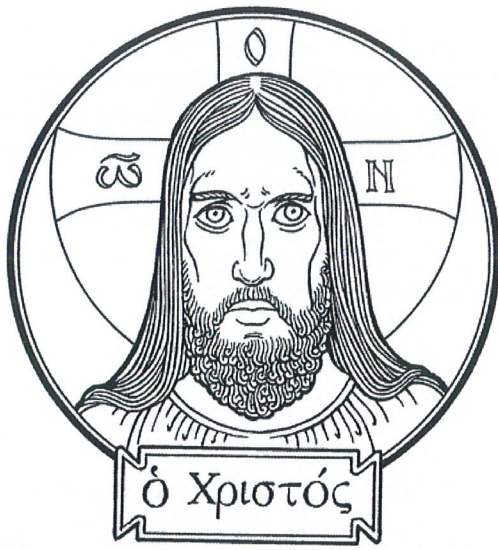




Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 23rd, 2026 - Divine Service 3

The Lord Jesus Christ Is The Son Of The Living God

Jesus asked His disciples: "But who do you say I am?" (Matt. 16:15). The question is also put to us: Who do you say that He is? Flesh and blood do not reveal this to us, but by the ministry of the Gospel, the Father in heaven reveals His Son to us on earth, who has become flesh and suffered death for our salvation. Thus, we believe and confess that He is "the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matt. 16:16).

As He died for our transgressions and was raised for our justification, prevail" (Matt. 16:18-19). His salvation is forever, and His righteousness "will never be dismayed" (Is. 51:6). He comforts us with the Gospel in His Church, so that "joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song" (Is. 51:3). Therefore, "according to the measure of faith that God has assigned" (Rom. 12:3), we also offer ourselves "as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God" (Rom. 12:1) through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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Welcome - We are blessed to have you with us today!

Announcements

Opening Hymn | 647 "Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head"

Please stand.

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen. [Matt. 28:19b, 18-20]

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. [Heb. 10:22]

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth. [Psalm 124:8 32:5]

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

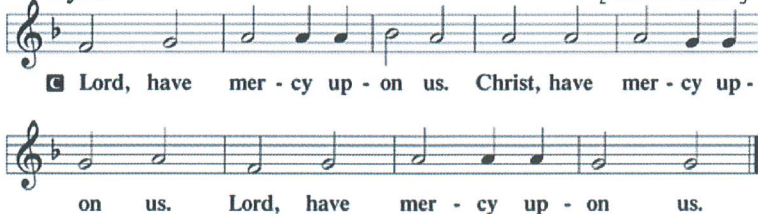
Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner confess unto you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. [John 20:19-23]

Kyrie

[Mark 10:47]



Gloria in Excelsis

[Luke 2:14; John 1:29]



Salutation and Collect of the Day

The Lord be with You.

And with thy spirit. [2 Timothy 4:22]

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Today's Readings from God's Word

The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah 51:1-6

¹"Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.

²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him.

³For the Lord comforts Zion; he comforts all her waste places and makes 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.

⁴"Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

The Epistle Reading is from Romans 11:33-12:8

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

³⁴"For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?"

³⁵"Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?"

³⁶For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. **Amen.**

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

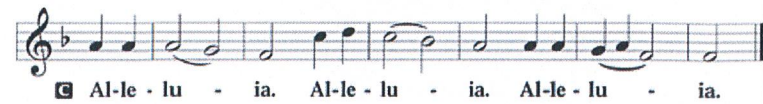
³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

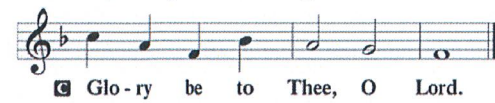
This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Please stand to greet the Gospel reading singing the Alleluia verse.



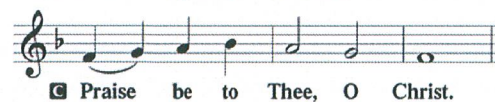
The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 16:13-20



¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Our Confession of Faith

Together we confess the Apostle's Creed. (Located Inside Back of Hymnal)
Please be seated.

Children's Message

The children are invited to come forward for a message by Pastor Fitch.

Hymn of the Day | 645 "Built On The Rock"

Sermon

Following the sermon, please stand.

