

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
A SERVICE OF THE WORD AND TABLE  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2024



**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

ELW p. 94

In the name of the Father, and of the  $\text{†}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation...into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Silence is kept for personal meditation.*

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.**

In the mercy of almighty God...and of the  $\text{†}$  Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

**For the Beauty of the Earth**

ELW 879

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,  
2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,  
4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,  
5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:  
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:  
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:  
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:  
for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

*Refrain*

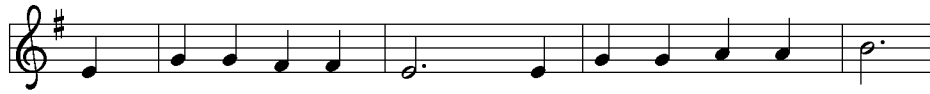
Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

## 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

ELW p 203



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW p 204



- 1 Come, let us join our cheer - ful songs with an - gels round the throne;
- 2 "Wor - thy the Lamb that died," they cry, "to be ex - alt - ed thus!"
- 3 Je - sus is wor - thy to re - ceive hon - or and pow'r di - vine;
- 4 Let all cre - a - tion join in one to bless the sa - cred name



ten thou - sand thou - sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.  
"Wor - thy the Lamb," our lips re - ply, "for he was slain for us!"  
and bless - ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for - ev - er thine.  
of God who sits up - on the throne, and to a - dore the Lamb.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### FIRST READING: Song of Solomon 2:8-13

*A reading from Song of Solomon.*

<sup>8</sup>The voice of my beloved!

Look, he comes,  
leaping upon the mountains,  
bounding over the hills.

<sup>9</sup>My beloved is like a gazelle

or a young stag.  
Look, there he stands  
behind our wall,  
gazing in at the windows,  
looking through the lattice.  
<sup>10</sup>My beloved speaks and says to me:  
“Arise, my love, my fair one,  
and come away;  
<sup>11</sup>for now the winter is past,  
the rain is over and gone.  
<sup>12</sup>The flowers appear on the earth;  
the time of singing has come,  
and the voice of the turtledove  
is heard in our land.  
<sup>13</sup>The fig tree puts forth its figs,  
and the vines are in blossom;  
they give forth fragrance.  
Arise, my love, my fair one,  
and come away.”

*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

### **PSALM: Psalm 15**

<sup>1</sup>LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?  
Who may abide upon your holy hill?  
<sup>2</sup>**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,  
who speak the truth from their heart;**  
<sup>3</sup>they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.  
<sup>4</sup>**In their sight the wicked are rejected,  
but they honor those who fear the LORD.  
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**  
<sup>5</sup>They do not give their money in hope of gain,  
nor do they take bribes against the innocent.  
Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

### **SECOND READING: James 1:17-27**

*A reading from James.*

<sup>17</sup>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of

all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

<sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

*The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p 205



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## GOSPEL: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

*The holy gospel according to St. Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.*

<sup>1</sup>Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” <sup>6</sup>He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me;

<sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

<sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

<sup>21</sup>“For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

*The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.*

**CHILDREN'S TIME AND SERMON**

Pr. Megan Hoewisch

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**Morning Has Broken**

**ELW 556**

1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black - bird has  
 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first  
 3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the  
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet  
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**Back of ELW**

**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 prayer petition, the congregation responds: Hear our prayer.*

## PEACE

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## OFFERING

*You can place your offering in the plate as it's passed around, give online at [FLCHavre.org](http://FLCHavre.org), or send your offering to PO Box 66, Havre, MT 59501.*

## OFFERING HYMN

## We Are an Offering

ELW 692

*We lift our voices, we lift our hands,  
We lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.  
Lord, use our voices, Lord use our hands,  
Lord use our lives, they are Yours: we are an offering.  
All that we have, all that we are,  
All that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.  
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:  
We are an offering, we are an offering.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW p 206

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.**

It is indeed right . . . and join in their unending hymn:

ELW p 207

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

ELW p 208

... let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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**

*There are gluten-free wafers available in a bowl beside the bread, and white grape juice in the center of the trays. All are welcome at the Lord's table.*

**LAMB OF GOD**

ELW p 208

1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
 you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray. **Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

### DISMISSAL AND MISSION STATEMENT

*We go forth in faith, sharing God's love,*

**In kindness serving all.**

*Go in peace. Share the good news.*

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Lincoln McKinley Grade School:** School has started up and First Lutheran is always looking for ways to help teachers and staff at Lincoln McKinley. They need the following items for the school year: disinfectant wipes, Kleenex, snack crackers or pretzels. If anyone would like to donate any of these items, you can drop them off at the church office or contact Marion Olson.

