

August 23, 2026
13th Sunday after Pentecost

10a Worship Service



First Lutheran
discover more : **together**

GOD OF WONDERS

Lord of all creation
Of water, earth, and sky
The heavens are your tabernacle
Glory to the Lord on high

God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth
Lord of heaven and earth

Early in the morning
I will celebrate the light
When I stumble in the darkness
I will call your name by night

God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth
Lord of heaven and earth

Hallelujah
To the Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah
To the Lord of heaven and earth
Hallelujah
To the Lord of heaven and earth

God of wonders beyond our galaxy
You are holy, holy
The universe declares your majesty
You are holy, holy
Lord of heaven and earth
Lord of heaven and earth

I Will Exalt

Verse

Your Presence is all I need
It's all I want it's all I seek
Without it without it there's no meaning
Your Presence is the air I breathe
The song I sing and the love I need
And without it without it I'm not living
(REPEAT)

Chorus

I will exalt You Lord
I will exalt You Lord
There is no one like You God
I will exalt You Lord
I will exalt You Lord
No other name be lifted high

Bridge

There will be no one like You
And no one beside You
You alone are worthy of all praise (3X)

Chorus

I will exalt You Lord
I will exalt You Lord
There is no one like You God
I will exalt You Lord
I will exalt You Lord
No other name be lifted high

Ending

Your Presence is all I need
It's all I want all I seek
Without it without it there's no meaning

Prelude/Opening Music: “God of Wonders” & “I Will Exalt” Praise Band

Welcome

Stand

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

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

(brief silence) Most merciful God,

All: 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.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Opening Song: “God With Us” Praise Band ——>

GOD WITH US

Oh, you've come
To bring peace, to be love
To be nearer to us
And you've come
To bring life, to be light
To shine brighter in us
Oh, Emmanuel, God with us

Our deliverer, you are Savior
In your presence we find our strength
Over everything, our Redemption
God with us, you are God with us

Oh, you've come
To be hope to this world
For your honor and name
And you've come to take sin
To bear shame
And to conquer the grave
Oh, Emmanuel, God with us

Our deliverer, you are Savior
In your presence we find our strength
Over everything, our Redemption
God with us, you are God with us

You are here, you are holy
We are standing in your glory

You are here, you are holy
We are standing in your glory

You are here, you are holy
We are standing in your glory

You are here, you are holy
We are standing in your glory

Our deliverer, you are Savior
In your presence we find our strength
Over everything, our Redemption
God with us, you are God with us

Greeting & Prayer of the Day

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

All: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. (*brief silence*)

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

Children's Message and Backpack blessing

Sit

Intro to the Reading:

L: Jesus asks the question that sits at the heart of Christian life: not "what do you believe about me" but "who do you say I am". Faith is more than intellectual agreement but the whole self oriented in trust toward Christ. Peter's blurted answer — You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God — is less a doctrinal statement than a cry of recognition. In Jesus, we find we have always belonged to God. Our first reading comes from Romans, the 12th chapter...

First Reading: Romans 12:1-8 *NRSVue*

L: ¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

L: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

The Church's One Foundation



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
 her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
 by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
 she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
 and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
 one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
 yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
 till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
 Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
 and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
 and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
 that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

The Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20 *NRSVue*

P: ¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

P: The Gospel of the Lord,

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pr. Steve Knudson

Stand

Hymn of the Day: *ELW* #654 (st. 1,2,5) (*led by piano in balcony*)

“The Church’s One Foundation”

Lector: Go to the Ambo for the Prayers

The Apostles' Creed...Page 105

All: 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 →

P: God of grace,

All: hear our prayer.

Passing of the Peace:

WL: The peace of Christ be with you always.

All: And also with you

WL: Let us turn to one another, offering a sign of Christ's peace.

Offering of Gratitude:

(Sit) P: You may be seated.

We give God our thanks and praise in response to God's mercy and abundance.

We invite you to place your gratitude card along with any offering you have in the plate at this time or make an offering electronically.

Would the ushers please come forward.

Lector—Go to Ambo before Prayer; remain up front for communion.

Special Music: "Yet It Stood Strong" ... by Ellingboe

Adult Choir and Dennis Pedde, trumpet

Offertory Hymn: *ELW* #167 "Now the Feast and Celebration"

All: Now the feast and celebration,

all of creation sings for joy

to the God of life and love and freedom;

praise and glory forevermore!

Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,

whose blood has freed and united us

to be one great people of God.

Now the feast and celebration,

all of creation sings for joy

to the God of life and love and freedom;

praise and glory forevermore!

Offertory Prayer:

L: *(5p) Please Stand and*

(9a) Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving: ... page 152

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Ordinary Preface:

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Words of Institution

P: 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.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**All: 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.**

P: You may be seated. Please follow the direction of the ushers to come forward.
There is gluten free bread and juice available upon request. The table is set
and all are welcome. (optional) Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Distribution of Holy Communion

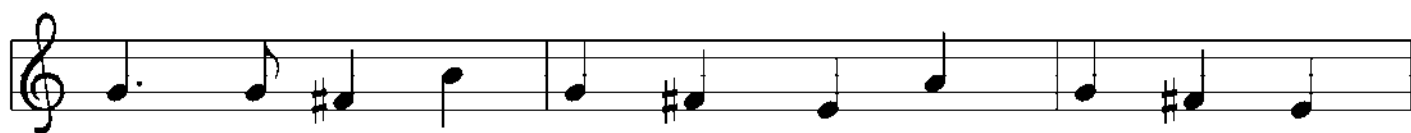
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than
 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -
 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
 rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
 tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
 may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain

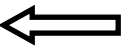
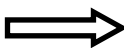


On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.

Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymns: *ELW* #597 “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less” 
ELW #576 “We All are One in Mission” 

Lector—go to the ambo as Pastor covers communion elements.

Stand

The Communion Blessing

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

All: Amen.

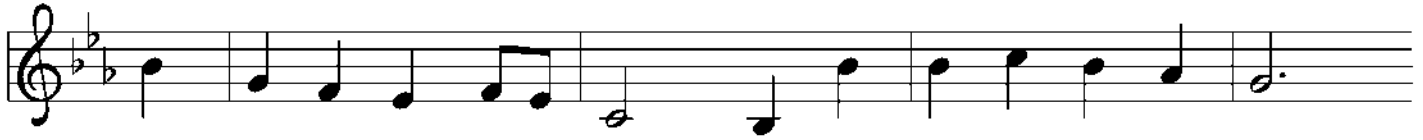
Post-Communion Prayer

L: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

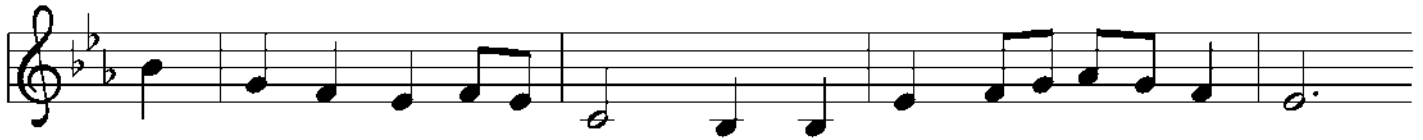
All: Amen.

(Sit)

We All Are One in Mission



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit-ness in God's name.
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var-ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem-ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris-ing grace,
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune

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- Sending -

Sending:

WL:

All: Amen.

Closing Song: “Days of Elijah” Praise Band

Dismissal:

L: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

All: Thanks be to God.

DAYS OF ELIJAH

Declaring the word of the Lord

These are the days of Elijah
Declaring the Word of the Lord
And these are the days of your servant,
Moses
Righteousness being restored
And though these are days of great trial
Of famine and darkness and sword
Still we are the voice in the desert, cry-
ing
Prepare ye the way of the Lord!

Behold he comes
Riding on the clouds
Shining like the sun
At the trumpet call
Lift your voice
It's the year of Jubilee
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes

These are the days of Ezekiel
The dry bones becoming as flesh
And these are the days of your servant,
David
Rebuilding a temple of praise
These are the days of the harvest
The fields are as white in your world
And we are the laborers in your vineyard

Behold he comes
Riding on the clouds
Shining like the sun
At the trumpet call
Lift your voice
It's the year of Jubilee
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes

There is no God like Jehovah
There is no God like Jehovah
There is no God like Jehovah
There is no God like Jehovah
There is no God like Jehovah
There is no God like Jehovah

Behold he comes
Riding on the clouds
Shining like the sun
At the trumpet call
Lift your voice
It's the year of Jubilee
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes
(2x)

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