

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

Preaching and presiding this day: Pastor Todd Bertani

Church Website: smlcestes.org

Office Email: secretary@smlcestes.org 970-586-3900

Pastoral Care: Pastor Todd Bertani, 707-688-6411

Mission Statement:

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church is a community of faith grounded in love for God and love for our neighbors



July 19, 2026

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Julie Varilek, Accompanist

Prelude: "Love Is The Sunlight" by David Haas

Chuck Varilek, Instrumental soloist

Welcome, Friends in Christ,

*To assist in worship, this bulletin includes all portions of our service; prayers, readings, hymns, congregational responses in **bold**. We also provide activity bags for children. You may request these from an usher to use during the service. Whether you are first time visitors or long time friends returning to share in worship with us, we are grateful for your presence today.*

Liturgy: From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS003178. **Scripture:** Quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. **Music:** Reprinted / streamed with permission under Sunday & Seasons.com #SAS003178 and/or ONE LICENSE #A-707376. All rights reserved.

Now the Feast: Text and Music: Marty Haugen: ©1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

Welcome: Pastor Todd Bertani

Call to Worship: "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" arr. by Craig Courtney

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity,† one God, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

(Brief silence for reflection)

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."

In the name of God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

Amen.

Opening Hymn: "Word of God, Come Down on Earth" *Hymn 510*

1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
3 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, one with God be -

heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove

faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to

we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Text: James Quinn, SJ, b. 1919

Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

Text © James Quinn, SJ, Selah Publishing Co., Inc., North American agent. www.selahpub.com.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie

(Congregation sings the highlighted text)

Assistant:
In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:
Refrain Lord, have mer - cy.

3rd time to Coda

Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Assistant:
For the Reign of God, and for peace through - out the
For your peo - ple here, who have come to give you
world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
praise, for the strength to live your Word, let us pray to the

Coda
Refrain
Help, save, and de - fend us, O

God.

A - men.

Now The Feast

(Refrain, Verse 1, Refrain)

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great peo - ple of
God.

Salutation



Prayer of the Day

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

(Please be seated)

First Reading: Isaiah 42:1-9

¹Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. ²He will not cry out or lift up his voice or make it heard in the street; ³a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth, and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:

⁶I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, ⁷to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

⁸I am the Lord; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my

praise to idols. ⁹ See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Psalm 29 (*read responsively*)

¹ Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**² Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name;
worship the Lord in holy splendor.**

³ The voice of the Lord is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters.

**⁴ The voice of the Lord is powerful;
the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**

⁵ The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

**⁶ He makes Lebanon skip like a calf
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

⁷ The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.

**⁸ The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹ The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl
and strips the forest bare, and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

**¹⁰ The Lord sits enthroned over the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.**

¹¹ May the Lord give strength to his people!
May the Lord bless his people with peace!

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

Gospel Acclamation

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel: Luke 10:1-9

The holy gospel according to Luke Chapter 10.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ² He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' ⁶ And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸ Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹ cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

Sermon: Pastor Todd Bertani “Good Soil”

Sermon Series “Walking in God’s Image: Living the Way of Christ”

Sermon Hymn: “O Word of God Incarnate” *Hymn 514*

1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
3 Oh, make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur - nished gold

O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky:
to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;

we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
oh, teach your wand - 'ring pil - grims by this their path to trace,

a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see you face to face.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

Apostle's Creed

**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.**

Intercessory Prayer

Each petition ends: "God of grace"

Response is "**hear our prayer.**"