**Theology on Tap** will meet again on Tuesday, September 3 at Triple Dog Brewing for a lively discussion on God and Sports, starting at 6:30 pm.

**Common Mission Choir:** The Common Mission Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 4, at 6:30 pm, at First Lutheran Church. If you enjoy singing, used to sing, are learning to sing, are a high school or college student, a retiree, or anyone in between, we welcome you. Under the leadership of Michael Stevenson and Sue Ost, we will sing at worship about twice a month, sometimes at two different churches on the same day. For more information, contact Sue Ost (406) 808-1142 or First Lutheran Church (406) 265-5881. We hope to see you on September 4.

**Youth Group** begins Wednesday, September 4, from 6:30-7:30 pm. All middle schoolers and high schoolers welcome! We'll meet at First during September, and Messiah during October.

**Chili Cook-Off:** Sunday, September 8, will mark the return of the Chili Cook-Off! Gather your favorite recipe and get ready for the competition of the year! Beginning at 11 am, each



competitor will serve their own chili to a big crowd of hungry people. Once the people have decided on their favorite chili, they can vote with their dollars. The chef with the most money in their can at the end of the event will be the winner, receiving the coveted golden spoon and will have their photo added to the Wall of Fame in the Fellowship Hall. Proceeds from the event will be used to provide scholarships to Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp.

**PRAYER LIST**

**Grieving Families:** Edith Gerky; Tim Holsapple (Loren Toldness’ cousin); Patty Hall Holmes; John Braaten (Steven Braaten’s son); John Hecker (Alison Hecker’s husband); Larry Jappe; Edna Reese (Donna Tweeten’s aunt); Edith Anderson; Joy (Sug) Hokanson; Laurie George; Stu Sorensen (Sue Ost’s brother); Pr. Walt Kirkegaard; Keith Nordrum (Sandy O’Leary’s brother); Mark Larson **Medical Issues:** Tracy Cowan (Donnabelle Warp’s friend); Dan Carpenter (Charlis Carpenter’s son); Guy Davies (1 year old with cancer, friend of the Jeneweins); Corbin Swanson (Barb Lafrantz’s friend); Connie and Larry Maize (Linda Malley’s sister and brother-in-law); Jeremy Hitchcock (Keith Doll’s nephew); Ian McKay (thyroid cancer, Linda Hinebauch’s grandson); Kristin Donovan; Zack Rambo; Helen Hill; John Snider (Gunnar Aageson’s girlfriend’s father); Lowel Johnson; Doris Gullickson (Nancy Erickson’s mother); Keith Doll; Samantha Niess and family; Gavin Pankratz (Judy Solomon’s friend); Amy Patrick Thackeray; Ginger Doll (Keith Doll’s niece); Kenneth Freshwater (Charlis Carpenter’s friend); Karen Nave; Kristi Hale (Keith Doll’s daughter); Brooks Adams (Chris and Kathy Gorder’s Grandson); Kris Gartner Those at Home: Lita Moog; Living in Community: Eagle’s Manor: None; NMCC: Tim Haas; Mary Grandberg; Away: Anna May Borst

Be a part of a ministry that has been going since 1949! We broadcast our worship service every Sunday at 11 a.m. mountain time on 610 KOJM and 98.3 FM as well as online at KOJM.com, and we are always looking for people to Sponsor a broadcast. The weekly cost is \$225.00, but **any amount you can give is welcome!** Sponsor a broadcast in honor or in memory of a person or important event by filling out the form below or calling the church office at 265-5881. Thank you!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

I/we prefer the following date: \_\_\_\_\_



September 1, 2024	
<b>Reader</b>	Ann McKnight
<b>Liturgy Leader</b>	Judy Solomon
<b>Communion Bread</b>	Marilyn Thackeray
<b>Communion Set Up</b>	Marilyn Thackeray
<b>Communion Server</b>	Marilyn Thackeray
<b>Communion Server</b>	Margaret Hencz
<b>Communion Server</b>	Shelley Pfister
<b>Usher</b>	Doug Larson
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Doris Halverson
<b>Pianist/Organist</b>	Michael Stevenson