

## ***APOSTLES' LUTHERAN CHURCH***

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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Church Facebook Page: Apostles Corner

*God's purpose for the church is to witness to God's grace, forgiveness, compassion, and justice. We fulfill this promise by serving and caring for your local and global communities.*

### **SUNDAY VOICE**

**The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God.**

**APOSTLES' LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Service of Holy Communion**

**The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

*Welcome and God's Blessings to Phyllis Griffiths, our new Parish Musician!*

### **Thanksgiving for Baptism**

*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, whose steadfast love endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful God,

**ALL: We confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.**

P: Brothers and sisters hear the good news! Through the cross and the waters of baptism God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ and by His authority; I hereby declare to you the entire forgiveness of all of your sins. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

**Gloria: “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High” 857 ELW (*sung twice*)**

*Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praises. I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us. You came from heaven to earth to show the way, from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay, from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky; Lord I lift your name on high.*

**Prayer of the Day**

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

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray together our prayer of the day for Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup> 2022.

*Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you whenever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

**Gathering Hymn: “As We Gather at Your Table” #522 ELW**

*As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word, help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own; teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love’s vict’ry known.*

*Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life; send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave; may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.*

*Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least. There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy, as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.*

**WORD**

*Please be seated.*

*Jesus says, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” It is God’s promise from the beginning – to Abraham, to the early church, and to the “little flock” of which we are a part in today’s assembly. Faith, God’s baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.*

**First Reading: Isaiah 1:1, 10-20** *(please see the insert)*

**R:** The word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 33: 12-22**

33:12 Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.

**33:13 The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all humankind.**

33:14 From where he sits enthroned he watches all the inhabitants of the earth--

**33:15 he who fashions the hearts of them all, and observes all their deeds.**

33:16 A king is not saved by his great army; a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

**33:17 The war horse is a vain hope for victory, and by its great might it cannot save.**

33:18 Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him, on those who hope in his steadfast love,

**33:19 to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.**

33:20 Our soul waits for the LORD; he is our help and shield.

**33:21 Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name.**

33:22 Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.

**Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16**

R: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

**Anthem: "The Power of Your Love" by Geoff Bullock and Jane Holstein. - Performed by Phyllis Griffiths**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" 172 ELW**

*Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah.*

*Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah. Hallelujah.*

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

*In our Gospel reading today, Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and give to others.*

**Gospel: Luke 12:32-40**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twelfth 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: "We Walk by Faith" #635 ELW**

*We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."*

*We may not touch your hands and side, nor follow where you trod; but in your promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"*

*Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found:*

*For you, O resurrected Lord, are found in means divine: beneath the water and the word, beneath the bread and wine.*

*And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light may we behold you as you are, with full and endless sight.*

P: With the whole church, let us confess our faith:

**Apostles Creed (pg. 105 ELW)**

**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 and Concerns of the Community**

**“Lord, Listen to your Children Praying” 752 ELW**

*Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.*

D: United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, creation, and all in need.

*a brief silence*

D: Let your lovingkindness be upon your church. Fill all who proclaim the gospel with your Spirit. Equip your flock to speak your word of promise and hope in the midst of fear and uncertainty. Merciful God,

**All: receive our prayer.**

*Deacon or worship assistant continues with the prayers of intercession.*

D: God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping. **All:**

**Amen.**

### Offering

P: As a people of God, who have been named and claimed through our waters of baptism into the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, we are called into community with one another and called to share abundantly with others, from those gifts that God has first given us.

**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: God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus Christ. **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 in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

(pg.153 ELW)

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven 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.**

**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.

**Lord's Prayer:**

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

(pg. 154 ELW)

**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, 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.*

**Invitation to Communion**

P: The risen Christ dwells with us here. All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**Communion Hymn: “I Received the Living God” #477 ELW**

*Jesus said: I am the bread kneaded long to give you life; you who will partake of me need not ever fear to die.*

*Refrain: I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy. I received the living God, and my heart is full of joy.*

*Jesus said: I am the way, and my Father longs for you; so I come to bring you home to be one with us anew. [Refrain]*

*Jesus said: I am the truth; come and follow close to me. You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free. [Refrain]*

*Jesus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow, but receive this living bread, and my Spirit you shall know. [Refrain]*

*Please rise if you are able*

**Post Communion 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: Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all might come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ.       **C: Amen.**

### **Sharing of the Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ**

### **THE SENDING**

#### **Blessing**

P: The God of peace, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

**C: Amen.**

#### **Sending Hymn: “Go My Children” #543 ELW**

*“Go my children, with my blessing, never alone. Walking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own. In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever. Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”*

*“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure. Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure. Here you heard my dear Son’s story, here you touched him, saw his glory. Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”*

*“Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me. Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free. Here my Spirit’s power filled you, here my tender comfort stilled you. Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”*

**Dismissal**

P: Phyllis, on behalf of the worshipping community of Apostles Lutheran Church, I again welcome you. We thank you for the sharing of your gifts abundantly with us and look forward to our life of ministry together. Brothers and sisters, go in peace.

*C: Thanks be to God!*

***Today we welcome Phyllis Griffiths as our new church musician.***

***Phyllis has many years of experience***

***playing at various parishes in NJ.***

***We are blessed and happy to have her join us.***

***We look forward to her music and ministry at Apostles.***

***We are resuming our “PB&J” Sandwich Making Mission!***

***We will be making sandwiches today after the service.***

***Please join us!***

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**The next Council Meeting is tomorrow at 6:30 PM.**

**Please plan to attend. Thank you.**

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***Save the Date!***

**Our next Fellowship Dinner is scheduled for Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>.**

**The doors open at 5:30—dinner at 6:00. More details to follow.**

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**The Next FOOD CLOSET is this Thursday, August 11, from 1:00-3:00 PM**

We are in desperate need of canned fruit. Please donate what you can.

Thank you.

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***If you wish to bring snacks for the Sunday Coffee Fellowship,  
the sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Thank you.***

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**Online Giving: We have set up online giving for church offerings. The Vanco online system can be found on the Apostles' website.**

**Any questions, contact Nick or Frank. Thank you.**

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**We are collecting:**

Linens: Towels, sheets, and blankets. Medical supplies: Alcohol wipes, infusion set-ups, non-expired medications, dog food, tubing, syringes, etc... Empty ink cartridges of all types. Pull tabs from aluminum cans for dialysis credits.

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**We are blessed to be a blessing to others.**

As a congregation, we have generously given over \$3,380 to the Lutheran Disaster Response Fund to alleviate the suffering caused by the ongoing crisis in Eastern Europe. The need is still great--**If you are able to give, there is a collection plate in the Narthex for your gift.**

**Thank you.**