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

Offertory: "What a Friend" *by Price and Besig*
Flute: Chuck Varilek

Receiving of Gifts

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

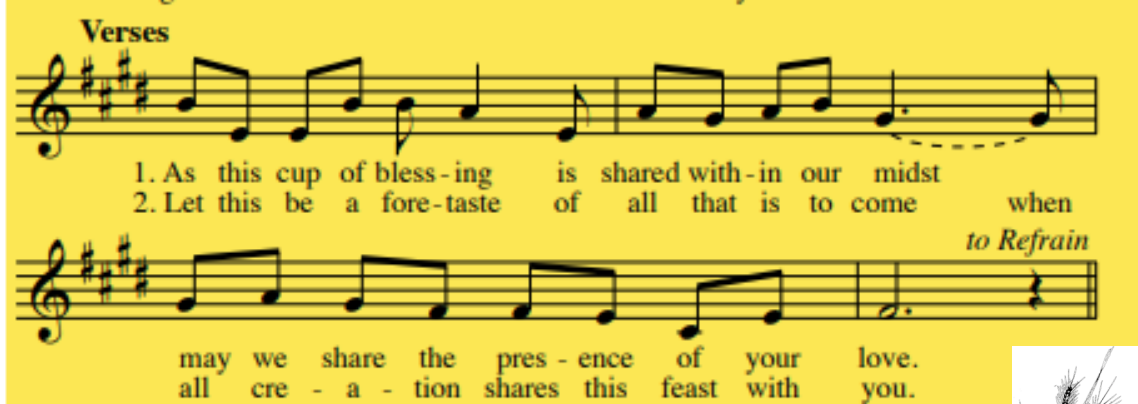
As the Grains of Wheat

Refrain *Congregation:*



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread;
so may all your peo-ple from all the ends of earth be
gath-ered in - to one in you.

Verses



1. As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst
2. Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when
to Refrain
may we share the pres-ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.



Offering Prayer

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

Great Thanksgiving *(Congregation sings highlighted text)*

Presider: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And al-so with you.

Presider: Lift up your hearts. *Congregation:* We lift them to the Lord.

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Congregation:* It is

right to give God thanks and praise.



Preface

Presider:



It is our duty and de - light that we should everywhere and always offer
 thanks and praise to you, O God, through Je - sus Christ...
 who calls us to follow his way of humble service ...and so with the church on earth, all creation and the
 and love,
 host of heaven we praise your name and join their un - end - ing
in rhythm *To Holy, Holy*
 hymn: _____

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Congregation:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
 might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
 One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

Eucharistic Prayer

You are indeed holy, gracious and merciful God;
everything is filled with your glory.

We give you thanks for your promise and presence which have
sustained the faithful in this and every generation.

Above all, we give you thanks for Jesus, born of Mary, who in word and
deed announced your gentle rule of justice, reconciliation and peace.

On the night of his betrayal our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks;
broke it and gave it to his disciples saying:

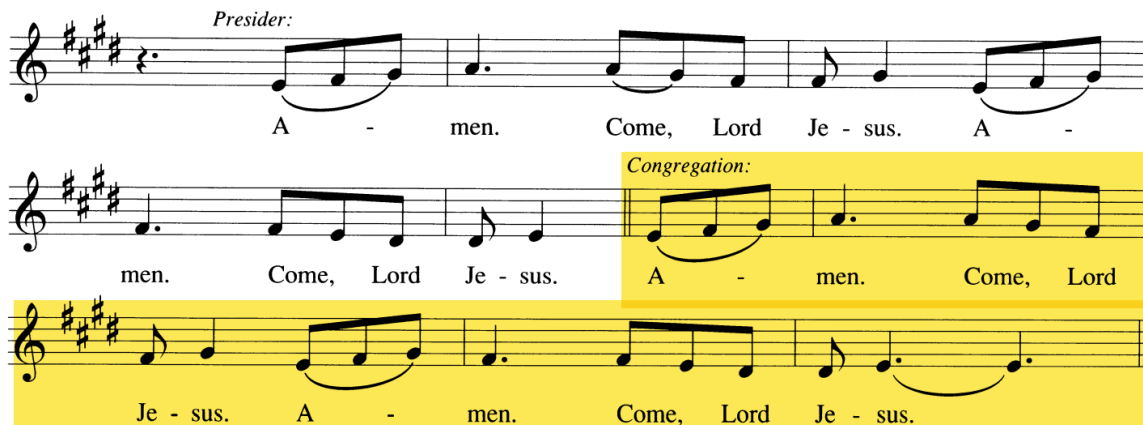
Take and eat;
this is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

Remembering his command to love one another, his life and death,
his resurrection and his ascension, we pray for his coming again,
even as we cry:

Eucharistic Acclamation



The musical score for the Eucharistic Acclamation is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is for the *Presider* and the second and third staves are for the *Congregation*. The lyrics are: "A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus." The score includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating long notes. The congregation part is highlighted with a yellow background.

