

**Welcome!** We are happy to share God's peace with everyone. Visitors are invited to sign our guest book in the entryway. If you have any questions, the ushers are ready to help. Feel free to visit after the service.

Aids to assist with hearing (Williams Sound System) are available from the ushers. Printed copies of the sermon are also available. For a personal preparation for Holy Communion, please see pages 295-296 in your hymnal.

**Please note: the Sunday service is being recorded and streamed on YouTube. [www.youtube.com/@stlukesvassar](http://www.youtube.com/@stlukesvassar)**

Our Lord teaches in his Word that in Communion we receive Jesus' true body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine, and that participation is also a declaration that we believe what our fellow communicants believe. In obedience to God's Word, then, we ask that only those who agree on all points of teaching—those who belong to a WELS or ELS church—and are confirmed partake in the Lord's Supper today. If you are not a member of a WELS or ELS church but would like to pursue that unity of faith, or if you have questions, please speak with Pastor.

**Setting 2, p. 172**

**Pentecost 15: September 1 & 2, 2024**

## 559 If Your Beloved Son, O God

CW 559

1 If your beloved Son, O God,  
had not to earth descended  
and in our mortal flesh and blood  
had not sin's power ended,  
then this poor, wretched soul of mine  
in hell eternally would pine  
because of my transgression.

2 But now I find sweet peace and rest;  
despair no more reigns o'er me.

No more am I by sin oppressed,  
for Christ has borne sin for me.

Upon the cross for me he died  
that, reconciled, I might abide  
with you, my God, forever.

3 I trust in him with all my heart;  
now all my sorrow ceases.

His words abiding peace impart;  
his blood from guilt releases.

Free grace through him I now obtain;  
he washes me from ev'ry stain,  
and pure I stand before him.

4 All righteousness by works is vain;  
the law brings condemnation.

True righteousness by faith I gain;  
Christ's work is my salvation.

His death, that perfect sacrifice,  
has paid the all-sufficient price;  
in him my hope is anchored.

*Please stand for the final stanza*

5 My guilt, O Father, you have laid  
on Christ, your Son, my Savior.  
Lord Jesus, you my debt have paid  
and gained for me God's favor.  
O Holy Spirit, fount of grace,  
the good in me to you I trace;  
in faith and hope preserve me.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941; (sts. 1–4): Johann Heermann, 1585–1647, abr.; (st. 5): Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, Braunschweig, 1661

Text: Public domain

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the  
Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Confession**

*CW 173*

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven,  
whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count  
against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have followed what we have devised and  
desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your  
holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not  
have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we  
should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,  
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*(Silence for meditation and reflection)*

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy**

CW 174

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Glory to God in the Highest**

CW 176

*Refrain:* Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. *Refrain*

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have

mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. *Refrain*

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen.  
*Refrain*

## **THE WORD**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

***(Be seated)***

## First Reading

*Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-9*

<sup>1</sup>So now, Israel, listen to the statutes and the ordinances that I am teaching you, and carry them out so that you may live and so that you may enter the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving to you and take possession of it. <sup>2</sup>Do not add to the word that I am commanding you, and do not subtract from it, so that you keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you.

<sup>6</sup>Keep them and put them into practice, because in this way your wisdom and your understanding will be recognized by all the people who hear about all these statutes; and they will say, “This great nation is certainly a wise and understanding people,” <sup>7</sup>because what other great nation is there that has a god as close to it as the LORD our God is to us whenever we call on him? <sup>8</sup>What other great nation is there that has statutes and ordinances as righteous as this entire law that I am presenting to you today?

<sup>9</sup>But guard yourselves and guard your whole being diligently, so that you do not forget the things that your eyes have seen and so that those things do not disappear from your heart all the rest of the days of your life. Make them known to your children and to your children's children.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**119 Teach Me, O LORD**

*Psalm 119*

*Refrain*

Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes.

Your statutes are / wonderful;

therefore I o- / bey them.

The unfolding of your words / gives light;

it gives understanding to the / simple.

Turn to me and have mer- / cy on me,

as you always do to those who / love your name.

*Refrain*

Direct my footsteps according / to your word;

let no sin rule / over me.

Redeem me from human op- / pression,

that I may obey your / precepts.

