



**Come to Believe † Come to Belong**  
ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
August 24, 2025

**PRELUDE**

Rob Aaron

*“Come to believe, Come to belong, Come to receive, the promise of God”*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*Amen*

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Amen*

If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Therefore, let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

*(Silence for self-reflection)*

Most merciful God,

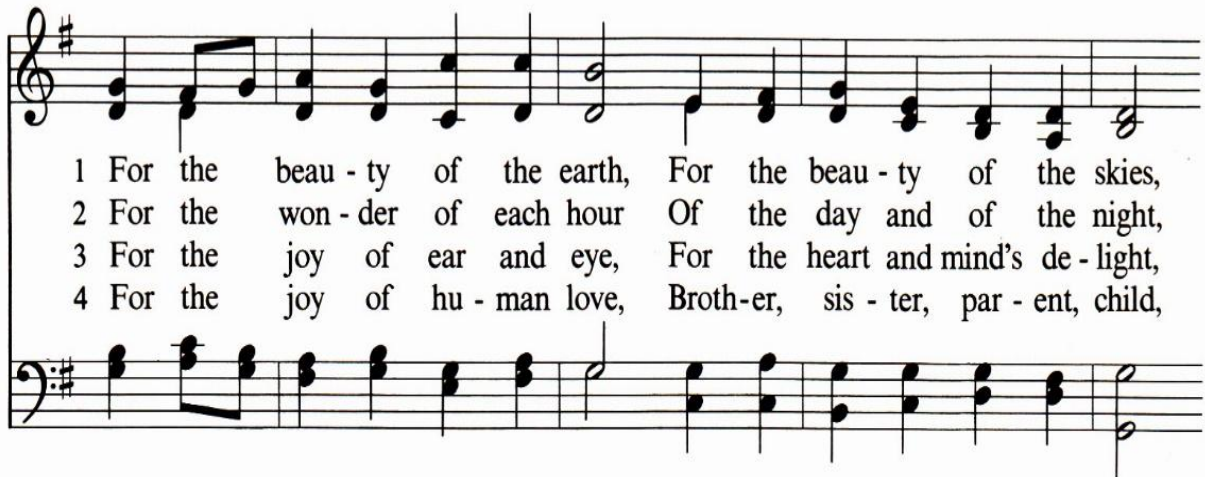
**We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus 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, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

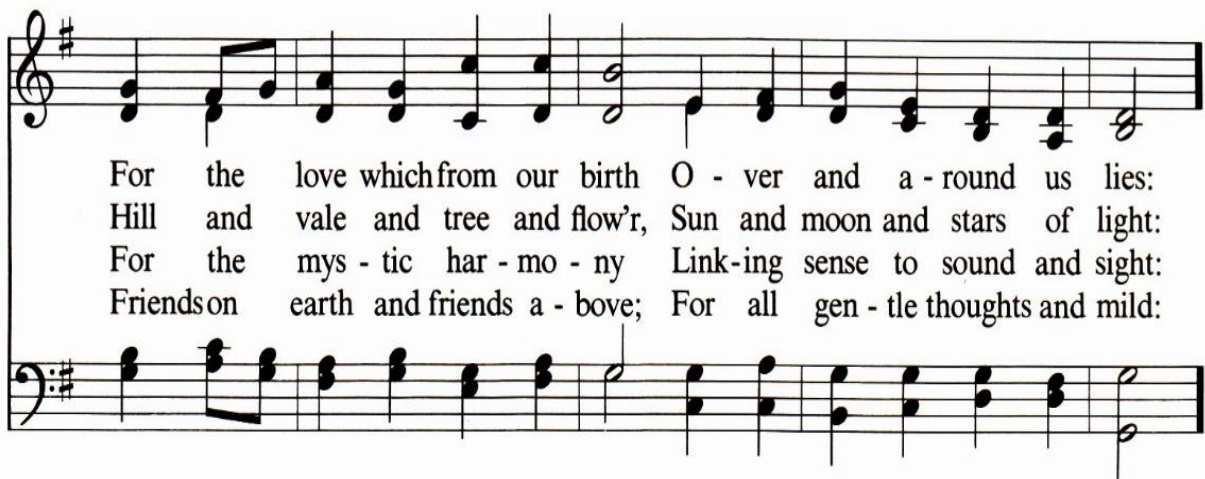
*Amen.*

## GATHERING SONG


*"For the Beauty of the Earth"*



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,



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:  
Friendson earth and friends a - bove; For all gen - tle thoughts and mild:



*Refrain*  
Christ, our Lord, to you we raise This our sac - ri - fice of praise.