Presider:

A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A -

Congregation:

men. Come, Lord Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord

Je - sus. A - men. Come, Lord Je - sus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that all of your promises may come to us
and your whole creation.

Presider:

A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A -

Congregation:

men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it. A - men. Come, Ho - ly Spir - it.

This we pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and our friend.
And now, make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba
as we pray:

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily
bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save
us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the
power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

*We commune by 'Intinction', by dipping the wafer in wine or grape juice.
We are **all** guests at God's table. **Everyone** is invited to receive communion.*

(Please be seated)

Lamb of God

Congregation:

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 you break the chains of ha - tred and
 you are the way of jus - tice and
 you are the way of mer - cy and

Congregation:

world: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,
 fear:
 peace:
 love.

Final Stanza

mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:

take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

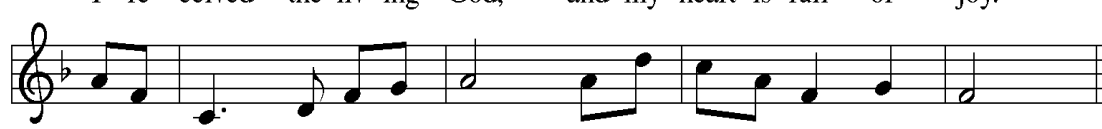


Communion Hymn: "I Received the Living God" Hymn 477

Refrain



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



I re - ceived the liv - ing God, and my heart is full of joy.



1 Je - sus said: I am the bread, knead - ed long to give you life;
2 Je - sus said: I am the way, and my Fa - ther longs for you;
3 Je - sus said: I am the truth; come and fol - low close to me.
4 Je - sus said: I am the life, far from whom no thing can grow,

Refrain



you who will par - take of me need not ev - er fear to die.
so I come to bring you home to be one with us a - new.
You will know me in your heart, and my word shall make you free.
but re - ceive this liv - ing bread, and my Spir - it you shall know.

Text: Anonymous
Music: LIVING GOD, Anonymous

Post Communion Blessing

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

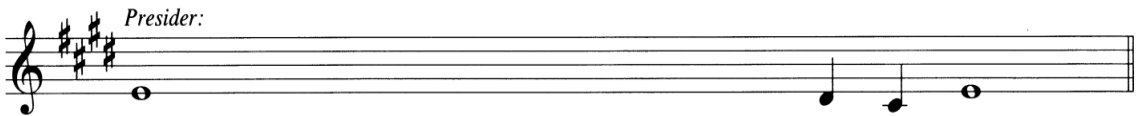
Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the
abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy
meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, Amen.

Ministry Highlights *(see insert)*

(You are invited to stand, in body or spirit)

Blessing

Presider:

Musical notation for the Presider's Blessing. It is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody consists of a half note G#4, followed by a quarter rest, then a quarter note E5, a quarter note D5, and a half note C#5.

May God bless us and keep us.
May God's face shine on us and be gracious to us.
May God look on us with favor and + give us peace.

Congregation:

Musical notation for the Congregation's Amen. It is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts with a half note G#4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C#5, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note A4. A long horizontal line with a fermata above it spans the next two measures, which end with a half note G#4. The lyrics "A - men." are written below the staff.

A - men.



Sending Hymn: "This Little Light of Mine" Hymn 677

1 This lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 2 Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 3 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

oh, oh,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine;
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine;

oh,

this lit - tle light of mine, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
 ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm goin' - a let it shine,
 Je - sus gave it to me, I'm goin' - a let it shine,

oh,

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
 let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: THIS JOY, African American spiritual; arr. Horace Clarence Boyer, b. 1935

Arr. © Horace Clarence Boyer, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Sending

As God's own, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness,
and patience, forgiving each other as the Lord has forgiven you,
and crown all these things with love,
which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

Amen.

(based on Colossians 3:12-14)

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God!

Postlude: "Though The Mountains May Fall" *Dan Schutte*



Sermon Notes: