

*12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost/Confirmation*  
*August 20, 2023*



*Lord of Love Lutheran Church (ELCA)*

*10405 Fort St., Omaha, NE 68134*

*"Celebrating and sharing God's Love in a welcoming community of faith, while serving others"*

*Worship 9:00 a.m.*

*Bold type indicates Congregational responses*

***Introduction***

In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

***Prelude***

***Announcements***

***Ringling of the Bell***

**\*Gathering Song: "Shout to the Lord"..... ELW 821**

**\*Greeting**

P: 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**

*Assistant:* In peace, in peace,

**Refrain**

*Assistant:* *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

*to Verses*

*Assistant:* For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:* For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)

*Assistant:*

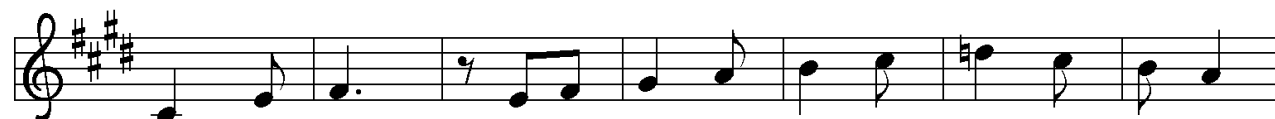
Help, save and de - fend us, O God. A - men.

*Congregation:*

## \*Now the Feast



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



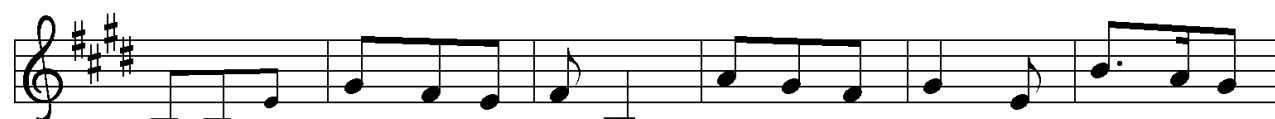
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

***\*Prayer of the Day***

L: Let us pray.

**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. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

***First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6***

L: Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,  
you that seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

Look to Abraham your father

and to Sarah who bore you;

for he was but one when I called him,

but I blessed him and made him many.

For the LORD will comfort Zion;

he will comfort all her waste places,

and will make her wilderness like Eden,

her desert like the garden of the LORD;

joy and gladness will be found in her,

thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people,

and give heed to me, my nation;

for a teaching will go out from me,

and my justice for a light to the peoples.

I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,

my salvation has gone out

and my arms will rule the peoples;

the coastlands wait for me,

and for my arm they hope.

Lift up your eyes to the heavens,

and look at the earth beneath;

for the heavens will vanish like smoke,

the earth will wear out like a garment,

and those who live on it will die like gnats;

but my salvation will be forever,

and my deliverance will never be ended.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8**

L: I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

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. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **\*Gospel Acclamation**

*Congregation:*

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we  
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal  
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

## **\*Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” 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. 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. 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.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Children’s Sermon** ..... Rev. Becky Sells

**Sermon** ..... Rev. Becky Sells

**Hymn of the Day: “This Little Light of Mine”** ..... ELW 677

### ***Rite of Affirmation of Baptism***

L: I present **Dominic Cadwallader, Brayden Hansen, Easton Lieberman, and Matison Lieberman** who desire to make public affirmation of their baptism.

P: Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you for these sisters and brother, whom you have made your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called them to yourself, enlightened them with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished them in the community of faith. Uphold your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ. **Amen.**

*Please Stand.*

P: Assembly and especially Dominic, Brayden, Easton, & Matison I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by 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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

*Please be seated.*

*Affirmation in the Presence of the Assembly by Confirmands*

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

**Each person responds: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

P: People of God, do you promise to support these siblings in Christ and pray for them in their life in Christ?

**We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

*(Parents are invited to come stand behind their child for the laying on of hands.)*

*Prayer blessing upon each confirmand:*

P: Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in \_\_\_\_\_ the gift of your Holy Spirit; the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

P: Let us rejoice with these siblings in Christ and work of the Spirit binding us together in God's love, grace and mission.

**We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world. Alleluia!**

*(Round of Applause for the joy of the Lord and the newly confirmed members.)*

**\*Prayers of Intercession**

L: Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

God of Sarah and Abraham, inspire your church to pursue righteousness in its ministry. Equip us to share your compassion that unites us as one family of faith. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Remind us that from the beginning of creation, you knit together a world meant for harmony. Protect and restore the wasted places to joy and gladness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Stir the leaders of nations and towns, militaries and courts, to respond to your teachings. Let your call for justice reach all people and bring deliverance where there is oppression. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Show your steadfast love and faithfulness to those in despair. Increase their strength, care for all who feel low, keep safe any in the midst of trouble, and protect vulnerable people from harm. We especially pray for those who hurting in body, mind, and spirit on our prayer lists and the names of those we lift up to you in our hearts now... Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Encourage those who offer their gifts and talents in service to your church. Energize this congregation's rostered and lay leaders, musicians, teachers, greeters, and administrators so they may be transformed in sharing your grace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all the saints, death is overcome in Christ's resurrection. We rejoice with the faithful departed. Sustain us in hope until we come at last to our heavenly home. Hear us, O God.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**



Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

**\*Peace**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*Please share signs of peace with one another.*

*Please be seated.*

## Offering Hymn "Ten Thousand Reasons".....ACS 1097

Offerings you wish to give may be placed in the offering plate located in the back of the sanctuary or may be given electronically at [www.lord-of-love.org](http://www.lord-of-love.org). Children are invited to come forward to place their offerings in the noise jar in front of the altar at this time.

*Refrain*



Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;



wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,



O my soul; I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.



1 The sun comes up, it's a new day dawn-ing;



2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your



3 And on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the



... it's time to sing your song a - gain. What - ev - er may



name . . is . . . great, and your heart is kind. For all . . your



end . . draws near, and my time has come; . . . still, my



pass, and what - ev - er lies be - fore me, let me be



good-ness, I will keep . . on . . sing-ing— ten thou-sand



soul will sing your praise un - end-ing— ten thou-sand

*Refrain*



sing - ing when the eve - ning comes.



rea - sons for my heart to find.



years and then for - ev - er - more!

Text: Matt Redman, b. 1974, and Jonas Myrin, b. 1982

Music: Matt Redman and Jonas Myrin

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TEN THOUSAND REASONS

Irregular

### **\*Offertory Prayer**

P: Let us pray.

**God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### **\*The Great Thanksgiving**

The musical score is written for a Presider and a Congregation in 4/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath.

*Presider:* The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And al - so with you.

*Presider:* Lift up your hearts. *Congregation:* We lift them to the Lord.

*Presider:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Congregation:* It is

right to give God thanks and praise.

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:

### ***\*Holy, Holy, Holy***



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### ***\*Words of Institution***

On the night 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 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 remembrance of me.

### ***\*The Lord's Prayer***

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## Communion Invitation

P: All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

## Lamb of God



1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear;
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus - tice and peace:
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer - cy and love:



have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world:



grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

## Communion

### \*Post-Communion Prayer

P: We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### \*Benediction

P: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✠ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

**Amen.**

**\*Sending Song: "Kyrie Eleison"**



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky - ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for  
 hun - gry and the poor; that  
 friends and fam - i - ly; for  
 wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
 we may live out . . . . truth and jus - tice and grace,  
 life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,  
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

***\*Dismissal***

L: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**Thanks be to God!**

***Ringling of the Bell***

***Postlude***

**Now the Feast and Celebration Liturgy**

Text and Music: Marty Haugen

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