

***WELCOME TO WORSHIP
AT
WHITNALL PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH***



***Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost
Sunday September 7th, 2025
10:30 a.m.***

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.

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.

They are like trees planted by streams of water. (Ps. 1:3)

CALL TO WORSHIP *880 O God Beyond All Praising (Vs 1)*

- 1 O God beyond all praising, we worship you today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at ev'ry gift you send,
at blessings without number and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,
we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who calls us beloved children,
who gathers us into one flock, who guides us into all truth.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and cleanse us from
all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Faithful God,

**C: we confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways
that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you
have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit
work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know
the abundant life given in Jesus Christ, Our risen Lord. Amen.**

P: In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, I announce to you that your sins are
forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy,
and inspire you to live for others.

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 154*

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. Have mercy O Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE *This is The Feast ELW Setting 4 Pg 149*

Cantor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**All: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set
us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom
and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn
of all creation; Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb
who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray . . . Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING *a reading from **Deuteronomy 30:15-20***

Moses speaks to the Israelites, who are about to enter the land promised to their ancestors. In this passage, he lays out the stark choice before them: choose life by loving and obeying the LORD; or choose death by following other gods.

¹⁵ "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity.

¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 1

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

- ⁴ **It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**
- ⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
- ⁶ **For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

SECOND READING *a reading from **Philemon 1-21***

Onesimus, a new Christian and a man enslaved by Philemon, has helped Paul, who is in prison. Paul writes this letter to his friend Philemon to encourage him to receive Onesimus, upon his return, as a sibling in Christ.

¹ Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To our beloved coworker Philemon, ² to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, ⁵ because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶ I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. ⁷ I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. ⁸ For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, ⁹ yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. ¹⁰ I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹ Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. ¹² I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³ I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴ but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵ Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, ¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. ¹⁷ So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. ¹⁸ If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. ¹⁹ I, Paul, am writing this with my own

hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self.

²⁰ Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask. This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Refrain:

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,

still you're there right beside me.

And nothing will I fear as long as you are near.

Please be near me to the end. *Refrain*

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to *Luke 14:25-33*

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions." This is the Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY 879 *For the Beauty of the Earth*

- 1 For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

Refrain

Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.

- 2 For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:

Refrain

- 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:

Refrain

- 4 For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild:

Refrain

- 5 For each perfect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;
for thyself, best gift divine, to our world so freely giv'n:

Refrain

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 to follow in your ways, that it may be a witness to your love for all people. Help us choose all that is life-giving and confront the forces of death. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for creation, that it may be cherished and nurtured. Sustain farmlands, animals, and waters; restore places affected by calamities; and shield coastlands from rising seas. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for those in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern justly and compassion to care for the marginalized. Equip them for actions that further the common good. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

A: We pray for this congregation, that we may be united in love and faith. Refresh our hearts in Christ and deepen our support of one another. We pray that our sharing of faith may transform lives. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We pray for those who are sick, hungry, unhoused, or lonely
May they find healing through your love and the care of those around them. Lead us to be your hands and feet in the world. God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We thank you for those who have died and now dwell with the saints. Surround them with your divine mercy, that they find peace and rest in your loving embrace. 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.

OFFERATORY HYMN *ELW 186 Create in Me a Clean Heart*

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray . . . **God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 10 Pg 207*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power 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, hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy and Mighty Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened His arms to all.

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 for the 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 all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor, now and forever.

C: 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 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 ***195 Lamb of God***

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 ***810 O Jesus, I Have Promised*** ***806 O God, My Faithful 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 ***674 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ Vs 1 & 3***

- 1 Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound! Jesus lives again,
earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

- 3 Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere!

Refrain

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray . . . Mighty and compassionate God, you have brought us over from death to life through your Son, Our Risen Savior, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN 808 *Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song*

- 1 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey;
 I'll tell ev'rybody about you wherever I go:
 you alone are our life and our peace and our love.
 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.
- 2 Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.
 May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
 Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.
- 3 As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,
 to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.
 For you saved me by giving your body and blood.
 As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.
- 4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey;
 but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side.
 And with all of the family you saved by your love,
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace, to love and serve Our Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

