

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 available on the tract desk.
- Large Print Service binders can be found on the tract desk.
- Personal prayers for use before church or during the week are printed on p. 255- 258 in the hymnal.
- 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

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 WELS or ELS church but would like to pursue that unity of faith, or if you have questions, please speak with Pastor.

Setting 3, pg. 188

704 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

CW 704

- 1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,
follow his example pure,
flee the world which would deceive us
and to sin our souls allure.
Ever in his footsteps treading,
body here, yet soul above,
full of faith and hope and love,
let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, abide with me;
Savior, lead; I follow thee.
- 2 Let us suffer here with Jesus,
to his image e'er conform;
heaven's glory soon will please us,
sunshine follow on the storm.
Though we sow in tears of sorrow,
we shall reap in heav'nly joy,
and the fears that now annoy
shall be laughter on the morrow.

Christ, I suffer here with thee;
there, O share thy joy with me.

- 3 Let us also die with Jesus;
his death from the second death,
from our soul's destruction, frees us,
quickens us with life's glad breath.
Let us mortify, while living,
flesh and blood and die to sin,
and the grave that shuts us in
shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here I die to thee,
there to live eternally.

Please stand for the final stanza

- 4 Let us gladly live with Jesus;
since he's risen from the dead,
death and grave must soon release us.
Jesus, thou art now our head.
We are truly thine own members,
where thou livest, there live we;
take and own us constantly,
faithful Friend, as thy dear brethren.
Jesus, here I live to thee,
also there eternally.

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

Amen.

Confession

CW 188

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts,
words, and actions.**

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

**I deserve your punishment both now and
forever.**

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a
sinner.**

(Silence for meditation and reflection)

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 190

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 191

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

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.

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. *Refrain*

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures you have stored up for us in heaven that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of your grace; 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

Ecclesiastes 1:1-2,12-14; 2:18-26

¹The words of Ecclesiastes, David's son, king in Jerusalem.

²“Nothing but vapor,” Ecclesiastes said. “Totally vapor. Everything is just vapor that vanishes.”

¹²I, Ecclesiastes, have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³I applied my heart to seek out and explore with wisdom everything done under the sky. (What a burdensome task God has given the children of Adam to keep them busy!) ¹⁴I have seen all the actions done under the sun, and, look, it is all nothing but vapor. It is all chasing the wind.

¹⁸I also hated all the results of my hard work, for which I worked so hard under the sun, since I must leave it all to the man who comes after me. ¹⁹And who knows—will he be wise, or a fool? Yet he will have control over all the results of my hard work, for which I worked so hard and so wisely, under the sun. This too is vapor that vanishes.

²⁰So I changed my course, and my heart began to despair over all my hard work at which I worked so hard

under the sun. ²¹Sure, there may be a man who has worked hard—wisely, aptly, and skillfully. But he must hand over whatever he accumulated by all his hard work to a man who has not worked hard for it. This too is vapor. It's so unfair! ²²For what does a man gain through all his hard work, through all the turmoil in his heart, as he works so hard under the sun?

²³Pain fills all his days. His occupation is frustration. Even at night his heart does not rest. This too is vapor.

²⁴There is nothing better for a man than to eat and to drink and to find joy in his work. This too, I saw, is from God's hand. ²⁵For who can eat or enjoy himself apart from him? ²⁶Yes, God gives wisdom, knowledge, and happiness to the man whom he considers good, but to the person who goes on sinning God gives the task of gathering and collecting, but only so that he can give it all to a person whom God considers good. This too is vapor, nothing but chasing wind.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

90 Fill Us with Your Love, O Lord

Psalm 90

Refrain

Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

Fill us with your love, O Lord, and we will sing for joy!

Lord, you have been our / dwelling place
throughout all gener- / ations.

Before the mountains were born or you brought
forth the / whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting / you are God.

You turn people / back to dust,
saying, “Return to dust, you / mortals.”

A thousand years in your sight are like a day that
has / just gone by,
or like a watch / in the night. *Refrain*

Teach us to number / our days,
that we may gain a heart of / wisdom.

May the favor of the Lord our God / rest on us;
establish the work of our hands for us—yes,
establish the work / of our hands.

**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*Colossians 3:1–11*

¹Therefore, because you were raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things. ³For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵So put to death whatever is worldly in you: sexual immorality, uncleanness, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶It is because of these things that the wrath of God is coming on the sons of disobedience. ⁷You too once walked in these things, when you were living in them.

⁸But now, you too are to rid yourselves of all of these: wrath, anger, malice, slander, and filthy language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to each other since you have put off the old self with its practices, ¹⁰and put on the new self, which is continually being renewed in knowledge, according to the image of its Creator. ¹¹Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcision or uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but rather Christ is all and is in all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 6:20,21

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven,
for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 12:13–21

¹³Someone from the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But Jesus said to him, “Man, who appointed me to be a judge or an arbitrator over you?”

¹⁵Then he said to them, “Watch out and be on guard against all greed, because a man's life is not measured by how many possessions he has.”

¹⁶He told them a parable: “The land of a certain rich man produced very well. ¹⁷He was thinking to himself, ‘What will I do, because I do not have anywhere to store my crops?’ ¹⁸He said, ‘This is what I will do. I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and goods. ¹⁹And I will tell my soul, “Soul, you have many goods stored up for many years. Take it easy. Eat, drink, and be merry.”’

²⁰“But God said to him, ‘You fool, this night your soul will be demanded from you. Now who will get what you have prepared?’

²¹“That is how it will be for anyone who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

(Be seated)

820 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

CW 820

- 1 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:
- 2 Under the shadow of your throne
your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone,
and our defense is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting you are God,
to endless years the same.
- 4 A thousand ages in your sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.
- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
soon bears us all away;

we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.

