

# Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

## Service of Holy Communion

August 7, 2022

*(Note: All wording for the liturgy and hymns will appear on our large monitor screens just above the altar area.)*

**WELCOME FROM PASTOR JACK**

**CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**PRELUDE**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
whose steadfast love endures forever.

C: **Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Merciful God,

C: **we confess that we have not followed your path  
but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,  
we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need,**

**we have too often passed by on the other side.**

**Set us again on the path of life.**

**Save us from ourselves**

**and free us to love our neighbors.**

**Amen.**

P: Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins  
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

C: **Amen.**

**+HYMN**

**God Himself Is Present**

- 1      God himself is present;  
let us now adore him  
and with awe appear before him!  
God is in his temple;  
all within keep silence,  
prostrate lie with deepest rev'rence.  
Him alone God we own,  
him, our God and Savior;  
praise his name forever!
- 2      God himself is present;  
hear the harps resounding;  
see the hosts the throne surrounding!  
"Holy, holy, holy!"  
Hear the hymn ascending,  
songs of saints and angels blending.  
Bow your ear to us here:  
hear, O Christ, the praises  
that your church now raises.

**SALUTATION**

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

**+ PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P:      Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of  
your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we  
may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C:      **Amen.**

## SHARING OF THE ASSIGNED SCRIPTURE READINGS

### Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

*Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.*

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

<sup>13</sup>All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup>for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

## Luke 12:32-40

*Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>32</sup>"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup>"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup>be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup>Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup>If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup>"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

**SERMON**            "Fearless Living: Part 1  
                              Letting Go. . . and Seeing God"

**HYMN**                **Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us**

- 1            Savior, like a shepherd lead us;  
              much we need your tender care.  
              In your pleasant pastures feed us,  
              for our use your fold prepare.  
              Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
              you have bought us; we are yours.
  
- 2            We are yours; in love befriend us,  
              be the guardian of our way;  
              keep your flock, from sin defend us,  
              seek us when we go astray.  
              Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
              hear us children when we pray.

## **+THE APOSTLES' CREED**

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

## +THE PRAYERS

(See “Celebrate” bulletin insert)

P: Trusting in God’s extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

P: Let your lovingkindness be upon your church. Fill all who proclaim the gospel with your Spirit. Equip your flock to speak your word of promise and hope in the midst of fear and uncertainty. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Let your lovingkindness be upon your creation. Dwell among us and sustain our earthly home. In places of famine, provide nourishment. In places of plenty, fashion us to be good stewards of your bounty. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Let your lovingkindness be upon your world. Be our helper and our shield in places torn by strife and violence (*especially*). Raise up courageous leaders to govern with compassion and justice. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Let your lovingkindness be upon your children. Look upon all who wait for your steadfast love. Console those who grieve and embrace those who cry out to you (*especially*). Help us to trust your promise and not be afraid. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Let your lovingkindness be upon this community. Fashion our hearts to strive for the way of peace. Strengthen the outreach ministries of this congregation (*specific ministries may be named*) and all who care for those in need. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P: With thanksgiving we remember all who have died in faith and now rest in you. As they placed their hope in you, so strengthen us to trust in your promise of new life. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

**C: Amen.**

## EXCHANGE OF PEACE:

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always

C: And also with you

*(Please wave to your nearest worship neighbors)*

## OFFERING & OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of abundance:  
you have set before us a plentiful harvest.  
As we feast on your goodness,  
strengthen us to labor in your field,  
and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,  
in the name of Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION** *“In the night in which he was betrayed...”*

## 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.

## DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

### + POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Life-giving God,  
through this meal you have bandaged our wounds  
and fed us with your mercy.  
Now send us forth to live for others,  
both friend and stranger,  
that all may come to know your love.  
This we pray in the name of Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

## + BENEDICTION

P: The God of peace,  
Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you, comfort you,  
and show you the path of life  
this day and always.

C: **Amen.**

## + SENDING HYMN      Children of the Heavenly Father

- 1 Children of the heav'nly Father  
safely in his bosom gather;  
nestling bird nor star in heaven  
such a refuge e'er was given.
  
