

*Welcome To Worship  
At  
Whitnall Park Lutheran Church*



*Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost  
September 21st, 2025*

Pastor Michael Fazio is presiding.

We have come together today as members and guests to worship God and celebrate new life in Jesus Christ. We hope our worship will be uplifting and provide a source of hope and strength for the week ahead. Please sign our Guest Register and introduce yourself as you leave worship today.

If you believe that the Lord is truly present for us in the Sacrament in body and blood for the forgiveness of sin, you are welcome to join us as we celebrate the Lord's Supper.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

As the prelude is a time of preparation, please consider quietly meditating on these words of the Psalm during this time of reflection.

*The LORD lifts up the poor from the ashes. (Ps. 113:7)*

### CALL TO WORSHIP *655 Son of God, Eternal Savior (Vs 1)*

- 1 Son of God, eternal Savior, source of life and truth and grace,  
Word made flesh, whose birth among us hallows all our human race,  
you our head, who, throned in glory, for your own will ever plead:  
fill us with your love and pity, heal our wrong, and help our need.

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as Pastor begins.*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the ☩ Holy Spirit.

**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: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are in bondage 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: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the + Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### ENTRANCE HYMN *685 Take My Life, That I May Be*

- 1 Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
- 2 Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;  
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;  
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.
- 4 Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.
- 5 Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

### 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.**

### KYRIE ELW 155

1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.  
1, 3 Lord, . . . have mer - cy. Lord, . . . have mer - cy.  
2 Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
Chris - te e - lei - son.  
Lord, . . . have mer - cy.  
Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

## **HYMN OF PRAISE *Glory to God in the Highest ELW Setting 3 Pg 139***

*Cantor: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth*

**All: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father**

**We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray . . . . God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **FIRST READING *a reading from Amos 8:4-7***

*Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.*

<sup>4</sup> Hear this, you who trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land,  
<sup>5</sup> saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier and practice deceit with false balances, <sup>6</sup> buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and selling the sweepings of the wheat." <sup>7</sup> The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely, I will never forget any of their deeds. This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 113

*The LORD lifts up the poor from the ashes. (Ps. 113:7)*

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD; praise the name of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup> **Let the name of the LORD be blessed, from this time forth forevermore.**

<sup>3</sup> From the rising of the sun to its going down let the name of the LORD be praised.

<sup>4</sup> **The LORD is high above all nations; God's glory above the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup> Who is like the LORD our God, who sits enthroned on high,

<sup>6</sup> **but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?**

<sup>7</sup> The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

<sup>8</sup> **enthroning them with the rulers, with the rulers of the people.**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD makes the woman of a childless house to be a joyful mother of children.  
Hallelujah!

## SECOND READING *a reading from 1 Timothy 2:1-7*

*The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.*

<sup>1</sup> First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup> for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, <sup>6</sup> who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup> For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth. This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *ELW 142 Setting 3*

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal Life.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

## GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel *according Luke 16:1-13*

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup> So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.'  
<sup>3</sup> Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup> I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.'  
<sup>5</sup> So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' <sup>6</sup> He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.'  
<sup>7</sup> Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.'  
<sup>8</sup> And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup> And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. <sup>10</sup> "Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup> If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup> And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup> No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

This is the Holy Gospel of Our Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY 710 *Let Streams of Living Justice*

- 1 Let streams of living justice flow down upon the earth;  
give freedom's light to captives, let all the poor have worth.  
The hungry's hands are pleading, the workers claim their rights,  
the mourners long for laughter, the blinded seek for sight. Make  
liberty a beacon, strike down the iron pow'r; abolish ancient  
vengeance: proclaim your people's hour.
- 2 For healing of the nations, for peace that will not end,  
for love that makes us lovers, God grant us grace to mend.  
Weave our varied gifts together; knit our lives as they are spun;  
on your loom of time enroll us till our thread of life is run.  
O great weaver of our fabric, bind church and world in one;  
dye our texture with your radiance, light our colors with your sun.
- 3 Your city's built to music; we are the stones you seek;  
your harmony is language; we are the words you speak.  
Our faith we find in service, our hope in others' dreams,  
our love in hand of neighbor; our homeland brightly gleams.  
Inscribe our hearts with justice your way—the path untried;  
your truth—the heart of stranger; your life—the Crucified.

## APOSTLE'S 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 catholic Church, the communion  
of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

*a brief silence.*

A: O God, teach your church to act in solidarity with the poor and needy and practicing justice in our own life and community. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Almighty Creator, we pray for an end to the misuse of the earth and its resources, that all people may benefit from your abundant gifts and that our stewardship of creation would be marked by your spirit.

God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Holy One, embolden elected leaders to pursue policies of justice for the benefit of all, especially those who are most vulnerable. Persuade them by your example of generosity and compassion. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: God of love, motivate our congregation to live out your word, prioritizing the needs of our community and sharing resources generously.

God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

P: Compassionate God, we pray for all facing illness, those near death, or those grieving the loss of loved ones . . . May they find comfort and strength in your love. Prepare us to surround them with your healing care. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Gracious God, we give thanks for the saints who now join the heavenly chorus in praising your name. Lift us up from grief and remind us of your promise of new life. God of grace,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer.

**C: Amen.**



## **PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## **OFFERING/OFFERTORY HYMN    *182 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful***

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.**

**Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer now.**

**Grace our table with your presence,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: Let us pray . . . . **Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving  
what you have first given us, our selves, our time, and our possessions,  
signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who  
offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **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.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . .  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *ELW Setting 4 Pg 153***

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father; endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and at the end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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 in 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 in remembrance of me.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and place and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.

## **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.**

## COMMUNION

***THE BODY OF CHRIST, GIVEN FOR YOU. THE BLOOD OF CHRIST, SHED FOR YOU.***

*As we accept the Lord's gift of His body and blood, we will receive Him in our refilled cups containing the wafer and juice at the rail in the fullness of faith that God's love and grace have been poured into these holy elements. One Body, One Mind, One Lord Jesus Christ. This is God's precious gift for you.*

## COMMUNION SONG ***Lamb of God Setting 3 Pg 146***

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

Grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMNS    ***806 O God, My Father God*** ***777 Come To Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty***

## COMMUNION BLESSING

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

**C: Amen.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE    ***208 Praise To You, O God of Mercy***

**Praise to you, O God of Mercy, Thanks be to You forever!**

**Raising high the weak and lowly, Thanks be to You forever!**

**Thanks be to You forever!**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray . . . We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## **BLESSING**

P: Almighty God, Father, Son and † Holy Spirit bless you, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **SENDING HYMN 793 *Be Thou My Vision***

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,  
raise thou me heavenward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
- 3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,  
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 4 Light of my soul, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

## **DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace, Share the Good News!

**C: Thanks be to God.**

