

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, Greeley, CO

www.greeleylutheran.org

15th Sunday after Pentecost – September 1, 2024 – 8:30 A.M.

We rejoice in your presence with us today at this service of Holy Communion.

Please silence cell phones during worship.

*ELW = red EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP hymnal
Hymn numbers (#) refer to the main hymn section
The congregation's response is printed in **BOLD type**
* = Please stand at your discretion*

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

“For the Beauty of the Earth” (Andante / Maestoso)

arr. Michael Burkhardt

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.
The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes.
In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves.
We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.
In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.
Draw near to us with grace in time of need,
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity
and to remember our sin no more.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of ✚ Jesus Christ,
the source of eternal healing,
your sins are forgiven.

Amen.

*HYMN

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

ELW # 879

*GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

And also with you.

Let us pray. O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from
all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within
ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

READING

James 1:17-27

Jim Wickland

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 15 (*read responsively with leader*) [NEW LIVING translation]

Cindy Ververs

¹Who may worship in your sanctuary, Lord?

Who may enter your presence on your holy hill?

²**Those who lead blameless lives and do what is right,
speaking the truth from sincere hearts.**

³Those who refuse to gossip
or harm their neighbors
or speak evil of their friends.

⁴**Those who despise flagrant sinners,
and honor the faithful followers of the Lord,
and keep their promises even when it hurts.**

⁵Those who lend money without charging interest,
and who cannot be bribed to lie about the innocent.
Such people will stand firm forever.

*GOSPEL

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Response after the announcement: "Glory to you, O Lord!"

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;

⁷in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.

²¹"For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

Response after the reading: "Praise to you, O Christ!"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

Silence for reflection

“Be Doers, Not Just Hearers”

Rev. Sheryl Kester Beyer

*SONG

“We All Are One in Mission”

ELW # 576

*APOSTLES' 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 again 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 (*each petition concludes:*)

... Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Prayers for healing and strength for: Mike Purtil, Shirley Spangsborg (mother of Susan Vogel), Bob Elton

Prayers of sympathy for the families of: Irene Houtchens (mother of Mark Houtchens), Ernest Angell (father of Mellany Archer)

Prayers of celebration: Marriage of Shelby Kinlund & Alfred Eastin on August 23, 2024 (daughter of Bracken & Cindy Kinlund)

*PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

“MAKING A DIFFERENCE” MOMENT

MEAL

*OFFERING / PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation.

**By these gifts and with our lives,
help us to serve one another and all in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

You may text your offerings to 833-931-1874 or through this link. Thanks for your generosity.



*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

Lift up your hearts. / **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. / **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Communion is open to all who receive it as the presence of Christ. The pastor will give directions as to how to receive communion. It will be served by intinction this morning. Take a wafer from the server and dip into the

red wine or white grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available by mentioning your preference to the pastor or server. Children and adults who are not communing may receive a blessing instead.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC: “How Clear is Our Vocation”
“You Are the Way”

ELW # 580
ELW # 758

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

SENDING

*BLESSING (response: “**Amen!**”)

*SENDING HYMN

“To Be Your Presence”

ELW # 546

*ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL (response: “**Thanks be to God!**”)

*POSTLUDE

“We All Are One in Mission”

arr. Mark Sedio

**Thank you to Robert & Rhonda Coon for sponsoring today’s complimentary coffee and cookies
in honor of their 25th wedding anniversary.**

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall between services.

**You may contact the church office at 970-352-4816 if you have specific needs or
prayer requests, or if you can help in any way.**

Assisting in worship

Pastor: Rev. Deb Abbott
Rev. Sheryl Kester Beyer
Minister of Music: Dennis Larson
Sound technician: Grey Conderman
Projection: Marie Franzen

Video production: Joshua Matthews
Communion assistants: Nancy Teksten, Jim Wickland, Maria Miller
Ushers: Cindy Ververs, Rosemary Loper
Altar Guild: Kristy Munch, Cindy Wolf

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Scripture readings next Sunday: Isaiah 35:4-7a, Psalm 146, James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17, Mark 7:24-37

Gather in Grace, Grow in Faith, Serve in Community, Glorify Christ!