- 4 Though he giveth or he taketh,  
God his children ne'er forsaketh;  
his the loving purpose solely  
to preserve them pure and holy.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### +THE DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Love your neighbor.  
C: **Thanks be to God.**

## Weekly Announcements

### Serving Worship Today

**Lector:** Carol Schutz **Video:** Don Gulliksen **Usher:** Shannon Leifken  
**Communion Assistant:** Shannon Leifken **Altar Guild:** Erin Osterhout  
**CPIC:** Shannon Leifken

### Serving Next Week (8/14)

**Lector:** Marga Conn **Video:** Don Gulliksen **Usher:** Shannon Leifken  
**Communion Assistant:** Shannon Leifken **Altar Guild:** Erin Osterhout  
**CPIC:** Shannon Leifken

**This Sunday we welcome Lisa Wichman** as our guest musician today. Thank you for blessing us!

**Looking Ahead: First Holy Communion Instruction will be offered this Fall for all children, grade 3 and above.** Classes are scheduled for the evenings of October 16 & 23, with the actual first communion Sunday to be October 30. For questions and concerns please contact Pastor Jack at: [jackspartan79@gmail.com](mailto:jackspartan79@gmail.com).

**Fall Festival Planning Meeting... All Hands On Deck.** The Fall Festival will be here soon. Please attend a very important meeting slated for Monday, August 15 at 7:00pm in the choir room. Volunteers are greatly needed!

**Our Annual Community Fall Festival and Car Show is Coming Soon!** Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 24. Volunteers are greatly needed and appreciated. Please contact Matt Maitilasso at 973-876-0973 or email him at: [lawnpridenj@yahoo.com](mailto:lawnpridenj@yahoo.com).

**Sponsors are being sought for our annual Fall Festival.** If you or your business would like to be a sponsor, simply contact Matt Maitilasso at 973-876-0973 or email him at: [lawnpridenj@yahoo.com](mailto:lawnpridenj@yahoo.com).

**Communion Note:** Did you know that the communion trays are configured in a certain way? Cups containing grape juice are in the center of the tray, and cups containing wine are near the edges of each serving tray.

**Offering envelopes are now available on the table in the back of the sanctuary.** Please feel free to take some of the preprinted envelopes from the back and write your name in the space provided.

**Lectors (readers on Sunday mornings)** are needed and appreciated. Read the assigned Scripture for the day! Sign up sheets are located in the rear of the sanctuary, or ask Pastor Jack for details: [jackspartan79@gmail.com](mailto:jackspartan79@gmail.com).

**Lunch & Learn Adult Bible Study will be offered again on August 17th** in person or via ZOOM video link only from noon – 1:00pm. Please contact Pastor Jack ([jackspartan79@gmail.com](mailto:jackspartan79@gmail.com)) about the ZOOM link.

**Opportunities to provide humanitarian aid to refugees from the Ukraine.**

Send your contributions to Lutheran Disaster Response. You can donate on the web by visiting [ELCA.org](http://ELCA.org) and then clicking "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" or you can mail checks to:

**Lutheran Disaster Response**

**P.O. Box 1809**

**Merrifield, VA 22116-8009**

(Write "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" on your check memo line.)

**RISE UP is collecting toiletries to aid our locals.** Did you know that food stamps do not cover basic toiletry items like soap and shampoo? Please donate items in the special bin located in our church vestibule. For more information, contact Angela Bloshuk at 973-476-0101 or email her at: [riseupangela@gmail.com](mailto:riseupangela@gmail.com)

**Clothing Donations:** Please DO NOT drop off clothing at our church vestibule or lobby area. Instead, please place all donated articles in the RED BIN in the rear parking lot of the church. Shoes, handbags, stuffed toys, and linens are accepted as well! Please save winter coats for our fall coat drive.

**Food Collections.** Please note: Please donate only NON-PERISHABLE food items. Do not drop off milk, bread, or various dairy products as these items may spoil prior to public distribution.

**Want to give electronically?** 40% of our offerings now come in via electronic giving sources. To learn more, simply go to our web page at [www.rockawaylutheran.org](http://www.rockawaylutheran.org) and click on the "donate" button. . . then follow the simple instructions. Regular offerings (with date and frequency of your choice) as well as one-time gifts can be established electronically. All transactions are confidential.