Make your face shine on your / servant

and teach me / your decrees.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son**

**and to the Holy / Spirit,**

**as it was in the be- / ginning,**

**is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***



## Second Reading

Romans 9:30—10:4

<sup>30</sup>What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who were not pursuing righteousness, have obtained righteousness, a righteousness that is by faith. <sup>31</sup>But Israel, while pursuing the law as a way of righteousness, did not reach it. <sup>32</sup>Why? Because they kept pursuing it not by faith, but as if it comes by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone. <sup>33</sup>Just as it is written:

Look, I am putting a stone in Zion over which they will stumble

and a rock over which they will fall.

The one who believes in him will not be put to shame.

<sup>1</sup>Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God on behalf of the Israelites is that they may be saved.

<sup>2</sup>Indeed, I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but it is not consistent with knowledge. <sup>3</sup>Since they were ignorant of the righteousness from God and sought to establish their own righteousness, they did not submit to the righteousness from God. <sup>4</sup>For to everyone who believes, Christ is the end of the law, resulting in righteousness.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Stand)*

## **Gospel Acclamation**

*Jeremiah 15:16*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

When your words came, I ate them;  
they were my joy and my heart's delight.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## **Gospel**

*Mark 7:1–8,14-15,21–23*

<sup>1</sup>The Pharisees and some of the experts in the law came from Jerusalem and gathered around Jesus. <sup>2</sup>They saw some of his disciples eating bread with unclean (that is, unwashed) hands. <sup>3</sup>In fact, the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they scrub their hands with a fist, holding to the tradition of the elders. <sup>4</sup>When they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions they adhere to, such as the washing of cups, pitchers, kettles, and dining couches. <sup>5</sup>The Pharisees and the experts in the law asked Jesus, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders? Instead they eat bread with unclean hands.”

<sup>6</sup>He answered them, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites. As it is written:

These people honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.

<sup>7</sup>They worship me in vain, teaching human rules as if they were doctrines.

<sup>8</sup>“You abandon God's commandment but hold to human tradition like the washing of pitchers and cups, and you do many other such things.”

<sup>14</sup>He called the crowd to him again and said, “Everyone, listen to me and understand. <sup>15</sup>There is nothing outside of a man that can make him unclean by going into him. But the things that come out of a man are what make a man unclean.

<sup>21</sup>In fact, from within, out of people's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual sins, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, greed, wickedness, deceit, unrestrained immorality, envy, slander, arrogance, and foolishness. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things proceed from within and make a person unclean.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

*(Be seated)*

**740 O God, My Faithful God**

CW 740

1 O God, my faithful God,  
O Fountain ever flowing,  
who good and perfect gifts  
in mercy are bestowing,

give me a healthy frame,  
and may I have within  
a conscience free from blame,  
a soul unhurt by sin.

2 Grant me the strength to do  
with ready heart and willing  
whatever you command,  
my calling here fulfilling,  
that I do what I should  
while trusting you to bless  
the outcome for my good,  
for you must give success.

3 Keep me from saying things  
that later need recalling;  
grant that no idle words  
may from my lips be falling,  
but when within my place  
I must and ought to speak,  
then fill my words with grace  
lest I offend the weak.

4 Lord, let me win my foes  
with kindly words and actions,  
and let me find good friends  
for counsel and correction.  
Help me, as you have taught,  
to love both great and small

and by your Spirit's might  
to live in peace with all.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Johann Heermann, 1585–1647, abr.  
Text: Public domain

## **Sermon**

*(Stand)*

### **Nicene Creed**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son  
of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from  
true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation, he came down from  
heaven,**

**was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin  
Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius  
Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with  
the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living  
and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic  
Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness  
of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

(Be seated)

## Prayer of the Church

### Offering

## THE SACRAMENT

(Stand)

### Preface

CW 183

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good and right . . . and join their glorious song:

### Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 184

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of 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, hosanna in the highest!

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Lord God, you are worthy to receive thanks and praise from all people. You created the world and all who live in it, and in your mercy you saved us. We give thanks to you for the grace of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Though in very nature God, he took the nature of a servant and became obedient to death, even death on a cross. He offered himself as a sacrifice for sin and redeemed us from its curse and penalty. He rescued us from the terrors of death and restored eternal life with you. He conquered our enemies and gained for us the kingdom of grace and glory.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood, and lead us to remember his suffering, death, and resurrection. Forgive our sins and fill us with the hope of new life in heaven. Hear our praise and receive our thanks as we worship you—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**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.**

### **Words of Institution**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## **Jesus, Lamb of God**

CW 186

Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.

