

# Traditional Worship

August 16, 2026

*Time after Pentecost*

*Lectionary 20*

*In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.*

## GATHERING

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

### PRELUDE

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy – arr. Aaron David Miller*

### RINGING OF THE STEEPLE BELL \*

*As the bell is rung the assembly stands for the Opening Hymn.*

*A \* in the order of service indicates that those who are able are invited to stand.*

### WELCOME \*

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

Assembly: **And also with you.**

### OPENING HYMN #886 \*

*Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

### CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS \*

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

Assembly: **Amen.**

Leader: In the presence of God and each other  
let us confess the ways we have struggled to trust, to believe,  
and to welcome all people.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Leader: Gracious God,

**Assembly: we confess that we do not always trust your promises.  
When we are afraid, we hold tightly to what we know  
and forget that you are with us.  
We confess that our faith can become small  
when we cannot see the way ahead.  
We have sometimes placed limits on your love  
and imagined that some people belong more than others.  
Forgive us, God of mercy.  
Open our hearts to trust you more deeply.  
Give us faith when we are uncertain,  
courage when we are afraid,  
and compassion for every person you have created.  
Teach us to recognize your image in one another.  
Make our community a place where all are welcomed,  
where every person is valued,  
and where no one is treated as less worthy of your love.  
Renew us by your grace and lead us in the way of Jesus.  
Amen.**

Leader: Hear the good news:  
God's love is wider than our fear,  
stronger than our doubt,  
and offered freely to all.  
In ✝ Jesus Christ, God meets us with mercy, calls us to trust,  
and welcomes us into a community  
where no one is outside the reach of grace.  
Our sins are forgiven.  
Our faith is renewed.  
We belong to God.

**Assembly: Amen**

## HYMN OF PRAISE \*

*Glory to God*



## PRAYER OF THE DAY \*

Leader: Let us pray.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you.  
Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion  
and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Assembly: Amen.

## WORD

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

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

*The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.*

<sup>1</sup> Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come  
and my deliverance be revealed.

<sup>6</sup> And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,  
and to be his servants,  
all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it  
and hold fast my covenant—

<sup>7</sup> these I will bring to my holy mountain  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;

their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar,  
for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.

<sup>8</sup> Thus says the Lord God,  
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:  
I will gather others to them  
besides those already gathered.

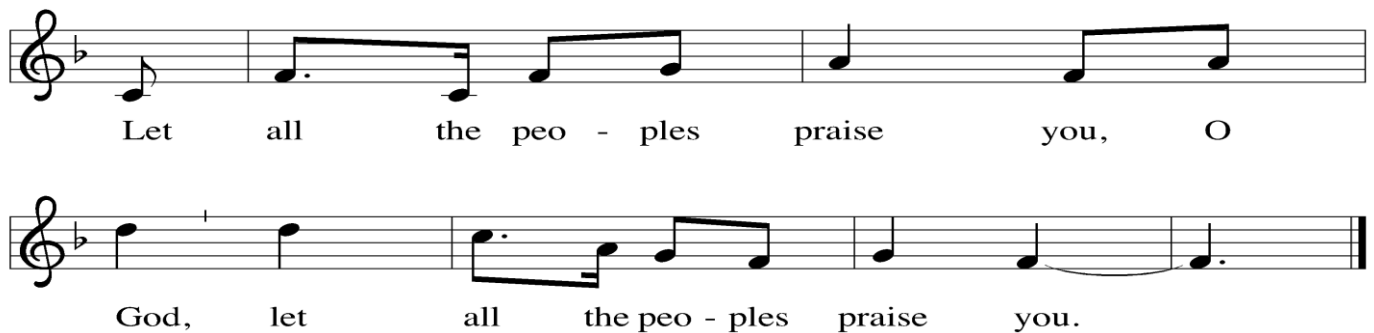
Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 67

*The Psalm Refrain is sung by the Cantor and then the Assembly joins in the Psalm Refrain.  
The Cantor sings the Psalm Verses and the Assembly joins in the Psalm Refrain as indicated.*



<sup>1</sup> May God be merciful to us and bless us;  
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

<sup>2</sup> Let your way be known upon earth,  
your saving health among all nations.

<sup>3</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>4</sup> Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide all the nations on earth...*Refrain*

<sup>5</sup> Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>6</sup> The earth has brought forth its increase;  
God, our own God, has blessed us.

<sup>7</sup> May God give us blessing,  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe...*Refrain*

## SECOND READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

*God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.*

[Paul writes:] <sup>1</sup> I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2a</sup> God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

<sup>29</sup> For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup> Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup> so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy.

<sup>32</sup> For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION \*



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.

## HOLY GOSPEL\*

Matthew 15:10-28

*Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.*

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.

Assembly: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>10</sup> [Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand:<sup>11</sup> it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles."

<sup>12</sup> Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?"

<sup>13</sup> He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. <sup>14</sup> Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." <sup>15</sup> But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." <sup>16</sup> Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? <sup>17</sup> Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? <sup>18</sup> But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. <sup>19</sup> For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. <sup>20</sup> These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."

<sup>21</sup> Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup> Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." <sup>23</sup> But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." <sup>24</sup> He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." <sup>25</sup> But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." <sup>26</sup> He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>27</sup> She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." <sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly: Praise to you, O Christ.