Text: Public domain

Sermon

Luke 12:13-21

Watch Out for Greed

I. God blesses everyone (13, 16-17)

II. Don't live for your blessings (14-15a, 18-20)

III. Live for the one who blessed you (15b, 21)

(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 199

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 that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 200

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts,
 heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
 Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
 Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to

redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.

Lamb of God

CW 202

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, grant us 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.

754 Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness CW 754

1 Forgive us, Lord, for shallow thankfulness,
 for dull content with warmth and sheltered care,
 for songs of praise for worldly wealthiness,
 while of your richer gifts we're unaware:

- 2 Teach us to thank you, Lord, for love and grace,
for life and vision, for a purpose clear,
for Christ, your Son, and for each human face
that shows your message ever new and near.
- 3 Forgive us, Lord, for selfish thanks and praise,
for words that speak at variance with deeds;
forgive our thanks for walking pleasant ways,
unmindful of a broken brother's needs:
- 4 Teach us, O Lord, true thankfulness divine,
that gives as Christ gave, never counting cost,
that knows no barrier of "yours" and "mine,"
assured that only what's withheld is lost.
- 5 Forgive us, Lord, for feast that knows not fast,
for joy in things that meanwhile starve the soul,
for walls and wars that hide your mercies vast
and blur our vision of the kingdom goal:
- 6 Open our eyes to see your love's intent,
to know with mind and heart its depth and
height;
let thankful days in loving labor spent
reflect the truly Christlike life and light.

Text: William W. Reid, Sr., 1890–1983, alt.

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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.

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, 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.

751 O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made

CW 751

1 O God, your hand the heavens made
 and all that they contain;
 the world appeared at your command,
 and in it now you reign.

The restless sea, the land, the sky
 your handiwork declare;
 the touch of your creative pow'r
 is present ev'rywhere.

2 To us are given gifts divine,
 all talents you have sent;
 inspire us now to use them well
 your kingdom to extend.
 We hold each gift a trust from you
 nor claim it as our own;
 we gratefully acknowledge, Lord,
 all things are yours alone.

3 Deliver us from selfish aims,
 true stewards we would be;
 endow us with a deep desire
 to live unselfishly.
 A full accounting we must give
 and see you face to face;
 let us approach your throne with joy,
 supported by your grace.

Text: Frank L. Cross, 1904–2001

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Acknowledgments

Setting Three from Christian Worship

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Upcoming Events

Sunday 08/03/2025.....9:00 AM Communion Service
 Monday 08/04/2025.....7:00 PM Communion Service
 Tuesday 08/05/2025.....6:30 PM Mega Meeting

Sunday 08/10/2025.....9:00 AM Worship Service
 Monday 08/11/2025.....7:00 PM Worship Service

Attendance

Sunday Service Attendance: 89, Monday Service: 17

Our Time to Our Lord

Mowers of the Lawn Needed: Mower, gas, and a trimmer will be provided. If you are interested or have questions, please see Josh Denniston. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board near the secretary's office.

Meditations: The newest issue of Meditations is in. They are under the mailboxes in the fellowship hall. Please cross your name off the list when you take your issue (s).

Our Talents to Our Lord

August Servers

August Sundays John Solgat, Mike Hecht, Nate Rupprecht, Grant Barnes

Monday: Jim Heidenberger

August Finance: Tom Barnett, Chris Lane, Ed Baldwin

August Altar Guild: Sharon Thurston, Judy Chappell

Organist: Olivia Marker

Our Treasures to Our Lord



Budgetary Gifts: \$3,522.00 *This total is from July 21 and July 27*

Meditations: \$38.00

Special Gift: \$100.00

Michigan Lutheran Seminary News

MLS is seeking qualified candidates for the following open position:

Administrative Office Associate

Michigan Lutheran Seminary is seeking an Administrative Office Associate to serve as the warm and professional first point of contact for visitors and callers. This important role helps ensure the smooth operation of daily office functions, including managing communications, handling mail, and providing support for student services and departmental needs. This is a part-time role, working 27.5 hours per week during the school year, with limited summer hours. If you're detail-oriented, skilled with Google Suite, and enjoy working in a team setting, we'd love to hear from you.

Female Custodian

Michigan Lutheran Seminary is looking for a Female Custodian to join our facilities team. This position is responsible for a variety of custodial, organizational, and light maintenance tasks within assigned campus buildings and areas. Responsibilities include cleaning, organizing, event setup and takedown, and assisting with seasonal work. Due to the need to clean the girls' dormitory, this position is open to female applicants only.

Interested individuals can see a full position description and fill out an application by visiting our website, www.mlsem.org.

Host Families Needed

MLS has a thriving international ministry welcoming students from China, Korea, Grenada and Germany for the 2025-26 school year. Over the past 4 decades of welcoming international students, MLS has been blessed to send more to MLC than any other high school in America and more MLS international alumni are currently serving in ministry than any other school alumni. For the 2025-26 school year we have a potential additional 10 international students coming.

That's why we need your help! Would you please consider serving as a host family? Host families are asked to provide a loving Christian environment for these students when the dormitory closes over the longer breaks during the school year. Certainly, they are welcome to coordinate other times when they want to spend a weekend in a home environment. Compensation is provided to offset your costs. For more information, please contact Pres. Mark Luetzow (mtl@mlsem.org) or Dean Melissa LaBair (mjl@mlsem.org).



²⁰“But God said to him, ‘You fool, this night your soul will be demanded from you. Now who will get what you have prepared?’

²¹“That is how it will be for anyone who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

Luke 12: 20-21