



Lutheran Church of Hope

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AUGUST 9, 2026
ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Drawn together by God, Celebrating Grace, Serving All



WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

**Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.
Amen.

How Firm a Foundation



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.

Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PSALM 85:8-13

- ⁸ I will listen to what the LORD God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to you.
- ⁹ **Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**
- ¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- ¹¹ **Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**
- ¹² The LORD will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.
- ¹³ **Righteousness shall go before the LORD
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

GOSPEL — Matthew 14:22-33

²² [Jesus] made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he dismissed the crowds.²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them.²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea.²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear.²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸ Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water."²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!"³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"³² When they got into the boat, the wind

ceased.³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON Pastor Liz

PRAYER SONG Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil ELW 512

The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are written below the notes.

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.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950
Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson
Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

My Life Flows On in Endless Song



- 1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
- 2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
- 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
- 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
 What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERING

The offerings received by this congregation support this church and local ministries in Anchorage. Checks can be made out to "Lutheran Church of Hope." You may also use the iPad at the entrance to the sanctuary to make a secure donation via Square or scan the QR code in the insert to donate via Tithe.ly.

We Are an Offering

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
 of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
 lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. 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 of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Text: Dwight Liles, b. 1957
 Music: Dwight Liles
 Text and music © 1984 Word Music, LLC

OFFERING
 PM

OFFERING PRAYER

God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is sure. Word and water, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Holy God, mighty and merciful,
your people praise you, saying:
Your mercy endures forever.
Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures,
granting them life and calling them to flourish,
setting the sign of your bow in the clouds,
the colors of your love and faithfulness.
Your mercy endures forever.
Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise you bound yourself to your people of old,
blessing them with family outnumbering the stars
and calling them to be a blessing to others,
showing them steadfast love in every generation
and calling them to be a light to the nations.
Your mercy endures forever.
Your mercy endures forever.

By your promise you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved, grafting us into your
living Vine, and calling us to bear the fruit of your self-giving love.

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember his life laid down and lifted up
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless us to be a blessing.
Make us a sign of your faithfulness.
Send us to tend and cherish the earth
and to serve the world with mercy and love.

With all the saints in light,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus,
in your Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS

ELW 528

Come and Fill Our Hearts *Confitemini Domino*

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in the key of D major (two sharps). The melody is primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together in groups. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The first system covers the first line of the hymn, and the second system covers the second line. The score concludes with a double bar line.

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.

Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!

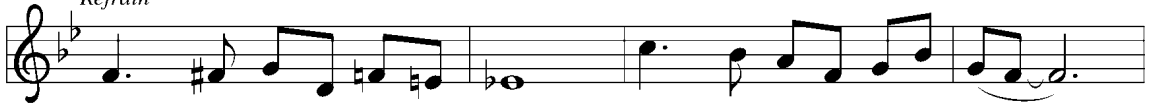
Text: Psalm 136:1 (Latin); Taizé Community

Music: CONFITEMINI DOMINO, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Refrain

Just a clos-er walk with thee, grant it, Je-sus, is my plea;



dai - ly walk-ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.



- 1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
- 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
- 3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;

Refrain

I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
 Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
 guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore.

Text: North American traditional

Music: CLOSER WALK, North American traditional

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Jesus taught us:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

**Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.**

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

**Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you
and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.**

BENEDICTION

Go, blessed and little ones,
travel the good road with Jesus.

Scatter the good news.

Rejoice and be glad.

Almighty God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last - ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
 last - ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
 last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,



lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
 lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839–1929

Music: SHOWALTER, Anthony J. Showalter, 1858–1924

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
 Thanks be to God.

Theresa

I am a...

☐ First Time Visitor

☐ Regular Visitor

☐ Church Member

☐ In Need of Prayer

Name:

Pronouns:

Phone Number:

Email:

Address:

I would like to...

☐ receive the Weekly News email

☐ receive the monthly Newsletter

☐ learn how to get involved

☐ receive a call from Pastor Liz

PRAYER REQUEST

Please place this tab in the
offering plate.

☐ I would like a call from
Pastor Liz
August 9, 2026

CALENDAR

*Lutheran Church of Hope events are in **bold***

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

- 8:30 AM—Bible Study**
- 10 AM—Worship with Holy Communion**
- 2 PM—Christian Worship Center

MONDAY, AUGUST 10 *Office Hours 1-5 pm*

- 5:30 PM—Sit Stay Play AK
- 6 PM—JOIN Meeting**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11 *Office Hours 1-5 pm*

- 3:30 PM—Mobile Food Pantry
- 7 PM—Plus 24 AA
- 7 PM—Shoulder to Shoulder Al Anon

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12 *Office Hours 1-5 pm*

- 5:30 PM—Garden Party**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13 *Office Hours 1-5 pm*

- 6:30 PM— There Is A Solution OA

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

- 12 PM—United Church of God

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16

- 8:30 AM—Bible Study**
- 10 AM—Worship with Holy Communion**
- 2 PM—Christian Worship Center