

APOSTLES' LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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The community of Apostles Lutheran Church warmly welcomes you to worship today!

As Lutheran Christians, we proclaim that there is nothing, no human action that we can undertake, to earn God's love or the gift of God's grace. It is a gift promised and given to us through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Word of God made flesh. It is a gift given to everyone regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, or background. This Easter promise, this gift of grace, frees us from the fear of having to earn God's love and it moves us to simply try to love our neighbor as best we can. We have been blessed to be a blessing to others and proclaim that there is a place for you at Christ's table.

Welcome, celebrate this good news with us!

Pastor Peter Edwardsen

APOSTLES' LUTHERAN CHURCH
Service of Holy Communion

Sunday June 9th, 2024
The Third Sunday after Pentecost

A house divided against itself cannot stand. Jesus makes this observation in light of charges that he is possessed. He is possessed, not by a demon but by the Holy Spirit. We who have received the Holy Spirit through baptism have been joined to Christ's death and resurrection and knit together in the body of Christ. Those with whom we sing and pray this day are the family of Jesus. With them we go forth in peace to do the will of God.

Order of Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.
C: Amen.

P: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our provider, help us.

It is hard to believe that there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own broken understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offence at your teaching and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

P: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, + the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy and you are forgiven and loved into eternal life. *Amen.*

Gloria

(ELW pg. 176)

*Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!
Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!*

*And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God.
And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God.*

Prayer of the Day

P: The grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray together the prayer of the day for this Sunday, June 9th, 2024.

*All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory.
Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of
the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

Gathering Hymn: "Lead Me, Guide Me" #768 ELW

*Refrain: Lead me, guide me, along the way; for if you lead me, I cannot stray. Lord, let
me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.*

*I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r to help me over my weakest hour. Help
me through the darkness thy face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]*

*Help me tread in the paths of righteousness, be my aid when Satan and sin oppress. I
am putting all my trust in thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]*

*I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am blind without thy light to see. Lord, just
always let me thy servant be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. [Refrain]*

Please be seated.

WORD

First Reading:

The First Reading: 1 Samuel 8:4-11, (12-15), 16-20, (11:14-15)

8:4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, and said to him, "You are old and your sons do not follow in your ways; appoint for us, then, a king to govern us, like other nations."

But the thing displeased Samuel when they said, "Give us a king to govern us." Samuel prayed to the LORD, and the LORD said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected me from being king over them. Just as they have done to me, from the day I brought them up out of Egypt to this day, forsaking me and serving other gods, so also they are doing to you. Now then, listen to their voice; only--you shall solemnly warn them, and show them the ways of the king who shall reign over them."

So Samuel reported all the words of the LORD to the people who were asking him for a king.

He said, "These will be the ways of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and appoint them to his chariots and to be his horsemen, and to run before his chariots; and he will appoint for himself commanders of thousands and commanders of fifties, and some to plow his ground and to reap his harvest, and to make his implements of war and the equipment of his chariots. He will take your daughters to be perfumers and cooks and bakers.

He will take the best of your fields and vineyards and olive orchards and give them to his courtiers. He will take one-tenth of your grain and of your vineyards and give it to his officers and his courtiers. He will take your male and female slaves, and the best of your cattle and donkeys, and put them to his work. He will take one-tenth of your flocks, and you shall be his slaves.

And in that day you will cry out because of your king, whom you have chosen for yourselves; but the LORD will not answer you in that day." But the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel; they said "No! but we are determined to have a king over us, so that we also may be like other nations, and that our king may govern us and go out before us and fight our battles."

Samuel said to the people, "Come, let us go to Gilgal and there renew the kingship."

So all the people went to Gilgal, and there they made Saul king before the LORD in Gilgal. There they sacrificed offerings of well-being before the LORD, and there Saul and all the Israelites rejoiced greatly.

R: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 138

138:1 I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

138:2 I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

138:3 On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

138:4 All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD, for they have heard the words of your mouth.

138:5 They shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of the LORD.

138:6 For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.

138:7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

138:8 The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

R: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Anthem: “Total Praise” by Richard Smallwood and Joel Raney.
Performed by Apostles Choir and Phyllis Griffiths.**

Please rise, if you are able, for the Gospel reading.

Gospel Acclamation

pg. 205 ELW

***Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.***

Gospel: Mark 3:20-35

In response to charges that he is possessed, Jesus wonders aloud how anyone who is demon-possessed can cast out demons. Those who do the will of God are possessed not by demons but by the Holy Spirit and are siblings of Christ.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the third chapter. **All: Glory to you O Lord.**

After the reading

P: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word, this is the Gospel of our Lord.
All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: The Rev. Peter Edwardsen

Please rise if you are able.

Hymn of the Day: “A Mighty Fortress is Our God.” #505 ELW

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper frees us from the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe, forsworn to work us woe, with guile and dreadful might is armed to wage the fight: on earth there is no equal.

If we in our own strength confide, our striving turns to losing; the righteous one fights by our side, the one of God's own choosing. You ask who this may be: Christ Jesus it is he, the Lord of hosts by name. No other God we claim! None else can win the battle.