5 For yourself, best gift divine  
To the world so freely giv'n;

Agent of God's grand design,  
Peace on earth and joy in heav'n: *Refrain*

## 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 (Lord, Have Mercy)

Leader

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Assembly

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have

For the reign of God, and for

mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peace through - out the world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord.

For your

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

peo - ple here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your

word, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer-cy. Christ, have mer-cy. Lord, have

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

mer - cy. A - men.

*Refrain*

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.

*Refrain*



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

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together: **O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:9b-14

<sup>9</sup> Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.' If you take away the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, <sup>10</sup> if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday. <sup>11</sup> And the LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. <sup>12</sup> And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to dwell in.

<sup>13</sup> “If you turn back your foot from the Sabbath, from doing your pleasure on my holy day, and call the Sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, or seeking your own pleasure, or talking idly; <sup>14</sup> then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride on the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalms 103:1-8

<sup>1</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and all that is within me,

**bless his holy name!**

<sup>2</sup> Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
**and forget not all his benefits,**

<sup>3</sup> who forgives all your iniquity,  
**who heals all your diseases,**

<sup>4</sup> who redeems your life from the pit,  
**who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

<sup>5</sup> who satisfies you with good  
**so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

<sup>6</sup> The LORD works righteousness  
**and justice for all who are oppressed.**

<sup>7</sup> He made known his ways to Moses,  
**his acts to the people of Israel.**

<sup>8</sup> The LORD is merciful and gracious,  
**slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:18-29

<sup>18</sup> For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest <sup>19</sup> and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. <sup>20</sup> For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” <sup>21</sup> Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” <sup>22</sup> But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, <sup>23</sup> and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup> and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

<sup>25</sup> See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. <sup>26</sup> At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” <sup>27</sup> This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. <sup>28</sup> Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, <sup>29</sup> for our God is a consuming fire.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## GOSPEL

Luke 13:10-17

The holy gospel according to St. Luke, the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord!**

<sup>10</sup> Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. <sup>11</sup> And behold, there was a woman who had had a disabling spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. <sup>12</sup> When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said to her, “Woman, you are freed from your disability.” <sup>13</sup> And he laid his hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and she glorified God. <sup>14</sup> But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the

Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days in which work ought to be done. Come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." <sup>15</sup> Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it away to water it? <sup>16</sup> And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" <sup>17</sup> As he said these things, all his adversaries were put to shame, and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

The gospel of the Lord.

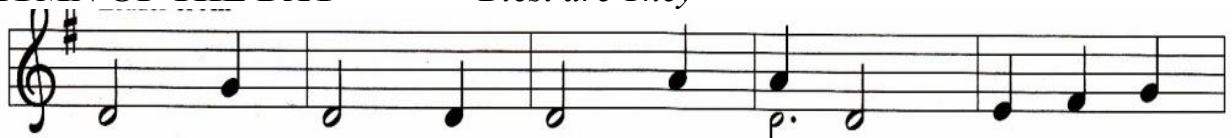
**Praise to You, O Christ!**

## SERMON

Pastor Gary Heltsley

## HYMN OF THE DAY

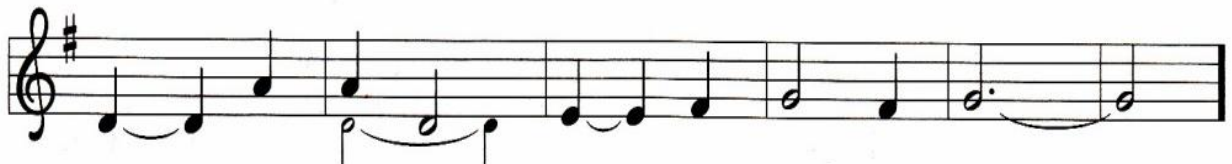
*"Blest are They"*



1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; theirs is the  
 2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; . . . they shall in -  
 3 Blest are they . . . . . who show mer - cy; mer - cy  
 4 Blest are they . . . . . who seek peace; . . they are the  
 5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, . . . all . . . be -



king - dom of God. Blest are they,  
 her - it the earth. Blest are they who  
 shall . . . be theirs. Blest are they, the  
 chil - dren of God. Blest are they who  
 cause . . . of me. Re - joice, be glad,



full of sor - row; they shall be con - soled.  
 hun - ger and thirst; they shall have their fill.  
 pure of heart; they . . . . . shall see God.  
 suf - fer in faith; the glo - ry of God is theirs.  
 yours is the king - dom; shine for all to see.



