

15TH WEDNESDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

11:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2021

Welcome to guests and visitors! *This pamphlet will guide your worship today. The assembly's parts are indicated by ☒ and bold font. The vertical line in the left margin indicates when the assembly stands as each is able.*



About Holy Communion with Saint John Lutheran Church: “It is taught that the true body and blood of Christ are truly present under the form of bread and wine in the Lord’s Supper and are distributed and received there” (Augsburg Confession, Article X). “A person who has faith in these words, ‘given for you’ and ‘shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,’ is really worthy and well prepared.” “Forgiveness of sin, life, and salvation are given to us in the sacrament” (The Small Catechism, Part VI). “This church practices Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcomed to Communion” (The Use of the Means of Grace, Principle 50).

A welcome and introduction to the day are made.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

☒ Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☒ Amen.

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Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

**☩ we confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

☩ Amen.

GATHERING PSALM (55)

Hear my prayer, O God;

☩ do not hide yourself from my petition.

Listen to me and answer me;

☩ I have no peace, because of my cares.

I am shaken by the noise of the enemy

☩ and by the pressure of the wicked;

for they have cast an evil spell upon me

☩ and are set against me in fury.

My heart quakes within me,

☩ and the terrors of death have fallen upon me.

Fear and trembling have come over me,

☩ and horror overwhelms me.

But I will call upon God,

☩ and the Lord will deliver me.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

☩ as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

GREETING

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

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

☩ 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

☞ And also with you.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☞ Amen.

FIRST READING: Amos 9:11-15

¹¹On that day I will raise up the booth of David that is fallen, and repair its breaches, and raise up its ruins, and rebuild it as in the days of old; ¹²in order that they may possess the remnant of Edom and all the nations who are called by my name, says the LORD who does this. ¹³The time is surely coming, says the LORD, when the one who plows shall overtake the one who reaps, and the trader of grapes the one who sows the seed; the mountains shall drip sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it. ¹⁴I will restore the fortunes of my people Israel, and they shall rebuild the ruined cities and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and drink their wine, and they shall make gardens and eat their fruit. ¹⁵I will plant them upon their land, and they shall never again be plucked up out of the land that I have given them, says the LORD your God.

The word of the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY: Psalm 142

¹I cry to the Lord with my voice;

☞ to the Lord I make loud supplication:

²I pour out my complaint before you

☞ and tell you all my trouble.

³When my spirit languishes within me, you know my path;

☞ in the way wherein I walk they have hidden a trap for me.

⁴I look to my right hand and find no one who knows me;

☞ I have no place to flee to, and no one cares for me.

⁵I cry out to you, O Lord;

**☞ I say, "You are my refuge,
my portion in the land of the living."**

⁶Listen to my cry for help, for I have been brought very low;

**☞ save me from those who pursue me,
for they are too strong for me.**

⁷Bring me out of prison, that I may give thanks to your name;

**☞ when you have dealt bountifully with me,
the righteous will gather around me.**

SECOND READING: Acts 23:12-35

¹²In the morning the Jews joined in a conspiracy and bound themselves by an oath neither to eat nor drink until they had killed Paul. ¹³There were more than forty who joined in this conspiracy. ¹⁴They went to the chief priests and elders and said, "We have strictly bound ourselves by an oath to taste no food until we have killed Paul. ¹⁵Now then, you and the council must notify the tribune to bring him down to you, on the pretext that you want to make a more thorough examination of his case. And we are ready to do away with him before he arrives."

¹⁶Now the son of Paul's sister heard about the ambush; so he went and gained entrance to the barracks and told Paul. ¹⁷Paul called one of the centurions and said, "Take this young man to the tribune, for he has something to report to him." ¹⁸So he took him, brought him to the tribune, and said, "The prisoner Paul called me

and asked me to bring this young man to you; he has something to tell you." ¹⁹The tribune took him by the hand, drew him aside privately, and asked, "What is it that you have to report to me?" ²⁰He answered, "The Jews have agreed to ask you to bring Paul down to the council tomorrow, as though they were going to inquire more thoroughly into his case. ²¹But do not be persuaded by them, for more than forty of their men are lying in ambush for him. They have bound themselves by an oath neither to eat nor drink until they kill him. They are ready now and are waiting for your consent." ²²So the tribune dismissed the young man, ordering him, "Tell no one that you have informed me of this."

