

SPIRIT of CHRIST
Lutheran Church

We are a member congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. We gather here as the living body of Jesus Christ to be nourished and empowered by the Holy Spirit in what we call the "Means of Grace" — God's gifts of Word and Sacrament. Through these Means of Grace, we receive the promise of the Gospel: that in the Spirit of Christ God forgives us, remakes us, and reigns in us. May the Lord bless your worship today!

August 16, 2026 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

Do You Know?/What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Do you know that you were Chosen?
Long before the world began
That by God you were selected
And appointed for his plan?
Something in your inmost being
Tells you this is surely true;
That's why you are in this meeting,
And you feel the way you do.

All the sins you've e'er committed,
Everything you've ever done,
All by God has been forgiven
Taken care of by God's Son.
Struggle not, no; just believe this,
For his word assures it's true;
All you need to do is thank him
For all that he's done for you.

Did you know God has a family?
Yes, he does, in fact, it's us.
That's why we are here enjoying
All he is, so marvelous.
He's our God and we're his people,
Day by day we love him more;
We're so happy and so thankful,
We just praise him o'er and o'er.
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!

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Confession and Absolution

P Our help is in the name of the LORD,

C Who made heaven and earth.

P If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins ,O Lord, who could stand?

C But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's word, call upon him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as his people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking his grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner**.**

We take time in silence to confess our personal and communal sin before God, confident that we will receive forgiveness.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen!

Sharing of the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

P We share Christ's peace with one another.

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

Sit

What A Friend *Choir*

First Reading *Isaiah 56:1, 6-8*

56 This is what the LORD says: "Maintain justice
and do what is right, for my salvation is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed. 6 And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant—7 these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations."8 The Sovereign LORD declares—
he who gathers the exiles of Israel:
"I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading *Romans 11:1-2a, 13-24*

11 I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. 2 God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew. Don't you know what Scripture says in the passage about Elijah—how he appealed to God against Israel:
13 I am talking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I take pride in my ministry 14 in the hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and save some of them. 15 For if their rejection brought reconciliation to the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? 16 If the part of the dough offered as first fruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; if the root is holy, so are the branches.17 If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot,

have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root, 18 do not consider yourself to be superior to those other branches. If you do, consider this: You do not support the root, but the root supports you. 19 You will say then, “Branches were broken off so that I could be grafted in.” 20 Granted. But they were broken off because of unbelief, and you stand by faith. Do not be arrogant, but tremble. 21 For if God did not spare the natural branches, he will not spare you either. 22 Consider therefore the kindness and sternness of God: sternness to those who fell, but kindness to you, provided that you continue in his kindness. Otherwise, you also will be cut off. 23 And if they do not persist in unbelief, they will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again. 24 After all, if you were cut out of an olive tree that is wild by nature, and contrary to nature were grafted into a cultivated olive tree, how much more readily will these, the natural branches, be grafted into their own olive tree!

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy Gospel

Matthew 15:21-28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

21 Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. 22 A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.”23 Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”24 He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”25 The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said.26 He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”27 “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”28 Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

All My Hope — *Choir/Band*

Homily

Creed - In God We Believe — *All*

In God we believe: the Creator whose pow'r
In mercy has brought us for worship this hour.
He graciously grants us our years and our days
And blesses with kindness our work and our ways.

In Jesus, the Savior, our hope is secured.
True God and true man once the cross He endured.
To grant our lives wholeness, forgiveness of sin.
With hearts freed from guilt, we know true peace within.

God's Spirit at work in our lives we confess;
With power and truth, the church now, he does bless.
As saints, God's forgiven, one day we shall then
Be living in glory forever. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Presentation of the Offering

Stand

Preface — *LSB 208*

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Sanctus — *Praise Band Version*

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord,**
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory
Holy is the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord
Hosanna, Hosanna, Holy is the Lord.

Words Of Our Lord

Lord's Prayer *Congregation*

Our Father in heaven, we hallow thy name,
May thy kingdom holy on earth be the same;
O give to us daily our portion of bread:
It is from thy bounty that all must be fed.
Forgive our transgressions and teach us to know
That humble compassion which pardons each foe;
Keep us from temptation, from evil and sin,
And thine be the glory forever! Amen.

Agnus Dei *Praise Band Version*

C **Lamb of God,**
you take away the sin of all the world,
Hear us, Jesus.
Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of all the world,
Have mercy on us.
Have mercy on us,
And give us your peace.