*Refrain*  
All

Re - jice and be glad!

Bless - ed are you, ho - ly are you!

Re - jice and be glad!

Yours is the king-dom of God!

## APOSTLES' 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 Christian church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. *Amen.***

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P) Let us pray for the Church, the world, and for one another.

*A brief silence*

Heavenly Father, thank you for showing us what you would have us do, even when it is hard. Give us strength and grace to worship you in the beauty of holiness, and to share your love, justice, and mercy with others. Thank you for establishing for us a kingdom that can never be shaken.

Lord, in your mercy, ***hear our prayer.***

Lead the Church you love in the narrow way of peace, holiness, and truth. Make her a trustworthy, open gate to Christ. Lead all who are wounded in soul and body to the salvation he offers them.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Touch the hearts of the people gathered here with your beauty and goodness. Make our words gracious and our deeds lovely. Make of us a kingdom of priests, holy in your sight; and a family of servants, faithfully doing your will.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Bring to fruition Isaiah's vision that all nations shall serve and worship you. Give leaders the strength and desire to work for peace, righteousness, and justice for all people – especially the poor and those devastated by human or natural disaster. Help all of us to be true neighbors to one another.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Grant healing, hope and strength to everyone who suffers, especially those we name out loud or silently in our hearts (*Allow time for silent and spoken prayers*). Assure them of your loving presence, and let them enter into your gates with thanksgiving and into your courts with praise.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

Most holy Father, receive into your Kingdom our beloved dead. Keep us faithful and true, holy and steadfast, as we walk the narrow Way established by Jesus. Give us hope and joy along that way. Bring us into that Kingdom which you have promised to all whom you redeem by the sufferings of Christ. There let us know the unspeakable joy of abiding in your love forever.

Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

P) Hear our prayers, gracious Father, offered through the power of the Spirit; and for the sake of your dear Son, grant us all that is in accordance with your merciful will, to your glory and for the good of your people. *Amen.*

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

### OFFERING



#### OFFERTORY *Doxology*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. A-men**

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together...

**Loving God, we give you thanks for the generous gifts you have first given us. May that which we offer to you, come joyfully from our hearts and be pleasing in your sight. Amen.**

## DIALOGUE

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 Him thanks and praise.**

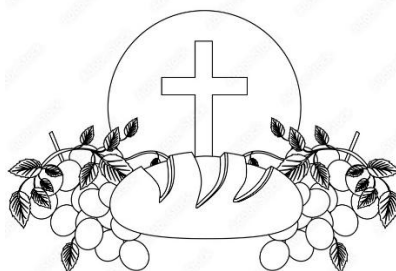
It is indeed right...(pastor continues, concluding with), we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

