

Traditional Worship

August 30, 2026

Time after Pentecost

Lectionary 22



GATHERING

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

PRELUDE

*Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake
Chorale & Variations – J. G. Walther*

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 #655 *

Son of God, Eternal Savior

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS *

Leader: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
the God who calls us by name,
the God who meets us on holy ground,
the God whose mercy is from everlasting to everlasting.

Assembly: Amen.

Leader: Drawn near to our God who listens and hears us,
we confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Leader: Merciful God,

Assembly: we confess that we have not always recognized your presence.

You call us to holy ground,

but we rush past, distracted by our own concerns.

You call us by name,

but we have been slow to listen.

You send us to bear your love into places of suffering,

but we have looked for easier paths.

We confess that we seek glory without the cross,

comfort without sacrifice,

and life on our own terms.

We cling to ourselves when you call us to follow Christ.

We fear losing what we have and forget the life you freely give.

Forgive us, O God.

Turn us again toward Christ.

Teach us to take up our cross and follow where you lead,

trusting that your presence goes with us.

Amen.

Leader: The God who spoke to Moses from the burning bush
has heard the cries of God's people and knows their suffering.

This same God comes to us in Jesus Christ,

who set his face toward the cross

and gave his life for the sake of the world.

Hear the good news:

the God whose name is *I AM* is present with us now.

By the grace of ✠ Christ, our sins are forgiven.

We are released from the burden of saving ourselves.

We are free to follow Jesus, to take up our cross,

and to live for the sake of others.

Assembly: Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE *

Glory to God



PRAYER OF THE DAY *

Leader: Let us pray.

O God, whose presence burns brightly in the wilderness,
you called Moses from the holy ground
and revealed yourself as the God who is with us.

In Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, you have shown us the way of the cross
and called us to follow wherever you lead.

Give us courage to set aside our own desires, to take up our cross,
and to follow Christ faithfully.

Teach us to trust your presence when the path is difficult
and to know that losing our life for Christ's sake
is the way to true life.

Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Assembly: Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST READING

Exodus 3:1-15

Moses experienced the call of God when God appeared to him in a bush that burned but was not consumed. When Moses expressed his unworthiness, God promised to be with him. When Moses objected that people would demand to know God's name, God revealed his personal name, Yahweh (I AM WHO I AM), or the LORD. Israel discovered God's true identity when God took them out of Egypt.

¹ Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. ² There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. ³ Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up." ⁴ When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵ Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶ He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, ⁸ and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹ The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." ¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" ¹² He said, "I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

¹³ But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?"

¹⁴ God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.' " ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you':

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations."

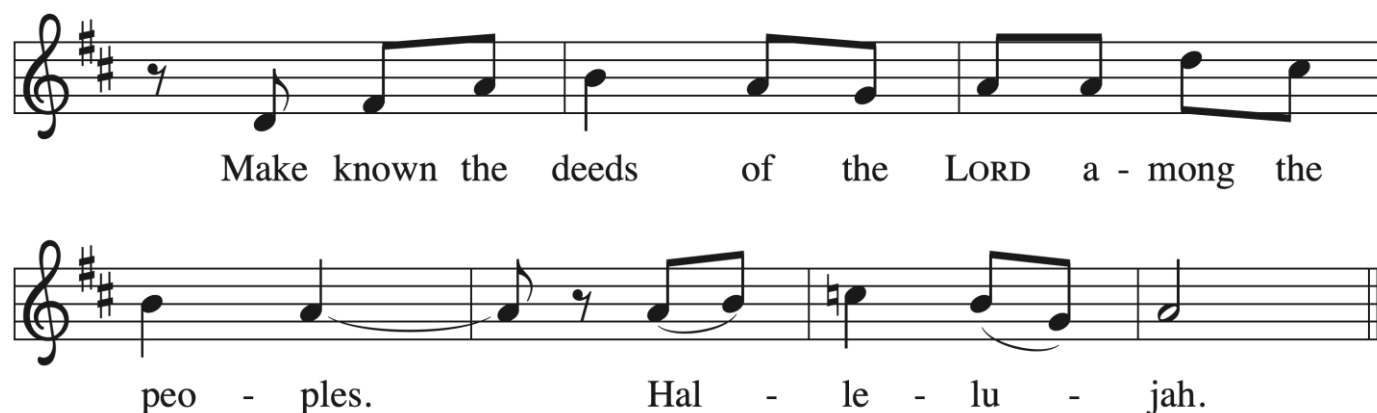
Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b