Sit

Distribution

We believe that as we partake of the bread and wine in Holy Communion, Jesus the Messiah is feeding us with his own true body and blood. In eating his body and drinking his blood we receive the promise that our sins are forgiven, and that we will therefore live eternally with God. We also believe that this eating and drinking is a confession of our faith. If you have been baptized into the Christian faith and if you share our understanding of Christ's Real Presence in this meal, you are welcome to receive Christ's body and blood for your benefit. If you do not confess the understanding of the Christian Faith as expressed by the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, you may still come to the altar to receive a blessing. Please fold your hands to indicate that you will not be receiving the sacrament.

Your Love Defends Me *Choir*

Oh, What a Love *Toni & John Peterson*

Extra *Hand Picked, Ham Lake Bluegrass Band*

Blessed Assurance *Cong*

Stand

Dismissal

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✢ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Gonna Be Alright *Choir*

Serving in Worship

August 16, 2026

Pastor

Jason Neel

Usher

Randy Herschman

Elders

Chuck Johnson

Eric Skogerboe

Reader

Karine Platt

In our prayers

Celebrating Birthdays: Lester Geren 8/17**,** Carl Jauch 8/18, Kevin Zimmerman 8/19, and Lyla Marquardt 8/20.

Celebrating Baptisms: Andrew Weinhold 8/16, Kelli Elhardt 8/16, Emily Johnson 8/17,Eva Johnson 8/21, and Mark Endorf 8/22.

Celebrating Anniversaries: Jay and Jody Rose 8/21, Jeff and Deb Parson 8/21, and Dave and Arlene Martti 8/22.

This Week at a Glance

Today	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Bluegrass Sunday
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Faith class
Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Bible Study
	9:00 a.m.	Worship
	10:30 a.m.	Education Hour

Notes of Information

Voters' Meeting: There will be a Voters' meeting on August 23, 2026, following the service.

Stewardship: "For us to be "stewards for God," "we must acknowledge that all we are and all we have possession of belongs to him. We are charged with managing his property according to his wishes." (E. G. Link**)**

Bible study for older men and women: On Friday September 11th there will be a bible study with Pastor Jason related to issues around aging. If you have any questions, contact Elaine Hayden.

Offerings via Give+: Online giving is easy to do, one-time gifts and recurring donations are accepted. Visit the link at soclc.org to sign up or learn more.

Book Club: Spirit of Christ Book Club will meet in the fellowship hall at 7 p.m. Dates and books are:

August 24 - The Berry Pickers by Amanda Peters
September 28 - In Pieces by Sally Field
October 26 - Lula Dean's Little Library of Banned Books by Kirsten Miller

If you have any questions, please contact Joan Mager.

NACE: North Anoka County Emergency Food Shelf is currently in need of all canned goods. At this time they are only taking Spring/Summer clothing. Thank you for your donations. For more information reach out to Toni Peterson at 763-434-5665.

Carl's Movie Minutes:

The Brink of War: A Docudrama on the nuclear missile talks between Reagan and Gorbachev in a same house in Iceland. The story how these two world leaders but the end of missile race. From Angel studios In theater beginning August 14.

Average Weekly Offering	$6766.00
Average offering needed per week to fulfill work plan	$7422.59
Actual Weekly Costs	$7374.29

Next Week's Readings

Isaiah 51:1-6, Romans 11:33-12:8, Matthew 16:13-20

Hand Picked-Ham Lake Bluegrass Band and Choir

Band:
Pete Henning: Banjo
Joel Shapira: Guitar
Graydon Peterson: Bass
Zachary Scanlan: Fiddle
Steve Johnson: Harmonica
Lisa Yares: Percussion

Pastor:
Jason Neel

Administration and Set Up:
Amy Fey

Technical Support:
Blake Peterson: Sound
Jason Baker: Media
Clayton Yares: Stream Sound
Dan Stockwell: Video Streaming
Graydon Peterson: Musical Arrangements

Ministers:
Congregation of Spirit of Christ

Choir:
Betsy Will
Steve Johnson
Jodi Rose
Karen Callies
Sue Anderson
Robert Pajak
Toni Peterson
Shari Pack
Wayne Chambard
Kevin Zimmerman
Monica Lux
Sarah Skogerboe
Eric Skoegerboe
Mike Matheson
Whitney Buus
Vickie Krohn

Music Director:
John Peterson

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Lutheran Church

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Our Mission: To live in love for God and one another, reaching out to all people, proclaiming and sharing the love of Christ.

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Music Director John Peterson:	carsinger@aol.com
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