Offertory

[Psalm 51:10-12]

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir-it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it
from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy sal-va -
tion, and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.

Please be seated.

Offering

In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay | Scan QR



Please stand.

Prayers of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

*After each petition, the pastor will say, "... Let us pray to the Lord;"
the congregation responds "Lord have mercy."*

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

[2 Timothy 4:22]

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

It is meet and right so to do.

[Psalm 136]

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, hold Lord, almighty Father everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

[Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9]

Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord God of Sab-a-oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo-ry. Ho-san-na,
ho-san-na, ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is He,
bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san-na, ho-san-na, ho-san-na in the high-est.

The Lord's Prayer

[Matthew 6:9-13]

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.

The Words of Our Lord

[Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 22:23-25]

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My **†** body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My **†** blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

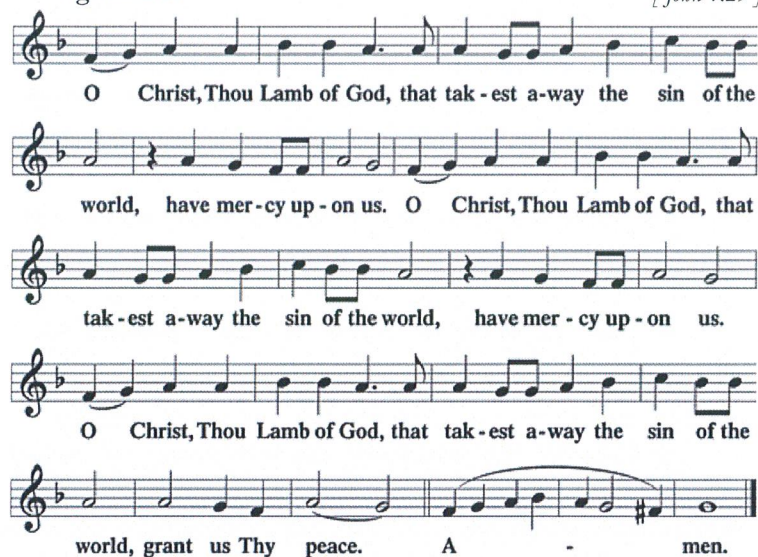
[John 20:19]

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Agnus Dei

[John 1:29]



Please be seated and come forward at the direction of the ushers.

Distribution of Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is a meal for disciples of Jesus who have been baptized and taught (as our Lord says in Matthew 28). Those who have confessed their sins, acknowledge Jesus as their Savior from sin, believe that with the bread and the wine Christ truly gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, desire to commit themselves to Him in loving obedience, and share the faith confessed at this altar, are welcome to participate. If you have any doubts or questions about the gift of the Lord's Supper, we ask that you consult with the pastor or an elder. Children are invited to come to the altar with their parents to receive a blessing.

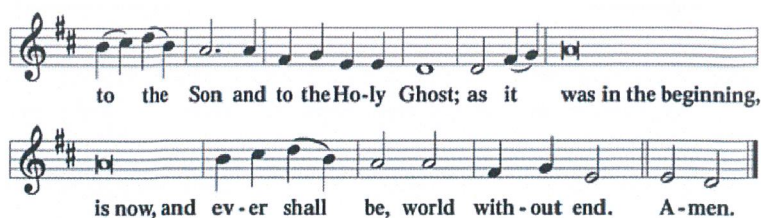
Dist. Hymn | 575 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

Dist. Hymn | 539 "Christ Is The World's Redeemer"

When all have communed, please stand.

Nunc Dimittis

[Luke 2:29-32]



Thanksgiving

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
and his mercy endureth forever.

Post-Communion Collect

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Salutation

The Lord be with you.
And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus

Bless we the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be
gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you
and $\dagger$ give you peace.

Amen, amen, amen.

Please be seated.

Closing Hymn | 909 "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"

Sending

Go in peace and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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Mercy Ministry Chair: Regina Allman

The purpose of this congregation shall be to serve its members and community and to spread the Kingdom of God by preaching the Word of God, by the administration of the Sacraments and by the religious instruction of youth and adults, according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church, and to foster Christian fellowship and charity. It shall also be the purpose and the responsibility of this congregation to provide a Christian and parochial education for its children to the best of its ability.