## SERMON

### HYMN OF THE DAY #588 \*

*There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

### APOSTLE'S CREED \*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 \***

*The assembly responds to each petition ending in “Merciful God,”*

**Assembly: receive our prayer.**

*The assembly responds to the final petition ending with “All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.”*

**Assembly: Amen.**

## **PEACE \***

**Leader:** The peace of the Lord be with you always!

**Assembly:** And also with you!

*The assembly greets each other with  
“peace be with you...and also with you.”*

*You’re invited to share God’s peace with those around you.*

*If you’re worshipping on Facebook, you may also greet one another in the comments.*

## **MEAL**

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

*In Christ’s body and blood given to us, God forgives us and nourishes us for mission.*

## **OFFERING**

*‘Tis So Sweet To Trust in Jesus – Fred Bock*

*As we respond to hearing God’s Word and prepare to feast at God’s table we contemplate the many ways we serve the Kingdom of God through our time, talents, and gifts.*

*Offering plates will be passed among the assembly by the ushers.*

*Gifts can also be given electronically using this QR Code.*



*'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take Him at His word;  
Just to rest upon His promise; just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."*

*O how sweet to trust in Jesus, precious Jesus, savior, friend.  
And I know that thou art with me, wilt be with me to the end.*

*Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him! How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!  
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust Him more!*

## OFFERTORY \*

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;

praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING \*

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**Assembly: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**Assembly: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**Assembly: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: 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.



For in Christ you call us to trust your love  
 even when we cannot see the way ahead.  
 You meet us in our doubts and strengthen us in faith.  
 You gather us at this table, not because we are perfect or have earned a place,  
 but because your grace is freely given to all.  
 Here, every person is welcomed.  
 Here, no one stands outside your love.  
 Here, we receive the bread of life and the cup of blessing,  
 signs of your promise that you are with us  
 and that we belong to one another.  
 And so, with all who trust in your promises,  
 with all people of every time and place,  
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION \***

## LORD'S PRAYER \*

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.

## LAMB OF GOD \*



## HOLY COMMUNION

*All those who confess Jesus as Lord and Savior are welcome to the table.*

*We invite you to come forward to receive the communion elements from the servers.*

*You will be handed a wafer from the server and are invited to select a cup of wine from the tray.*

*Pre-packaged elements of grape juice and gluten free wafers are available*

*in the baskets at the communion rail and at each entrance to the sanctuary.*

*You may partake of the elements at the communion rail and dispose of the cups and packaging in the baskets at the end of each communion rail or take the elements back to your pew to partake of them and dispose of the cups and packaging after the service.*

*"Bread from the Lord's Table" and/or a pastoral blessing are available for children who do not yet commune.*

Leader: The table is prepared.  
Come, share in the feast.

*As you are served communion:*

Communion Server: The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you

Communion Receiver: Amen.

Music at Distribution – *My Faith Looks Up to Thee*  
Organ Meditation – arr. Karl Osterland  
Hymn #759

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Leader: Let us pray.

Gracious God,  
we give you thanks for meeting us at this table  
and nourishing us with your love.  
Strengthen our faith and deepen our trust in you.  
When we are uncertain, remind us that you are near.  
When we are afraid, give us courage to follow your way.  
You have welcomed us with grace.  
Send us now to welcome others with that same grace.  
Help us see and honor the dignity of every person,  
to make room for those who feel left out,  
and to live as a community where all are valued and loved.  
Renew us through this meal  
and make us instruments of your peace,  
your mercy, and your hope.  
We give thanks for your unfailing love,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Assembly: Amen.**

# SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION & SERVICE

### BLESSING \*

Leader: Go now in the blessing of God.  
May the God who loves you give you faith when the way is uncertain,  
trust when you cannot see what lies ahead,  
and courage to follow where love leads.  
May Christ remind you that you are never alone  
and that God's grace is wide enough to welcome every person.  
May the Spirit fill you with compassion,  
open your hearts to one another,  
and send you into the world as people of hope, peace, and welcome.  
Go in faith.  
Go in trust.  
Go knowing that you are loved—and that all people are held in God's love.

Assembly: **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN #650 \*

*In Christ There Is No East or West*

### DISMISSAL \*

Leader: Go in peace.  
Live by faith,  
trust in God,  
and share Christ's love with all people.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE \*

*In Christ There Is No East or West – arr. Dale Wood*

.....

**SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:**

Pastor Leslie Fox Lott, Transition Pastor  
Pastor Denny Asp, Associate Pastor  
Deacon Diane Schwiger-Alexander, Director of Youth & Family  
Carol Davis, Lector & Communion Assistant 8:00  
Jim Davis, Lector & Communion Assistant 8:00  
Joe Weaver, Lector & Communion Assistant 10:45  
Chad Baker, Director of Worship & Music  
Ruth Peart, Cantor

.....

**FLOWER DEDICATION:**

*The altar flowers are given in memory of his parents, Clarence & Helen Reed,  
by Clarence & Lyn Reed.*

.....

*Service Music & Liturgy reprinted and broadcast under OneLicense.net # A-722064, Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License  
#SBW0464223 & CCLI # 1841035(reprint) & #20141603 (Streaming)*

*Scripture quotations New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of  
Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.*

*Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress.*

*Worship resources from sundaysandseasons.com © 2025 Augsburg Fortress.*

.....