

## **Luther Memorial Church & School**

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#### As We Gather

What do you do when you arrive at church? Many people attend to the tasks associated with the beginning of the service, looking at the bulletin they have received or checking out what the opening hymn will be. There is blessing to be found also in looking around us and acknowledging those gathered with us. Each of us is singularly special to God, and, joined together, we become "the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand" (Psalm 95:7). There is no more special place to be than in the sheepfold of our God as part of His flock!

[Today's hymns are printed on pages 10-13 of the bulletin.]

## → Preparation for Worship →

#### Hymn

TLH 14 – All People that on Earth do Dwell

#### Invocation

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

### **Opening Sentences**

Psalm 119:57-60, 63-64

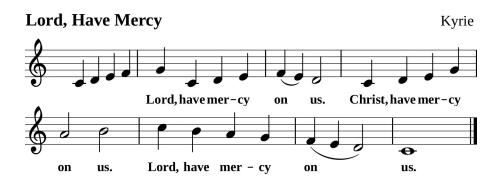
- **P** The LORD is my portion; I promise to keep Your words.
- I entreat Your favor with all my heart; be gracious to me according to Your promise.
- P When I think on my ways, I turn my feet to Your testimonies;
- **C** I hasten and do not delay to keep Your commandments.
- **P** I am a companion of all who fear You, of those who keep Your precepts.
- The earth, O LORD, is full of Your steadfast love; teach me Your statutes!



#### **Confession and Absolution**

- **P** Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.
- Gracious God, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are by nature sinful and unclean. Daily we do things we ought not do and do not live up to our calling as the people of Your pasture and the sheep of Your hand. We justly deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Our trust is in the merits of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us remission of all our sins and lead us to renewed lives that reflect Your goodness and love.
- P God is gracious and merciful. He hears our supplications and joyfully restores us to His fold. By the command of our Lord and as His called servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

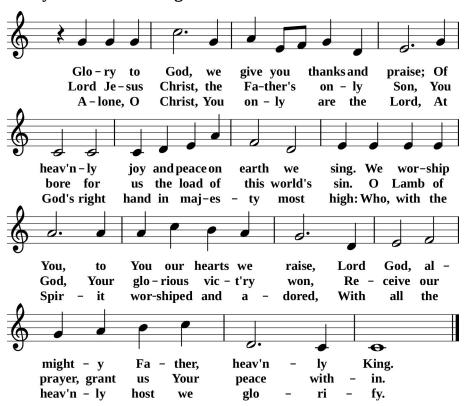
#### ♣ The Service of the Word ♣





### Glory to God in the Highest

Gloria in Excelsis



#### **Salutation**

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

#### **Prayer of the Day**

- **P** Let us pray...
  - ... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

### **Old Testament Reading**

Ezekiel 34:11-24

<sup>11</sup> "For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup> As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup> And I will bring them out from the peoples and

gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. 14 I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup> I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the straved, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. <sup>17</sup> "As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I iudge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. 18 Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? 19 And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet? 20 "Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup> Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, <sup>22</sup> I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. <sup>23</sup> And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup> And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.

## **Psalm of the Day**

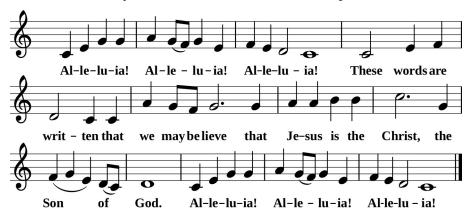
Psalm 119:169-176

- **P** Let my cry come before you, O LORD;
- **G** give me understanding according to your word!
- **P** Let my plea come before you;
- **C** deliver me according to your word.
- **P** My lips will pour forth praise,
- **C** for you teach me your statutes.
- **P** My tongue will sing of your word,
- **©** for all your commandments are right.
- **P** Let your hand be ready to help me,
- **C** for I have chosen your precepts.
- **P** I long for your salvation, O LORD,
- **C** and your law is my delight.
- P Let my soul live and praise you,
- **C** and let your rules help me.
- **P** I have gone astray like a lost sheep;
- **©** seek your servant, for I do not forget your commandments.

<sup>12</sup> I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, <sup>13</sup> though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup> and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup> But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup> To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

#### Alleluia

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.



#### **Confession of Faith**

Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come 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.

