

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



Faith Lutheran Church
August 31, 2025

The Reverend Margaret Brack, Presiding
Nancy Robbins, Music Director

Welcome Visitors! We are glad that you have joined us in worship today. Please sign our Guest Book in the lobby after worship if you have not already done so. If you have any questions, please contact one of our Worship Leaders. We will be happy to help.

This Week's Ministers

<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Acolyte</i>	<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Assisting Minister</i>	<i>Readers</i>
<i>Yamakawa Family</i>	<i>Jonathan Yamakawa</i>	<i>Edie Hooke</i>	<i>Katie Fowlkes</i>	<i>Cindy Mitchell</i>

✠GATHERING✠

We gather together to praise God and receive His love.

Announcements and Prayer Requests

*(*please stand as you are able)*

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive 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.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN O God, beyond All Praising WOV 797 v.1-2**

***KYRIE**

Refrain



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

Last time



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

***GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray,

C: **O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

We listen to the story of God's mighty acts for the sake of His people.

FIRST READING

Proverbs 25:6-7a

⁶ Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,
^{7a} for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 112

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in God's commandments!
² **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**
³ Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.
⁴ **Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**
⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.
⁶ **For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**
⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.
⁸ **Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**
⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

**¹⁰ The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away;
the desires of the wicked will perish.**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

¹ Let mutual affection continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" ⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

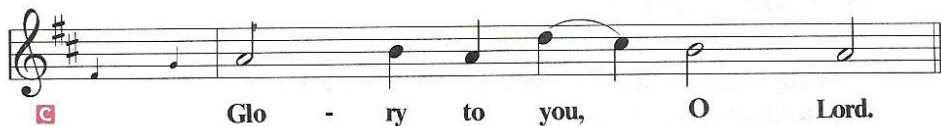
P: Word of God, Word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 14th Chapter.



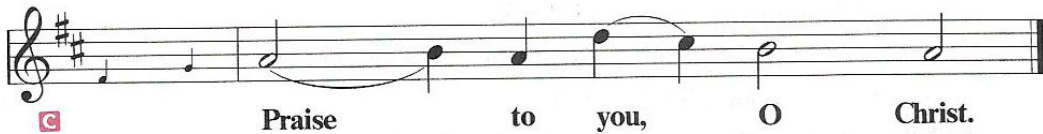
GOSPEL

Luke 14:1, 7-14

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely. ⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” ¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich

neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

Reflection “On Where We Are Now!”

The Reverend Margaret Brack

HYMN OF THE DAY O Christ the Same

WOV 778

v.1-3

**BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS, BOOKBAGS, STUDENTS, &
TEACHERS**

***NICENE CREED**

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

You are invited to greet one another in the name of Christ

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

OFFERING COLLECTION

*OFFERTORY

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

*OFFERING PRAYER

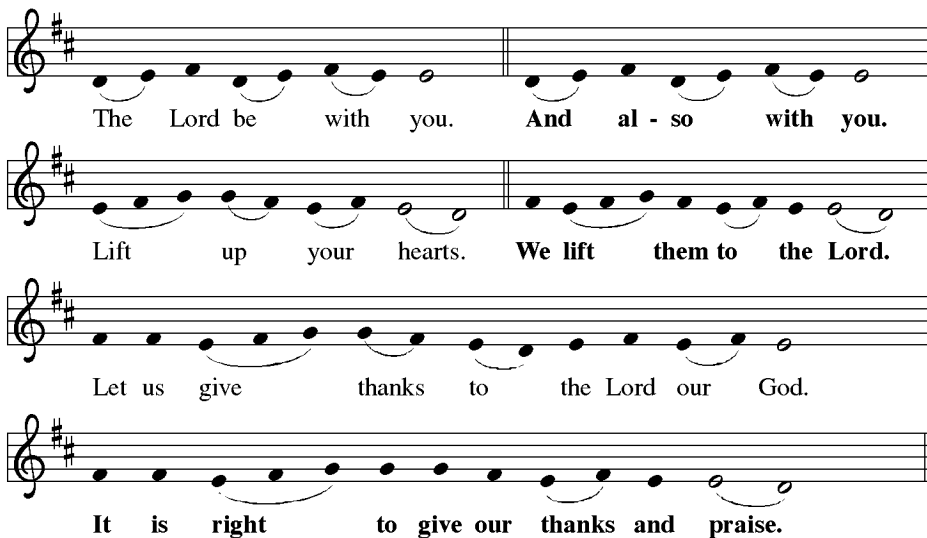
P: Let us pray.

