

*WELCOME TO WORSHIP
AT
WHITNALL PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH*



*Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost
September 28th, 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 gives justice to those who are oppressed. (Ps. 146:7)

CALL TO WORSHIP **705 God of Grace and God of Glory (Vs 1)**

- 1 God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow'r;
crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

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 532 *Gather Us In*

- 1 Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away; see in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.
- 2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry, we are the old who yearn for your face; we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.
- 3 Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
- 4 Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, light years away—here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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. i - son.
Chris - te e - lei - son. i - son.
Lord, . . . have mer - cy. - - - cy.
Christ, . . . have mer - cy. - - - 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 . . . O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

FIRST READING *a reading from Amos 6:1a, 4-7*

The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes. ^{1a} Woe to those who are at ease in Zion and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria. ⁴ Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and lounge on their couches and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the stall, ⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp and like David improvise on instruments of music, ⁶ who drink wine from bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! ⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away. This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SENIOR CHOIR ~ *A Communion Meditation* ~ *Price, Besig*

PSALM 146

The LORD gives justice to those who are oppressed. (Ps. 146:7)

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

² **I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

³ Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

⁴ **When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.**

⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶ **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;**

⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸ **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹ The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰ **The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

SECOND READING *a reading from 1 Timothy 6:6-19*

Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.

⁶ Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, ⁸ but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹ But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. ¹¹ But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen. ¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life. 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 16:19-31*

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹⁹ "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' ²⁵ But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' ²⁷ He said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house ²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹ Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' ³⁰ He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' ³¹ He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

This is the Holy Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 729 *The Church of Christ, in Every Age*

- 1 The church of Christ, in ev'ry age beset by change, but Spirit-led,
must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.
- 2 Across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat and never live before they die.

- 3 Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be a partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.
- 4 For he alone, whose blood was shed, can cure the fever in our blood, and teach us how to share our bread and feed the starving multitude.
- 5 We have no mission but to serve in full obedience to our Lord. to care for all, without reserve, and spread his liberating word.

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: We pray for the church, that it would remain faithful to the gospel, always striving to serve the needs of those who are oppressed or rejected. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for creation, that the nations work together to protect and restore the earth, preserving the beauty of the planet for future generations and honoring the gift of your creation. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for those in positions of authority that they govern with justice and compassion, recognizing the dignity of all people and working to promote peace and prosperity for all. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for this congregation, that we would be strengthened to build a world where all can thrive. Incite us to advocate for fair wages and just policies. Guide us in building a community of mutual support for all.
God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We pray for people in any need . . . Give them your assurance and courage when the path forward is not clear. Liberate us from all that binds us, lift us up when we are bowed down, and show us your love. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We remember in thanksgiving the faithful departed. Inspire us by their example to love and serve our neighbors and bring us to eternal 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 and friend.

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 or by intinction 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 *429 We Come To the Hungry Feast* *477 I Received The Living God*

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 *712 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service*

- 1 Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need, who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed: we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart; consecrating to your purpose ev'ry gift which you impart.
- 2 Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread; still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead. As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul, by your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.
- 3 As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight, making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear, stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.
- 4 Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go, to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show; hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid and peace we give, that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace, Share the Good News!

C: Thanks be to God.

