

Morning Worship
Eleventh Sunday after Trinity
August 31, 2025

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship

Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise! Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you. All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name" (Psalm 66:1-4).

Adoration

***Opening Hymn**

How Firm a Foundation (TH94)

*How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said, to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?*

*"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed; for I am your God, and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand, upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.*

*"When through the deep waters I call you to go, the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless, and sanctify to you your deepest distress.*

*"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design your dross to consume and your gold to refine.*

*"E'en down to old age all my people shall prove my sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;
and when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn, like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.*

*"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake."*

***Invocation**

***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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Confession

Call to Confession

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever (1 John 2:15-17).

Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty God, we have every reason to be humbled for the pride of our hearts which has deceived us. We have thought of ourselves more highly than we ought to think. We have not made an honest, sober evaluation of ourselves. We have not walked humbly with you, our gracious God. We have leaned on our own understanding and trusted in our own hearts. We have sought our own glory more than the glory of you, our Creator and King. Please forgive us these and all our sins, and cleanse us of all unrighteousness as you have said you would be faithful and just to do. And grant us grace to hereafter walk in holiness and humility before you and our fellow men, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Assurance

Assurance of Pardon

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing (Zephaniah 3:17).

Thanksgiving

Offertory

***Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

***Offertory Prayer**

Petition and Intercession

Pastoral Prayer

Silent Prayer for the Salvation of Others

Instruction

***Hymn of Preparation**

How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place (TH469)

*How sweet and awesome is the place with Christ within the doors,
while everlasting love displays the choicest of her stores.*

*While all our hearts and all our songs join to admire the feast,
each of us cries, with thankful tongue, "Lord, why was I a guest?"*

*"Why was I made to hear your voice, and enter while there's room,
when thousands make a wretched choice, and rather starve than come?"*

*'Twas the same love that spread the feast that sweetly drew us in;
else we had still refused to taste, and perished in our sin.*

*Pity the nations, O our God, constrain the earth to come;
send your victorious Word abroad, and bring the strangers home.*

*We long to see your churches full, that all the chosen race
may, with one voice and heart and soul, sing your redeeming grace.*

New Testament Reading

Revelation 21:22-27

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 87

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Psalm 87

Communion

***Hymn of Preparation**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; Hold me with Thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, Feed me now and evermore;
Bread of heaven, Feed me now and evermore.*

*Open now the crystal fountain, Whence the healing waters flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.
Strong Deliverer, Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.*

When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside;

*Death of death, and hell's destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee;
Songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee.*

*Land me safe on Canaan's side
Bid my anxious fears, bid my anxious fears
Land me safe on Canaan's side
Bid my anxious fears, bid my anxious fears, goodbye.*

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***Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Sursum Corda

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And with your spirit.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

Congregation: It is good and right to do so.

We welcome to Communion (also called The Lord's Table or The Eucharist) all baptized Christians who have received and are resting on Jesus alone for salvation, and are communing members of any church that faithfully proclaims the gospel. If that does not currently describe you, we invite you to participate by observing but not partaking of the elements – in part because of the warnings Scripture gives those who partake of the Supper without discerning its spiritual significance; but also because we don't want you to express something with your body that isn't true of your heart and mind, namely, that you're trusting in and depending on Jesus as your Lord and Savior. We invite you to take this time to consider what you've seen and heard in the worship service, including Jesus' love for sinners as it is portrayed in this meal. There's also a prayer below for those considering Christianity that you might wish to pray. If this raises questions or concerns, we welcome them and invite you to address them to our pastor or elders.

Prayer for those searching for truth: Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If you are real, please open my heart and mind to the truth of who you are and what you

have done in your life, death, and resurrection. Give me faith to trust you for salvation and satisfaction, and to follow you as my Lord. Help me to see this as the only way to the life you promise and for which I long. Amen.

Prayer for Christians: Lord, you have prepared for me a feast; and though I am unworthy to sit down as a guest, I rest on the merits of Jesus, and come clothed in his righteousness. While I see the bread and the cup, may I ponder why Jesus died and hear him say, "I gave my life to purchase yours, presented myself as an offering to satisfy divine justice, shed my blood to blot out your guilt, opened my side to make you clean, endured your curses to set you free." May I obey, extend the hand, take the bread, receive the cup, eat and drink, testify before all that I gladly receive Jesus to be my life, strength, nourishment, joy, delight. In the Supper give me assurance of pardon, adoption, life, and glory. As the outward elements nourish my body, may your Spirit invigorate my soul, until that day when I hunger and thirst no more, and sit with Jesus at his heavenly feast. Amen.

- excerpted and adapted from *Valley of Vision*, "The Lord's Supper"

Charge and Blessing

*Closing Hymn

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken (TH345)

*Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
he whose word cannot be broken formed thee for his own abode:
on the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.*

*See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove;
who can faint, while such a river ever flows their thirst t'assuage?—
grace which, like the Lord, the giver, never fails from age to age.*

*Round each habitation hov'ring, see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a cov'ring, showing that the Lord is near:
thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna which he gives them when they pray.*

*Savior, if of Zion's city I, through grace, a member am,
let the world deride or pity, I will glory in thy name:
fading is the worldling's pleasure, all his boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasure none but Zion's children know.*

*Benediction

**congregation standing*

***universal*