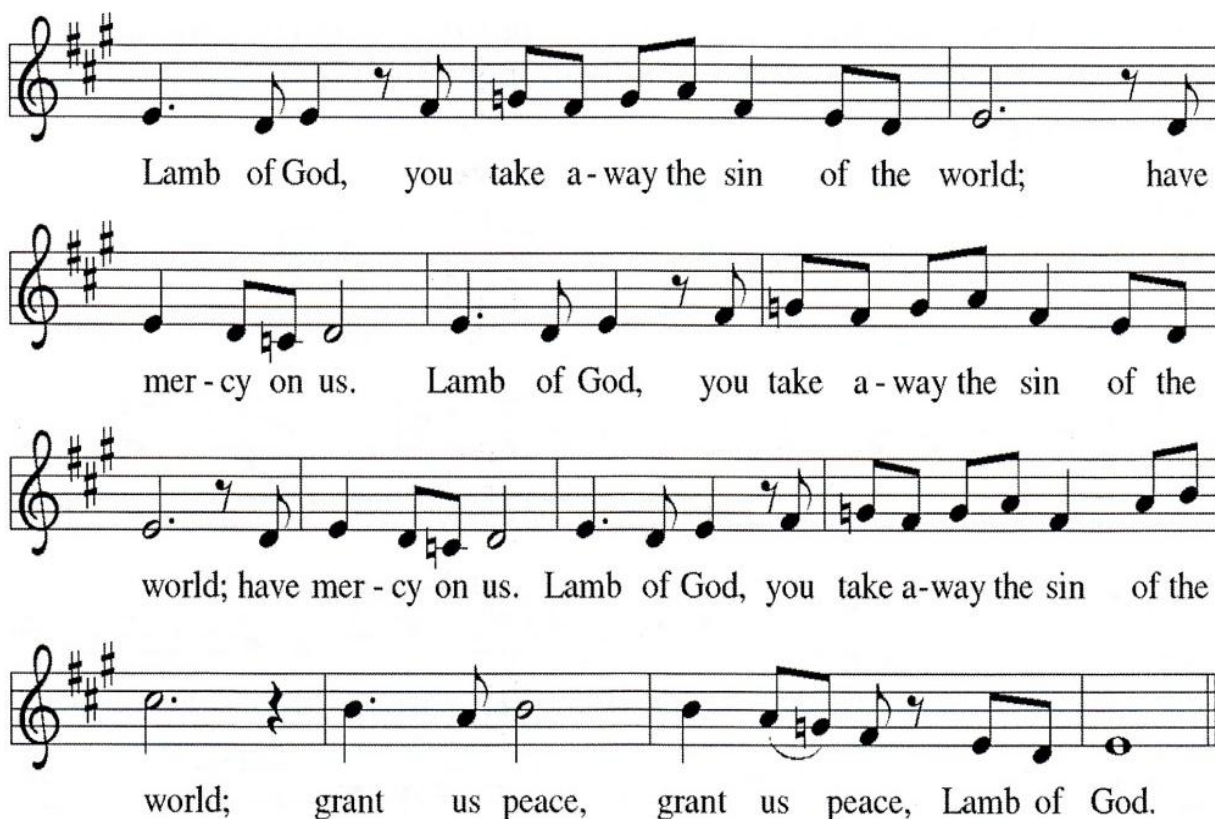
## THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Sung)*

*Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our  
debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is  
the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*



**INVITATION TO COMMUNION** – We believe and teach that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine/juice, which are his body and blood. All who trust in Christ are welcome at the Lord's Table (*the red liquid is wine; the white liquid is grape juice*).

### "Lamb of God"



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

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the

world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

*"Bread of Life from Heaven"*

*Refrain*



Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en, we



eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.



- |   |       |     |      |       |      |            |                  |            |
|---|-------|-----|------|-------|------|------------|------------------|------------|
| 1 | Break | now | the  | bread | of   | Christ's   | sac - ri - fice; | giv - ing  |
| 2 | Seek  | not | the  | food  | that | will       | pass a - way;    | set your   |
| 3 | Love  | as  | the  | one   | who, | in         | love for you,    | gave him - |
| 4 | Dwell | in  | the  | one   | who  | now        | dwells in you;   | make your  |
| 5 | Drink | of  | this | cup   | and  | de - clare | his death;       | eat this   |



thanks,	hun - gry	ones,	gath - er	round.	Eat,	all	of	you,	and	be
hearts	on	the	food	that	en - dures.	Come,	learn	the	true	and
self	for	the	life	of	the	world.	Come	to	the	one
home	in	the	life -	giv - ing	Word.	Know	on - ly	Christ,	Ho - ly	
bread	and	be - lieve	Eas - ter	morn;	trust	his	re - turn	and,	with	

*Refrain*



sat - is - fied;	in	Christ's	pres - ence	the	loaves	will	a - bound.
liv - ing way,	that	the	full - ness	of	life	may	be yours.
food for you,	that	your	hun - ger	and	thirst	be	no more.
One of God,	and	be - lieve	in	the	truth	you	have heard.
ev - 'ry breath,	praise	the	one	in	whom	you	are re - born.



*JESUS is the*  
BREAD OF LIFE



*"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.

*"He's Got the Whole World"*

1. He's go the whole world in His Hands.  
 He's got the whole world in His Hands.  
 He's got the whole world in His hands.  
 He's got the whole world in in His hands.
2. He's got the wind and the rain in His hands.  
 He's got the wind and the rain in His hands.  
 He's got the wind and the rain in His hands.  
 He's got the whole world in in His hands.

