



The Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 29, 2021, 8:45 am

Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

Gathering

Prelude

Ritornello on "Liebster Jesu, Wir sind Hier"

Aaron David Miller
(b. 1972)

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.
Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.


Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,
help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world.
Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, ✠ the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.
Amen.

Entrance Hymn

ELW 520



1 Dear - est Je - sus, at your word we have come a -
 2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est
 3 Ra - diance of God's glo - ry bright, Light of Light from
 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and

gain to hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
 dark - ness shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night,
 God pro - ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light;
 ad - o - ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most:

and in glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is -
 fill - ing us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and
 help our hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and
 all your gos - pel's con - so - la - tion while we here on

es here giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - en.
 all good liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.
 songs may please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.
 earth a - wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–1684, sts. 1–3; *Gesangbuch*, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, adapt.
 Music: LIEBSER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

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.

Canticle of Praise

Verse 4 is located on the next page.



1 Come, let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the



rock of our sal - va - tion. Let us come be-fore God's pres-ence with thanks-



giv - ing and raise a loud shout to God with psalms.



2 For the Lord is a great God, and a great rul-er o'er all



gods. It is God who holds the cav - erns of the



earth, and the heights of the moun - tains al - so.



3 It is God who rules the seas, whose hands have mold - ed the



dry land. Come, let us bow down and bend the knee,



and kneel be - fore the Lord our mak - er.



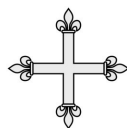
Text: Psalm 95:1-7
Music: Jack Noble White
Music © 1971 Walton Music Corp. Used by permission.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.



Word

First Reading

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and to neither add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 15

*The cantor introduces the refrain; please sing the second time. The verses are sung in alternation; verses sung by the congregation are printed in bold. Subsequent refrains are sung only once by all, at the places indicated by **R**.*



Refrain: Bruce Bengston



¹LORD, who may dwell in your | tabernacle?
Who may abide upon your | holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do | what is right,
who speak the truth | from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil | to their friends;
they do not cast discredit up- | on a neighbor.

⁴**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who | fear the LORD.
They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.**

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- | gainst the
innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown. **R**

Second Reading

James 1:17-27

The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. 18In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Cantor Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Cantor God gave us birth by the word of truth so that we would become a kind of first fruits of creation.
(James 1:18)

All **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark, the seventh chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

ELW 772



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot-steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands, 'tis a de-light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
 let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, but keep my con-science clear.
 and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan-d'ring sheep.
 nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
 Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

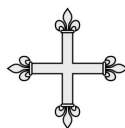
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.



Thanksgiving

Offering

We invite you to give your offering online at saintlukegive.us or on the Give Plus app.
You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Music at the offering

Liebster Jesu, Wir Sind Hier

Gerald Near
(b. 1942)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

**O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child with arms open wide.
Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same
love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Please pray in your own preferred language.

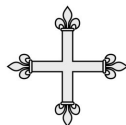
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

**Padre Nuestro Que estas en los cielos
Santificado sea tu Nombre
Venga a nosotros tu Reino
Hagase tu voluntad asi en la tierra como en el cielo
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia
Perdona nuestras ofensas
Como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden
Y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion mas libranos del mal
Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la Gloria
Por los siglos de los siglos. Amen**



Sending

Blessing

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,

✠ be upon you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

ELW 824



1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all
2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car - ols raise; the
3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for - get that,



na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
morn - ing light, the lil - y white, de - clare their mak - er's praise.
though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.



This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The



rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won - ders wrought.
rus - tling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev-'ry-where.
Lord is king, let heav - en ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858–1901

Music: TERRA PATRIS, Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852–1930, adapt.

Dismissal

Go in peace.
You are the body of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Grand Choeur

Théodore Salomé
(1834-1896)

WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTER

The Rev. Connie A. Miller, *Senior Pastor*

ASSISTING MINISTERS

The Rev. Franklin Morales, *Associate Pastor*

Deacon Kyle Warfield, *Director of Discipleship and Senior High Ministries*

MUSICIANS

Dr. Alain Truche, *Director of Music and Organist*

Sarah Pfanz, *Cantor*

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at Saint Luke Lutheran

August 22, 2021

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FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUG

| | |
|----------|--|
| 8:45 am | Worship, <i>streaming online</i> |
| 10:15 am | Up for Discussion, <i>via Zoom</i> |
| 3:00 pm | San Lucas Gospel Meditation, <i>via Zoom</i> |

05

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEP

| | |
|----------|--|
| 8:45 am | Worship, <i>streaming online</i> |
| 10:15 am | Up for Discussion, <i>via Zoom</i> |
| 3:00 pm | San Lucas Gospel Meditation, <i>via Zoom</i> |

Upcoming Commemorations

Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, bishop, renewer of the church, died 1872

Thursday, September 2, 2021

Grundtvig was, with Søren Kierkegaard, one of the two great Danish theologians of the nineteenth century. As a pastor, he battled the prevalent idea that Christianity was more a philosophy than divine revelation. He wrote over a thousand hymns.

MUSIC NOTES

Today's prelude is based on the hymn tune "Liebster Jesu, Wir Sind Hier." It is written by Aaron David Miller who is Director of Music at House of Hope Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis, MN. This hymn setting starts with a dancing ritornello (refrain). The tune is then alternated between the left and right hand in the using a cromorne sound. The ritornello comes back in another key but finishes in the original key. The second time, the tune is played all in the right hand and leads into the coda which takes elements from the ritornello.

During the offering, the hymn setting of the tune

"Liebster Jesu, Wir Sind Hier" is written by the American composer Gerald Near. He is one of the foremost composers of church music writing today, first studied theory and composition with Leslie Bassett, organ with Robert Glasgow, and conducting with Elizabeth Green at the University of Michigan. Presently Gerald Near is Director of Aureole Editions and resides in New Mexico. This setting is a highly ornamented version of the tune and features a simple accompaniment.

Théodore Salomé, a French organist and composer who is now largely forgotten, wrote Grand Choeur as part of the suite "Twelve New Pieces for Organ". It features the full chorus sounds of the organ.

HYMN NOTES

Dearest Jesus, at your word

Do you look forward to hearing the Scriptures read in a service? The author wrote his hymn to indicate the reason to gather for worship is to hear the Word of God, and this text was designed to be sung before the sermon. Originally there were seven stanzas (including one about the Nicene Creed), but in our hymnal we sing four.

Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways

The author of the text, Isaac Watts, was an English Christian minister (Congregational), hymn writer, theologian, and logician. He was a prolific and popular hymn writer and is credited with some 750 hymns. His works include "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross", "Joy to the World", and "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past". He is recognized as the "Godfather of English Hymnody"; many of his hymns remain in use today and have been translated into numerous languages. This hymn text is set to a tune written by William Henry Havergal, who was an Anglican clergyman, writer, composer and hymnwriter, and a publisher of sermons and pamphlets. He was the father of the hymn-writer and poet Frances Ridley Havergal and the clergyman and organist Henry East Havergal (1820–1875).

This is my Father's World

The author, a handsome and popular Presbyterian minister, often used to leave his home for an early morning walk up a hill overlooking Lake Ontario saying, "I am going out to see my Father's World." The hymn text is one of the finest nature hymns and is enhanced by Franklin Sheppard's arrangement of an English folk tune. In some hymnals the last stanza has been replaced by a stanza written much later by the author's daughter, Mary Babcock Crawford.