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

*(Be seated)*

## **Distribution**

*(As he distributes the elements, the minister says to the communicants:)*

Take and eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Take and drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, poured out for the forgiveness of your sins.

*(As he dismisses the communicants, the minister says:)*

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go † in peace.

**Amen.**

## **668 Jesus Comes Today with Healing**

CW 668

1 Jesus comes today with healing,  
knocking at my door, appealing,

off'ring pardon, grace, and peace.  
He himself makes preparation,  
and I hear his invitation:

“Come and taste the blessèd feast.”

2 Christ himself, the priest presiding,  
yet in bread and wine abiding  
in this holy sacrament,  
gives the bread of life, once broken,  
and the cup, the precious token  
of his sacred covenant.

3 Under bread and wine, though lowly,  
I receive the Savior holy,  
blood and body, giv'n for me,  
very Lamb of God from heaven,  
who to bitter death was given,  
hung upon the cursèd tree.

4 God descends with heav'nly power,  
gives himself to me this hour  
in this ordinary sign.

On my tongue his pledge receiving,  
I accept his grace, believing  
that I taste his love divine.

5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,  
whose own feast of love I savor,  
bidden by his gracious call.

Wedding garments he provides me,

with a robe of white he hides me,  
fits me for the royal hall.

6 Now have I found consolation,  
comfort in my tribulation,

balm to heal the troubled soul.  
God, my shield from ev'ry terror,  
cleanses me from sin and error,  
makes my wounded spirit whole.

Text: tr. David W. Rogner, b. 1960; Heinrich Puchta, 1808–1858

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**(Stand)**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the  
heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament.  
Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our  
hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us  
to live as your holy people until that day when you will  
receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the  
Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

**Amen.**

### **925 On What Has Now Been Sown**

CW 925

1 On what has now been sown  
your blessing, Lord, bestow;  
the pow'r is yours alone  
to make it spring and grow.  
O Lord, in grace the harvest raise  
and you alone shall have the praise!

2 To you our wants are known;  
from you are all our pow'rs.

Accept what is your own  
and pardon what is ours.

Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive  
and to your Word a blessing give.

3 O grant that each of us  
now met before you here  
may meet together thus  
when you and yours appear  
and follow you to heav'n, our home.  
E'en so, Amen! Lord Jesus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, adapt., alt.

Text: Public domain

#### Acknowledgments

Setting Two from Christian Worship

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## MESSAGE BOARD

**Pastor out of town???????**

**St. Luke's Students of all ages:** Best wishes and God's blessings on your new school year. Show, share, and shine your love for Christ in at every opportunity.

**Meditations:** The next Meditation booklets, September 1 to November 30, are available in the office for those who have pre-paid. Contact the church office for your copy(s). Call, text, or email the office and I will put them in your mailbox.

**MLS Jr. Cardinals Fall Sports Programs:** Registration is NOW OPEN for our Fall Jr. Cardinals programs! We're excited to offer:

- Flag Football (Grades 1-5)
- Volleyball (Grades 4-8)
- Poms Clinic (Grades K-5)

Each program has its own registration deadline, so be sure to secure your spot early! For more details and to register, visit: [www.mlsem.org](http://www.mlsem.org)

Don't miss out on the chance for your child to be part of the action this fall!

**Pill Bottles:** St. Luke's will no longer be collecting pill bottles. A couple of us decided it was too expensive to mail and too much work. Please do **NOT** bring any more to the box under the mailboxes. Thank you to those who donated in the past.

## HAPPENING SOON

Sunday 09/01	9:00 AM Communion Worship Service
Tuesday 09/03	7:00 PM Communion Worship Service
Wednesday 09/04	6:30 PM Mega Meeting
Sunday 09/08	9:00 AM Worship Service

Tuesday 09/09

7:00 PM Worship Service

## **September Servers**

**September Sunday Ushers:** Ron Nichol, Justin Whitney, Jay Newcomer

**September Monday Usher:** Barry Mays

**September Finance:** Jeremy LaPratt, Nick Hubbard

**September Altar Guild: Need altar guild members to split the month.**

**Organist:** Olivia Marker

## **EVENT ATTENDANCE**

Sunday Service: 95

Monday Service: 20

## **STEWARDSHIP AT ST. LUKE'S**

For 2024, the planned giving needed is \$7,910.00 per week to meet our ministry goals.

Last Week's Budgetary Offerings: \$17,874.00

LES Tuition: \$5,951.00