

Pentecost 11 + August 24, 2025



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Holy Spirit Lutheran Church



Service of Holy Communion

Pastor: Rev. Liz Bell
Assisting Minister: Margie Nunweiler
Ministers: Every member
Ushers: Bart P

Council President: Karen Oko
Musician: Kathryn Elford
Video/Live Streaming: Anton Chell
Worship Host: Arvid P

WELCOME

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS¹ (Based on Isaiah 58)

Isaiah's people--the people of Israel returning home from long exile--
sought in the Prophet's words guidance for building God's kin-dom:

*Offer food to the hungry, Reach out to the afflicted,
Remove the yokes of oppression and injustice,
Overcome despair and complaint in struggle.*

**We too, struggle with this guidance,
and too often fail in our attempts to build community.**

Holy One, forgive us.

Take away whatever holds us back.

Show us the way to confidence and generosity so that

we may be known as your people

Repairers of the broken places and

Restorers of streets to safety and peace.

O God, with your help we can change and bring you glory.

Though we may have strayed, when we come to Jesus, the mediator of the new covenant, we can be sure that the kin-dom we are offered cannot be shaken. We will not be abandoned; indeed we will have continual guidance. Each time we feed the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted we grow in the strength of our faith and our bond with God. We are changed. Praise be to God; this simple miracle is made available to all of us, God's children.

GREETING

GATHERING SONG 'Morning has Broken' ELW 556

KYRIE: ELW Setting 8, p.184, verses 2 & 4

CANTICLE OF PRAISE This Is the Feast, ELW Setting 8, p.187

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CHILDREN'S TIME -

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:9b-14 (Inclusive Bible Version)

⁹Cry, and Yhwh will answer; call, and God will say, 'I am here'— provided you remove from your midst all oppression, finger pointing, and malicious talk! ¹⁰If you give yourself to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows will become like noon. ¹¹Yhwh will always guide you, giving relief in desert places. God will give strength to your bones and you will be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never run dry. ¹²You will rebuild the ancient ruins, and build upon age-old foundations. You will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, and Restorer of Ruined Neighborhoods. ¹³If you refrain from trampling the Sabbath and doing business on the holy day, if you call the Sabbath delightful and the day sacred to Yhwh honorable, if you honor it by not pursuing your own ways, seeking your own pleasure, or speaking your own words, ¹⁴then will you find your happiness in Yhwh, and I will lead you triumphant over the heights of the land. I will feed you on the heritage of Leah and Rachel and Jacob, your ancestors!" The mouth of Yhwh has spoken.

PSALM 103:1-8 (Inclusive Bible Version)

¹Bless Yhwh, my soul! All that is in me, bless God's holy Name!

²Bless Yhwh, my soul, and remember all God's kindnesses!

³The One who forgives all your sins is the One who heals all your diseases;

⁴the One who ransoms your life from the Pit is the One who crowns you with love and tenderness.

⁵The One who fills your years with prosperity also gives you an eagle's youthful energy.

⁶How you love justice, Yhwh! You are always on the side of the oppressed.

⁷You revealed your intentions to Moses, your deeds to Israel.

⁸You are tender and compassionate, Yhwh — slow to anger, and always loving;

SECOND READING: Hebrews 12:18-29 (Inclusive Bible Version)

¹⁸What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm, ¹⁹or trumpeting thunder, or the great voice speaking such that those hearing it begged that no more be said to them. ²⁰They couldn't bear to hear the command, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned." ²¹Indeed, so fearful was the spectacle that even Moses said, "I am terrified and trembling." ²²What you have drawn near to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, where myriad angels have gathered for the festival with the whole church— ²³in which everyone is a "firstborn" and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God, the supreme Judge, and have been placed with the spirits of the holy ones who have been made perfect. ²⁴You have come to Jesus—the mediator who brings a new Covenant—and to the sprinkled blood which pleads even more insistently than that of a bel. ²⁵Make sure that you never refuse to listen to the One who speaks. If the people who refused to listen to the warning while on earth didn't escape,

how much less will we escape if we refuse to listen to the voice of warning that comes from heaven? ²⁶God's voice shook the earth then, but now God promises, "Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens." ²⁷That promise means that the things being shaken are created things, so that only those things that cannot be shaken will remain. ²⁸Therefore, since we have inherited an unshakeable kingdom, let us thankfully worship God in a way that is acceptable—in reverence and in awe. ²⁹For our God is a consuming fire.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW Setting 8, p.188

GOSPEL: Luke 13:10-17

¹⁰One Sabbath, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues. ¹¹There was a woman there who for eighteen years had a sickness caused by a spirit. She was bent double, quite incapable of standing up straight. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are free of your infirmity." ¹³He laid his hands on her, and immediately she stood up straight and began thanking God. ¹⁴The head of the synagogue, indignant that Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the congregation, "There are six days for working. Come on those days to be healed, not on the Sabbath." ¹⁵Jesus said in reply, "You hypocrites! Which of you doesn't let your ox or your donkey out of the stall on the Sabbath to water it? ¹⁶This daughter of Sarah and Abraham has been in the bondage of Satan for eighteen years. Shouldn't she have been released from her shackles on the Sabbath?" ¹⁷At these words, Jesus' opponents were humiliated; meanwhile, everyone else rejoiced at the marvels Jesus was accomplishing.

SERMON – Pastor Liz Bell

SONG OF THE DAY '*Beautiful Things*' ACS 925

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from Iona Community)

We believe in a God

**whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives,
whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth,
whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all
and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom.**

Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt,

in God we trust; and, in the name of Jesus Christ,

we commit ourselves, in the service of others,

to seek justice and to live in peace

to care for the earth and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness,

to live in the freedom of forgiveness

and the power of the spirit of love,

and in the company of the faithful

so to be the church, for the glory of God. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In our prayers: Cody M, Susan K, Pr. Richard R, Dana R, Tom d, Gertie B, Pr. Erin T, David J and those we hold dear in our hearts.

PEACE

OFFERTORY *'Great is thy Faithfulness'* ELW 733, (vs 2)

OFFERING PRAYER ⁱⁱ(*Hebrews 12:18-29*)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ELW Setting 8, p.190

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER 27

Loving God, through the Spirit's revelation,
may Your true nature be honored everywhere.
May Your reign of love come.
May desire of Your heart for the world be done,
in us, by us and through us in the power of the Spirit
Give us the bread we need for each day.
Forgive us. Enable us to forgive others.
Keep us from all anxiety and fear.
For You reign in the power that comes from love
which is Your glory forever and ever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONGS

'Lamb of God' ELW Setting 8, P.191

'Precious Lord, Take My Hand' ELW 773

'Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me' ELW 767

'What a Friend We Have in Jesus' ELW 742

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BLESSING

COMMUNITY LIFE

SENDING SONG *'Rise up O Saints of God'* ELW 669

DISMISSAL



Online Giving



HSLC Events



ⁱ written by The Rev. Catherine Rolling, and posted on the United Church of Christ's **Worship Ways** website. <http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/year-c/p/pentecost-ordinary-time-11.html>

ⁱⁱ Discipleship Ministries Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/dear-children-of-god-dear-beloved-children/eleventh-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-lectionary-planning-notes/eleventh-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-offertory-prayer>

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