

Morning Worship
Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity
September 14, 2025

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of gods,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

It is he who remembered us in our low estate,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

and rescued us from our foes,

for his steadfast love endures forever;

he who gives food to all flesh,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of heaven,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

(Psalm 136:1-3, 23-26)

Adoration

Opening Hymn

This Is My Father's World (TH111)

This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears,

all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought

of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,

the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.

This is my Father's world: he shines in all that's fair;

in the rustling grass I hear him pass, he speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world, O let me ne'er forget

that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.

This is my Father's world: the battle is not done;

Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heav'n be one.

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

For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him (Psalm 32:3-6).

Corporate Confession of Sin

Holy God, we confess that we have been more concerned about the things of the flesh than the things of the Spirit. We have lived on this earth in luxury and self-gratification. We have been careful to make provision for the flesh to fulfill its unending desires. We have encouraged the very lusts that war against the soul. We have been lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of you. When we ate and drank, did we not do so to gratify ourselves rather than to glorify you? Please forgive us these sins and give us repentance unto life. Help us to set our minds on the Spirit that you might be glorified, and that we might know the life and peace that are ours in Christ. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Silent Confession of Sin

Assurance

Assurance of Pardon

And Samuel said to the people, "Do not be afraid; you have done all this evil. Yet do not turn aside from following the Lord, but serve the Lord with all your heart. And do not turn aside after empty things that cannot profit or deliver, for they are empty. For the Lord will not forsake his people, for his great name's sake, because it has pleased the Lord to make you a people for himself. Only fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things he has done for you" (1 Samuel 12:20-22, 24).

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 *My God, My God, O Why Have You Forsaken Me? (TH79)*

*My God, my God, O why have you forsaken me?
O why are you so far from Giving help and from my groaning cry?
By day and night, my God, I call; your answer still delays.
And yet you are the Holy One who dwells in Israel's praise.*

*Our fathers put their trust in you; from you their rescue came.
They begged you and you set them free; they were not put to shame.
But as for me, I am a worm And not a man at all.
To men I am despised and base; their scornings on me fall.*

*All those who look at me will laugh and cast reproach at me.
Their mouths they open wide; they wag their heads in mockery:
"The Lord was his reliance once; now see what God will send.
Yes, let God rise and set him free, this man that was his friend."*

*You took me from my mothers womb to safety at the breast.
Since birth when I was cast on you, in you, my God, I rest.
When I proclaim my praise of you, then all the church will hear,
And I will pay my vows in full where men hold him in fear.*

New Testament Reading

Ephesians 2:13-22

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 56:9-57:13

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Isaiah 56:9-57:21

Communion

Hymn of Preparation

Jesus, Strong and Kind

*Jesus said that if I thirst, I should come to him.
No one else can satisfy, I should come to him.*

*Jesus said if I am weak, I should come to him.
No one else can be my strength, I should come to him.*

*Chorus: For the Lord is good and faithful. He will keep us day and night.
We can always run to Jesus. Jesus, strong and kind.*

*Jesus said that if I fear, I should come to him.
No one else can be my shield, I should come to him. Chorus*

*Jesus said if I am lost, He will come to me.
And he showed me on that cross, He will come to me. Chorus X2*
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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

Amazing Grace! (TH460)

*Amazing grace!— how sweet the sound— that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!*

*Thro' many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.*

*The Lord has promised good to me, his Word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.*

*And when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil a life of joy and peace.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first begun.*

Benediction

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