Though all the world with devils fill and threaten to devour us, we tremble not, we trust God's will: they cannot overpower us. Though Satan rant and rage, in fiercest war engage, this tyrant's doomed to fail; God's judgement must prevail! One little word shall triumph.

God's Word shall stand above the powers, shall end all their thanksgiving. The Spirit and the gifts our ours, for God with us is living. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; though all of these be gone, they have yet nothing won. The kingdoms our forever!

P: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope and as we prepare to lift our voices in prayer, we confess our faith using the words of the Apostles Creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints the forgiveness of sin, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers and Concerns of the Community

“What A Friend We Have In Jesus” #742 ELW (verse 1)

*What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
oh, what needless pain we bear --
all because we do not carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!*

D: We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and the world.

A brief silence.

The Deacon, pastor, or worship leader continues with the prayers. Each petition ends;

D: Merciful God. All: receive our prayer.

The final petition ends;

D: Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ. *All: Amen.*

Sharing of the Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ

Please be seated.

Offering

P: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to this feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

All: Amen.

Please rise if you are able.

Offertory music: “Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful Lord” #184 ELW

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 dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer.

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

Offertory prayer:

D: Risen One. You call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **All: Amen**

The Meal

The Great Thanksgiving:

P: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

**All: It is right to give our thanks
and praise.**

Preface: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(ELW page 181)

Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord God, God of might and power, holy is the Lord.

Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord God, God of might and power, holy is the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.

Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.

Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Eucharistic Prayer:

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

Remembering, therefore his salutary command, his life giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to life as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer:

P: And now let us pray as our Lord Jesus has taught us.

All: 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.

Lamb of God
(ELW page 182)

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

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

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

Invitation to Communion

P: The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table. **All: Amen!**

Please be seated.

As sinners redeemed not by our own actions but by God's promise of grace alone Lutherans practice an open table: Christ invites all to the table. All who desire to receive communion are welcome. Christ turns no one away.

Ushers will direct you when to approach the altar rail. Communion trays contain empty cups for wine, as well as filled cups of grape juice in the center for those who cannot drink wine. If you have a gluten sensitivity, please tell the pastor as he approaches with the bread and he will offer you to take from the tray of gluten-free wafers.

If you are unable to approach the rail and would like to receive communion in your seat, please let the ushers know.

Communion Hymn: "When Peace Like a River" #785 ELW

When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll, whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain: It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control, that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul. [Refrain]

He lives - oh, the bliss of this glorious thought; my sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! [Refrain]

Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend; even so it is well with my soul. [Refrain]

After all have received communion the community stands and sings three times:

*Jesus, remember me,
when you come into your Kingdom.*

Table Blessing

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep in you in his grace, now and forever. **All: Amen.**

Canticle: “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” #207 ELW

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev’ryone what God has done. Let ev’ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and bear the name of Christ. Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Post Communion Prayer

P: Jesus, Word of God made flesh, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **All: Amen.**

THE SENDING

Blessing

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, renews us, and journeys with us, + be upon you now and forever.
C: Amen.

Sending Hymn: “I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me” #860 ELW

*I’m so glad Jesus lifted me. I’m so glad Jesus lifted me. I’m so glad Jesus lifted me,
singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.*

Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me. Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me. Satan had me bound, Jesus lifted me, singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me. When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me. When I was in trouble, Jesus lifted me, singing glory, hallelujah! Jesus lifted me.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God!

Please keep in prayer...

. . . all communities suffering and mourning due to natural disasters.

. . . all communities and peoples that suffer from intolerance, injustice, racism, and violence.

. . . all areas of the world living under threat of violence and war.

We stand with those communities and organizations, faith-based and secular, that work towards healing, justice, and peace.

We pray that the Holy Spirit brings comfort to those who mourn, strength to those who advocate for change, and peace to those who struggle to make sense of the senseless.

Today's Altar Volunteers:

***Deacon: Mark L., Acolyte: Nicole G.,
Greeter: & Usher: Paul G.,
Readers: Connie T., Mark L.,
Set Up: Carol B., Clean Up: Connie T.***

June 16th Altar Volunteers:

***Deacon: David S., Acolyte: Nicole G.,
Greeter: Barb S, Usher: Carol B.,
Readers: Laura E., David S.,
Set Up & Clean Up: Tracy D.***

The "Potluck Lunch" is today immediately after the service.

**If you wish to have a graduate recognized in the bulletin, please
contact Sandy
or leave a message in the church office. Thank you.**

June 13th & 27th: Food Closet, 1-3pm.

May 2024 Financial Update

Year to Date Giving: \$54,228.95

Year to Date Expenses: \$58,417.54

Year to Date Shortfall: -\$4,188.59

(For more information, please see Gene Abel or Joan Tartamosa)

- ***If you wish to bring snacks for the Sunday Coffee Fellowship, there is a signup sheet in the Narthex.***
- **The Vanco system for online giving can be found on the Apostles' website.**

Any questions, please see Frank or Nick. Thank you.

- **We are collecting the following: Linens--towels, sheets, and blankets. Medical supplies-- Alcohol wipes, infusion set-ups, tubing, syringes, etc. Also, dog food, empty ink cartridges of all types, and pull tabs from aluminum cans for dialysis credits.**