

2 The God of Abr'ham praise! At your supreme command from earth I rise and seek the joys at your right hand. I all on earth forsake - its wisdom, fame, and pow'r - and you my only portion make, my shield and tow'r.

3 The God of Abr'ham praise! Your all-sufficient grace shall guide me all my pilgrim days in all my ways. You deign to call me friend; you call yourself my God! And you will save me to the end through Jesus' blood.

4 Your promise you have sworn; I on your oath depend. I shall, on eagle wings upborne, to heav'n ascend. I shall behold your face; I shall your pow'r adore, and sing the wonders of your grace forevermore.

5 Though nature's strength decay, and earth and hell withstand, to Canaan's bounds I urge my way at your command. The wat'ry deep I pass, with Jesus in my view, and through the howling wilderness my way pursue.

6 The goodly land I see, with peace and plenty blest; a land of sacred liberty and endless rest. There milk and honey flow, and oil and wine abound, and trees of life forever grow with mercy crowned.

7 Before the great Three-One the saints exulting stand and tell the wonders God has done through all their land. The list'ning spheres attend and swell the growing fame and sing the songs which never end, the wondrous name.

8 The whole triumphant host give thanks to God on high. "Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!" they ever cry. Hail, Abr'ham's God and mine! I join the heav'nly lays: to you be glory, might divine, And endless praise!

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Welcome to St. Timothy! St. Timothy Lutheran Church opens its doors and its arms in the Name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, and we bid you welcome.

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Office Hours: 10AM-2PM Monday-Friday

This Week's Calendar:

TODAY 8/7	Holy Communion	8:00 & 9:30 AM
Thursday 8/11	Finance Meeting	6:30 PM
Sunday 8/14	Holy Communion	8:00 & 9:30 AM

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Thank you to Duane Keeler who is our presiding minister today while Pastor Rich is away. If pastoral care is needed before he returns on August 14th, please contact Pastor Mary Wolf at stpauls1827@juno.com or at 716-984-2938.
- Please consider joining our fall clean-up day on Saturday, August 20th from 9-12 with a rain date of August 27th. We'll be doing some light work to make our property welcoming for childcare and church families joining us this fall and look forward to some great fellowship again!
- Please hold the following people in your prayers: Walt Oldenberg; Marion Passerelli; Marlene; Jane Phenicie; Yosenia; Robert Domagala; Timmy Book; Giovanna, Maria, and Daniel Gengo; Kurt Yaeger; Allan Kellam; Randy; Betty; Riley; Dan, Lucy, and child; Ted; Joe Morley; Richard E; Isla and Eleanor; Edna; Gloria; Brian Volo; Margaret Miller; Jack Skinner; Marianne Carroll; Danny Penque; Robin Bengaglio Richard; Joanne M.; Dottie Roehrig; Sylvia and Joe Smith; Lorraine Pfohl; and Cheryl Rosati.