*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.*



- ¹ Give thanks to the LORD and call upon God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the peoples.
- ² Sing to the LORD, sing praises,
and speak of all God's marvelous works.
- ³ Glory in God's holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.
- ⁴ Search for the strength of the LORD;
continually seek God's face.
- ⁵ Remember the marvels God has done,
the wonders and the judgments of God's mouth,
- ⁶ O offspring of Abraham, God's servant,
O children of Jacob, God's chosen ones...*Refrain*
- ²³ Israel came into Egypt,
and Jacob became a sojourner in the land of Ham.
- ²⁴ The LORD made the people of Israel very fruitful,
more numerous than their enemies,
- ²⁵ whose hearts God turned, so that they hated God's people,
and dealt unjustly with the servants of God.
- ²⁶ O LORD, you sent Moses your servant,
and Aaron, your chosen one.
- ^{45b} Hallelujah!...*Refrain*

SECOND READING

Romans 12:9-21

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

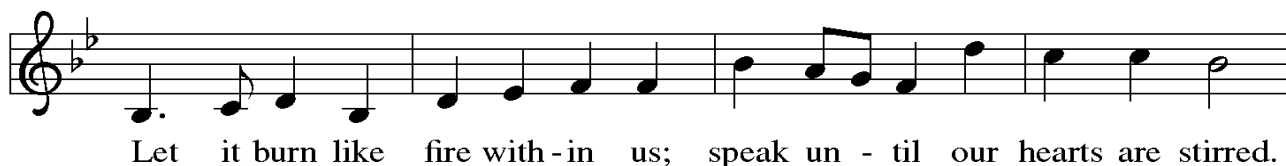
¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord."

²⁰ Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *



HOLY GOSPEL*

Matthew 16:21-28

After Peter confesses that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a “rock.”

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

Assembly: Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹ From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷ “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY #799 *

Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake

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

Take Up Your Cross – arr. Anthony Giamanco

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.



Text based on Hymn #667

OFFERTORY *

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Musical notation for the first line of the Offertory. It consists of a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics "Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;" are written below the staff.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;

Musical notation for the second line of the Offertory. It consists of a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The melody continues from the first line. The lyrics "praise him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost." are written below the staff.

praise him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly 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,
holy God, source of life and freedom.
You met Moses in the wilderness and called him to holy ground.
You heard the cries of your people
and revealed your name: *I AM WHO I AM*.
In Jesus Christ, you have come among us
and called us to follow the way of the cross.
You teach us that in giving ourselves to you, we receive true life.
Therefore, with all your people, in every time and place,
we praise your name and join the 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 *

Leader: 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.

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 – *Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*
Organ Meditation – arr. Wilbur Held
Hymn #667

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Leader: Let us pray.

Merciful God,
 you have met us at this table
 and fed us with the life of Christ.

As you called Moses from the burning bush to walk upon holy ground,
 call us now to walk in your presence.

As Jesus took up the cross and called his disciples to follow,
 give us courage to follow him,
 to serve our neighbors,
 and to give ourselves in love.

Send us from this table to live as people who know your name
 and trust your presence with us, now and always.

Assembly: Amen.

SENDING

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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION & SERVICE

BLESSING *

Leader: The God who called Moses upon holy ground
go with you and lead you in the way of peace.
The Christ who took up the cross strengthen you to follow him.
And the Holy Spirit, who is always with you,
give you courage to live as God's people.
And the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, ☩ the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you now and forever.

Assembly: Amen.

SENDING HYMN #660 *

Lift High the Cross

DISMISSAL *

Leader: Go in peace.
Walk in God's presence as you serve and follow the Lord.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *

Lift High the Cross – arr. Charles W. Ore

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SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

Pastor Leslie Fox Lott, Transition Pastor
Pastor Denny Asp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Diane Schwiger-Alexander, Director of Youth & Family
Joe Weaver, Lector & Communion Assistant 8:00
Carolyn Martin, Lector & Communion Assistant 10:45
Chad Baker, Director of Worship & Music
Robin Terschak, Cantor

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FLOWER DEDICATION:

*The Altar Flowers are given in honor of his parents', Pat & Mal Timm, 69th wedding anniversary
by Brian Timm*

*The organ flowers are given by Vic and Margaret Hahn in loving memory of Vic's brother,
Vinton, who died on August 15.*

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