Sermon Text Luke 15:1-10

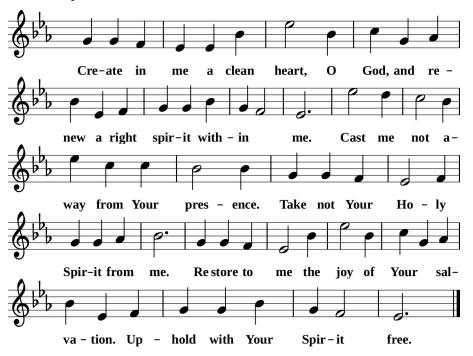
<sup>1</sup> Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." <sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. <sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' <sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. <sup>8</sup> "Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."



#### **This Man Receives Sinners**



## Offertory



## Hymn

TLH 324 – Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

## **Offering Hymn**

TLH 442 st. 2

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to yield Thee Gladly, freely, of Thine own;
With the sunshine of Thy goodness
Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures,
Warmed by Thee, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed
'Tis to give than to receive.

### **General Prayer**

### The 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.

#### **Benediction**

- The Lord bless you and keep you.

  The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

  The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.
- C Amen.

Hymn

TLH 45 – Now the Hour of Worship O'er

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## TLH 14 – All People that on Earth do Dwell



- 4 For why? The Lord, our God, is good; His mercy is forever sure. His truth at all times firmly stood And shall from age to age endure.
- 5 To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, The God whom heaven and earth adore, From men and from the angel host Be praise and glory evermore.

## TLH 388 – Just as I am, without One Plea



- 2 Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 3 Just as I am, though tossed about With many a conflict, many a doubt, Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 4 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown Has broken every barrier down. Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

#### TLH 324 – Jesus Sinners Doth Receive



- 5 I, a sinner, come to Thee With a penitent confession; Savior, mercy show to me Grant for all my sins remission. Let these words my soul relieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 6 Oh, how blest it is to know: Were as scarlet my transgression, It shall be as white as snow By Thy blood and bitter Passion; For these words I now believe: Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 7 Now my conscience is at peace,
  From the Law I stand acquitted;
  Christ hath purchased my release
  And my every sin remitted.
  Naught remains my soul to grieve—
  Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 8 Jesus sinners doth receive.
  Also I have been forgiven;
  And when I this earth must leave,
  I shall find an open heaven.
  Dying, still to Him I cleave—
  Jesus sinners doth receive.

## TLH 45 – Now the Hour of Worship O'er

Ps. 121: 8 Nun Gott Lob, es ist vollbracht Liebster Jesu Hartman Schenck, 1680 Johann R. Ahle, 1664 Tr., st. 1-2, composite; st. 3, Oscar Kaiser, 1938 1 Now, the hour of wor - ship o'er, Teach - ing, hear - ing, 2 Now the Bless - ing cheers our heart, By His grace to 3 Bless our go - ing Bless out, we pray, our en - trance sing Let pray - ing, ing, us glad - ly God a - dore, ex tend ed. Let joy - ful - ly de - part; us us mea - sure: Bless our bread, O Lord, each day, For His Word our prais - es bring - ing; For the rich re-Be our souls to God com - mend - ed. May His Spir - it toil, our rest, our plea - sure; Bless us when past He gave us Bless the Lord, who deigned to save And with all good gifts pro-vide ev - er guide us us! reach death's por-tal, Bless us then with life im - mor -A-men.

# **♣** Announcements **♣**

Welcome to all of our guests and visitors this morning in our Savior's name. We are glad that you have come to worship with us this morning, and hope that you will come back and join us again. It is our prayer that your faith will be strengthened by the preaching of our Lord's pure Word and by the psalms and hymns that our Scripture-based liturgy offers. If you have any questions about our church or are interested in learning more about the Scriptures, please ask Pastor Sauers.

<b>Upcoming Schedule</b>	e – Online Ca	alendar @ FDLlutheran.com/calendar	
September 11	9:00 am	Sunday School/Bible Class Worship Service	
	10:00 am		
	11:00 am	Fellowship Meal	
September 13	6:00 pm	Council	
September 14	9:00 am	Lakeview Place Worship Service	
	10, 11 am	Woodlands Worship Service	
	1:30 pm	St. Peter's Place Worship Service	
September 16	5:30 pm	Youth Group (Fondy Sports Park)	
September 18	9:00 am	Sunday School/Bible Class	
	10:00 am	Worship Service	
September 19-20		CLC Board Meetings	
September 21	6:30 pm	Midweek Worship Service (Midweek)	
September 22	10:00 am	Bible Class	
September 25	9:00 am	Sunday School/Bible Class	
	10:00 am	Worship Service (Mission Festival)	
	11:00 am	Fellowship Meal (Potluck)	

**Midweek Worship Service**: A repeat of the Sunday worship service will be held on Wednesday night at 6:30 pm. Please spread the word to those you know who are unable to make it to church on Sundays.

**Property Needs:** There are several needs currently for our church property. We may need to hire out the work on the trees. In that case, any references would be helpful. If you can help, please contact Tyler Kern at 920-266-9366 or tyler@kernhome.org

- 1. Branches need to be trimmed away from the roof at the parsonage
- 2. Dead tree needs to be taken down in yard of 146 teacherage
- 3. Dead tree needs to be removed by backstop

**Youth Group**: The youth of the congregation are invited for a night of fun at Fondy Sports Park on September  $16^{th}$  from 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm. The cost per person is \$10. For more information, please contact April Kern.

**CLC Call News**: Pastor Rob Sauers of Luther Memorial, Fond du Lac, WI, has received the call to Redemption Lutheran, Lynnwood, WA. + Pastor Nathanael Mayhew of Grace Lutheran, Sleepy Eye, MN and Faith Lutheran, New Ulm, MN has received the call to serve Immanuel Lutheran, Winter Haven, FL.

Fruits of Faith – Week of September 4th		Attendance: Sun – 43 Wed – 15		
Luther Memorial Church		Church of the Lutheran Confession		
<b>Budgetary</b> (Regular Expenses)		<b>Budgetary</b> (Regular Expenses)		
\$1,855.00	LM General Budget	\$170.00	CLC General Budget	
\$2,923.08	Weekly Need	\$384.62	Weekly Need	
-\$1,068.08	-Under / +Over	-\$214.62	-Under / +Over	
\$96,787.88	Year to Date Offerings	\$3,010.00	Fiscal Year to Date Offerings	
\$105,230.88	Year to Date Need	\$3,846.20	Fiscal Year to Date Need	
-\$8,443.00	Year to Date (+/-)	-\$836.20	Fiscal Year to Date (+/-)	
Non-Budgetary (Unplanned Expenses)		Non-Budgetary (Unplanned Expenses)		
	LM School		ILC Student Aid Fund	
	LM Student Aid Fund		ILC Building Fund	
	LM Debt Retirement		ILC Improvement Fund	
\$10.00	LM M & I	\$25.00	Mission Development (MDF)	
	LM Local Missions/ Outreach		Project Kinship/Orphanage	
	LM Building Fund		Fall Mission Festival	
\$55.00	LM Ladies Orphan Fund	\$20.00	Miscellaneous	

As announced by email, Pastor Sauers has received a call from Redemption Lutheran Church in Lynnwood, WA to be their pastor. In this time of deliberation and prayer, we do well to review what God says concerning the Divine Call.

#### The Divine Call

"The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps" (Proverbs 16:9). When met with decisions in life (whether a pastor with a call or anyone making an important decision), we use our God-given sense and abilities to evaluate those decisions. As we do this in prayer, seeking direction from God's Word, and with a humble desire to follow God's will, we can be confident that the decision we reach is from the Lord.

Our life's purpose is to make the best possible use of the gifts God has given to us and to do so with thankfulness in service to Him and His kingdom. With this in mind, a call decision is based upon a careful consideration of this question: "How can I best use the gifts and abilities God has given me to serve Him and His kingdom?"

In evaluating this question it is helpful for an individual to seek advice from other people. Others may be better able to assess a person's gifts and personal limitations. Others may also be able to recognize factors which the individual himself might overlook.

"How can I
best use the
abilities God has
given me to serve
Him and His
kingdom?"

God's call does not always match what human reason might suggest. Several of Jesus' disciples were fishermen, and none were trained Bible scholars. Yet the Lord chose and equipped each of them to do His work.

A person considering a call will frequently pass through 1) an initial reaction either to accept or return the call; 2) confusion as the various factors are considered; and 3) a clear conviction and decision. If a person is convinced of God's call, there should be no hesitancy to accept the call because whom the Lord calls He also equips (Exodus 4:10-17).

If a pastor returns a call, one might wonder why he received the call in the first place. Was the Holy Spirit wrong? No, God did not make a mistake. There was a purpose for the call...perhaps to remind the congregation of their work, or as an encouragement to the pastor, or to cause those involved to appreciate their current situation. Regardless, the Lord will use the situation for His good and glory.