²³Then he summoned two of the centurions and said, "Get ready to leave by nine o'clock tonight for Caesarea with two hundred soldiers, seventy horsemen, and two hundred spearmen. ²⁴Also provide mounts for Paul to ride, and take him safely to Felix the governor." ²⁵He wrote a letter to this effect:

²⁶Claudius Lysias to his Excellency the governor Felix, greetings. ²⁷This man was seized by the Jews and was about to be killed by them, but when I had learned that he was a Roman citizen, I came with the guard and rescued him. ²⁸Since I wanted to know the charge for which they accused him, I had him brought to their council. ²⁹I found that he was accused concerning questions of their law, but was charged with nothing deserving death or imprisonment. ³⁰When I was informed that there would be a plot against the man, I sent him to you at once, ordering his accusers also to state before you what they have against him."

³¹So the soldiers, according to their instructions, took Paul and brought him during the night to Antipatris. ³²The next day they let the horsemen go on with him, while they returned to the barracks. ³³When they came to Caesarea and delivered the letter to the governor, they presented Paul also before him. ³⁴On reading the letter, he asked what province he belonged to, and when he learned that he was from Cilicia, ³⁵he said, "I will give you a hearing when your accusers arrive." Then he ordered that he be kept under guard in Herod's headquarters.

The word of the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our hearts,

**☞ that we may know the hope to which God has called us.
Alleluia.**

GOSPEL: Luke 7:31-35

The holy gospel according to John.

☞ Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ³¹“To what then will I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? ³²They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another,

'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not weep.'

³³For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon'; ³⁴the Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' ³⁵Nevertheless, wisdom is vindicated by all her children."

The gospel of the Lord.

☞ Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Silence for reflection may follow the sermon.

MUSICAL OFFERING

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

☞ And also with you.

The assembly remains in place, as the service continues.

APOSTLES' CREED

God has made us God's people through our baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**☩ 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

Each petition ends: Lord, in your mercy,

☩ hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude: All these things and whatever else You see
that we need, grant us . . . one God, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

OFFERING PRESENTATION

*Offerings are received at the door as one enters. The offering is
presented for the work of Christ's Church, here and throughout the
world.*

OFFERTORY

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,

☞ and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,

☞ that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and dreams of all;

☞ unite them with the prayers we offer.

Grace our table with your presence,

☞ and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

At the conclusion, the assembly responds:

☞ Amen.

The table is set.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

☞ And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

☞ We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☞ It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

The minister continues, concluding: ... and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (SANCTUS)

**☩ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. . . .

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive
our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

☩ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread .
. . . for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**☩ 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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

☩ Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION SONG (AGNUS DEI)

**☩ 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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Please remain seated where you are. The communion elements will be brought to you. The host is received in your open hand. The wine will be taken by you from an individual glass. Carefully place your empty glass on the pew until end of worship.

BLESSING & POST-COMMUNION PSALM (84)

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

☩ Amen.

¹How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts!

**☩ My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

⁷Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob.

**☩ ⁸Behold our defender, O God;
and look upon the face of your anointed.**

⁹For one day in your courts
is better than a thousand in my own room,
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.

**☩ ¹⁰For the Lord God is both sun and shield;
he will give grace and glory;**

¹¹no good thing will the Lord withhold
from those who walk with integrity.

☩ ¹²O Lord of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
☩ as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

At the conclusion, the assembly responds:

☩ Amen.

BLESSING

Response after the blessing:

☩ Amen.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please check web-sites and printed materials for further information.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

☩ Thanks be to God.

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