C: Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

✠MEAL ✠

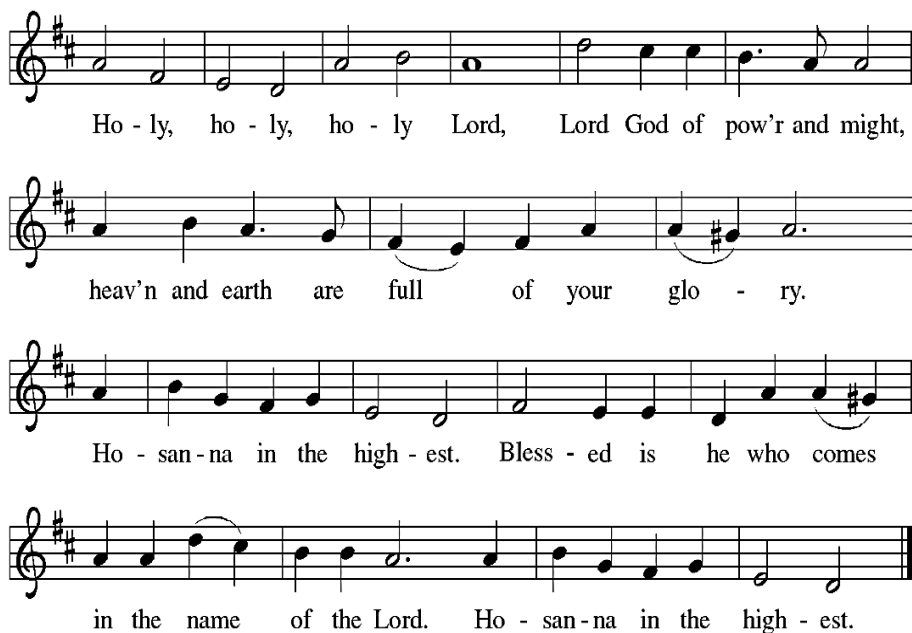
When we celebrate communion we remember that Jesus died for us and we experience his love and forgiveness. As we eat the bread and wine Christ is present with us.

*The Great Thanksgiving



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.
Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection,
you pour out the fire of your Spirit,
uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the
resurrection,
with earth and sea and all their creatures,
and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



*P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
 Your mercy is everlasting
 and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
 Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
 Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
 Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
 to the land of milk and honey.
 Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
 Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
 Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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 our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

P: O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With your holy ones of all times and places,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,

now and forever.

C: Amen.

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: And now, as Jesus has taught us, we pray:

C: 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: The table of life is spread before you. Feast on the Goodness and mercy of God.



***BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

P: The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

*ONLINE COMMUNION PRAYER

P: For those unable to be present to receive Holy Communion, let us pray.

C: Although I am not present physically in the church, I pray that I may receive the Body and Blood of Christ spiritually and be fed in the fullness of worship. Amen.

*SONG AFTER COMMUNION



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray,

C: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

✠SENDING✠

*We have heard the Word of God, offered our gifts, and been fed at the table.
Now we are sent out, strengthened by the Holy Spirit to be God's people in the world.*

*BLESSING

P: *Be careful* as you go out into God's creation,
for it does not belong to you.
Be gentle with yourself and with one another,
for you are the dwelling place of the Most High God.
Be alert and hesitant,
for sometimes God is but a whisper.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

C: Amen.

***SENDING HYMN** Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace *LBW 419*
v.1, 2, 4

*DISMISSAL

P: Let us go forth with the Peace of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Jim Stanmore

Please keep in your prayers:

Merritt; Earl and Cheryl; Alvin Marson, Michelle, and family; Vinny; Wendy; Linda and Richard; Connie and Bill; Brian and family; Ryan; Kathy Malone; Zack; Michael; Donna Conneally; Rick and family; Jami, Corey, and Carter; Pastor Harry and Carol Wolpert; the Gohl family; Scott and Jaimie; Berni Greene; Pat Layton and family; All the victims of the shooting, including the shooter, at Anunciation Catholic School

Next Week's Ministers

<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Acolyte</i>	<i>Altar Guild</i>	<i>Assisting Minister</i>	<i>Reader</i>

Faith Calendar

September 6th, Saturday	Memorial Service for Peg Bauer, details to come
September 7, Sunday	God's Work, Our Hands Sunday
September 9th, Tuesday	House blessing for Edie and Donnie's new home. The blessing will be at 7:00pm, 103 Beagle Court, Salisbury, MD 21804
September 26th, Friday	The Spina Bifida Association of the Eastern Shore will be hosting the 1st annual "Roll or Skate" night at Mitchell's Martial Arts, 1305 South Division Street, Salisbury, MD, 21804 from 7 to 9
October 26th, Sunday	Reformation Sunday Potluck with red food after service
December 10th, Wednesday	The Spina Bifida Association of the Eastern Shore will host a charity bingo at Sterling Tavern in Berlin, Maryland. 119 Main Street, Berlin, Maryland 21811 from 6-8