3. He's got the little tiny baby in His hands.  
 He's got the little tiny baby in His hands.  
 He's got the little tiny baby in His hands.  
 He's got the whole world in His hands.

4. He's got ev'rybody here in His hands.  
 He's got ev'rybody here in His hands.  
 He's got ev'rybody here in His hands.  
 He's got the whole world in His hands.

*"He has Made Me Glad"*

I will en - ter his gates with thanks - giv - ing in my heart,  
 I will en - ter his courts with praise.  
 I will say this is the day that the Lord has made;  
 I will re - joice for he has made me glad.  
 He has made me glad, he has made me glad,  
 I will re - joice for he has made me glad.  
 He has made me glad, he has made me glad,  
 I will re - joice for he has made me glad.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you, and keep you in His grace. *Amen.*

Let us pray together...**We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you, and in fervent love toward one another, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.***

## BLESSING

### SENDING SONG

*"I, the Lord of Sea and Sky"*



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky,	I have heard my peo-ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain,	I have borne my peo-ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame,	I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in deep - est sin	my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them.	They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them.	My hand will save.




I, who made the stars of night,	I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone,	give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide	till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them?	Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them.	Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them.	Whom shall I send?"

*Refrain*



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you  
call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you  
lead me. I will hold your peo-ple in my heart.

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, serve the Lord!

**Thanks be to God!**

Rob Aaron – piano ~ Pr. Gary Heltsley – presiding



## **TODAY'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

**Greeters:** Barb Evans & Sandi Fleury

**Ushers:** Norm Clark and Duane Olive

**Reader:** Rob Aaron

**Sacristans:** Carol Larson & Joleen Wheaton

**Communion Assistants:** Ronda Jensen & Shari Stormo

**Barista:** Steve Dixon

**Close Up:** Ronda Jensen



**Altar Flowers:** Marilyn Holt

**Last Week's Attendance:** 119    **Last Week's Offering:** \$3,632.78

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Welcome to North Bay Lutheran Community Church.** Good morning and welcome to our church family! We believe that every person is important to God, and that includes you! Thank you for joining us and we hope you feel the warmth of our fellowship. If you are a visitor, please feel free to fill out an attendance card located in the slot in front of you and drop it in the offering plate. We also invite you to stay for Fellowship following our service. ***We are glad that you're here!***

**Fellowship Time Today** – Salads and rolls.

***August 31<sup>st</sup> – Pasta Sunday (please bring your favorite pasta dish).***

**Dementia Support Group** will meet on **Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.** For more information, please contact Patty Rogers or call the church office.

***The Chosen Viewing*** – This week we will take a break from our Wednesday viewing of The Chosen. We will gather again on **Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm** to begin Season 4. Each Wednesday we will meet in the Fellowship Hall to watch one episode and then have an informal discussion and time to share our thoughts. ***All are welcome.***

**Men's Bible Study** will meet this week on **Saturday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am** as we continue the study of the book of Genesis.

### **COMING SOON:**

#### ***Howdy, Women of North Bay!***

Please join us for our "Fall Round-up" on **Friday morning, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall. After a summer break, we're ready to round up all our wonderful North Bay ladies for our usual great time of fellowship, fun, faith sharing, and chuckwagon food. If you've got some cowgirl duds, feel free to wear them...but this is optional. If you've never joined us before, make this your first! All are welcome!

**Rally Sunday is coming! Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>** is Rally Sunday. Throughout the service that day, we will hear a *short* presentation from each council member on their ministry area. Learn the many ways you can get involved in the life of our church as we work together to serve the Lord here at North Bay.

**Office Hours** this week are 9:00 am to 1:00 pm – Tuesday through Friday.

**Pastor Gary** will be in the office on Tuesday through Thursday from 9:30 am until noon.



**Prayers** – Please email ([office@northbaylutheran.org](mailto:office@northbaylutheran.org)) or call the church line with your prayer requests, or if you need pastoral care (360) 275-3390.

**READINGS FOR AUGUST 31, 2025**

Proverbs 25:6-7 ~ Psalm 112 ~ Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 ~



~~*Luke 14:1, 7-14*~~

**NORTH BAY LUTHERAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
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## SERMON NOTES

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