

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER **PENTECOST**

August 9, 2026

***Please respect the sanctity of worship and turn off all cell phones.
Thank you.***

For the Gathered

Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

Processional – I Just Came to Praise the Lord

Greeting – ELW 147

(Pastor) - 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.

(All who are able may stand.)

Gathering Song – Come, We That Love the Lord – ELW 625

Come, we that love the Lord,
and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord,
join in a song with sweet accord
and thus surround the throne,
and thus surround the throne.

Refrain

We're marching to Zion,
beautiful, beautiful Zion:
we're marching upward to Zion,
the beautiful city of God.

Let those refuse to sing
who never knew our God;
but children of the heav'nly king,
but children of the heav'nly king
may tell their joys abroad,
may tell their joys abroad. *Refrain*

The hill of Zion yields
a thousand sacred sweets
before we reach the heav'nly fields,
before we reach the heav'nly fields,
or walk the golden streets,
or walk the golden streets. *Refrain*

Then let our songs abound,
and ev'ry tear be dry;
we're marching through Immanuel's ground,
we're marching through Immanuel's ground,
to fairer worlds on high,
to fairer worlds on high. *Refrain*

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, stanzas; Robert Lowry, 1826-1899, refrain

Confession and Forgiveness – ELW 94

(Pastor)

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

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may

live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

Kyrie - ELW 147

(Liturgist) 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.

Canticle of Praise – ELW 149

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God

**and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

(Assembly may be seated.)

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading – 1 Kings 19: 9-18

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

⁹ At [Horeb, the mount of God,] [Elijah] came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰ He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹ He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake, ¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴ He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant,

thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” ¹⁵ Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 85: 8-13

⁸ I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;

for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their | hearts to you.

⁹ Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell | in our land.

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together;
righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.

¹¹ Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,
and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.

¹² The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity,
and our land will | yield its increase.

¹³ Righteousness shall go be- | fore the LORD
and shall prepare for | God a pathway.

Epistle Reading – Romans 10: 5-15

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say?

"The word is near you,
in your mouth and in your heart"
(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because if you confess with
your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him
from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading
to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation.
¹¹ The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame."
¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord
of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For "everyone who calls on
the name of the Lord shall be saved."
¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And
how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how
are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to
proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the
feet of those who bring good news!"

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Message for the Young at Heart

Passing of the Peace

Special Music – Lift Every Voice and Sing – ELW 841

Gospel Announcement – Matthew 14: 22-33

(All who are able may stand.)

Acclamation – ELW 151

**(ALL SING) - Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

²² [Jesus] made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other
side [of the Sea of Galilee,] while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he
had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray.
When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat,
battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against
them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea.
²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified,
saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus
spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸ Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Assembly may be seated.)

Message

(All who are able may stand.)

Hymn of the Day – Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer – ELW 618

Guide me ever, great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain
where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,
shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises,
I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.

Apostles' Creed – ELW 105

**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.**

(Assembly may be seated.)

Prayers of Intercession

Response

(Liturgist) – Merciful God,

(All) – Receive our prayer.

Offering

Offertory - We Are An Offering – W&P 146

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.
We are an offering.

Prayer

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving – ELW 152

(PASTOR) - The Lord be with you.

(ALL) - 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.

Pastor's Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Our Response – ELW 153

(ALL SING) - Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and 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.

Lord's Prayer – ELW 154

(ALL) - 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

In the night in which he was betrayed,
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.

Again, after 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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Confession Song – Lamb of God – ELW 154

(ALL SING) –

**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 peace. Grant us peace.**

Distribution

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Blessing

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

(All who are able may stand.)

Sending Song – This Little Light of Mine – ELW 677

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American spiritual

(Assembly may be seated.)

Announcements

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.
(ALL) - Thanks be to God.

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SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost – August 9

PASTOR	John Russell-Curry
GREETERS	Mary Jo Knudsen
READER/ASSISTING MINISTER	Bronwen Maxson Strubbe
USHERS	David Bettis
ORGANIST/PIANIST	Martin Hansen

This Week

TODAY	10 AM Worship
FRIDAY	2 PM Knitting Club
SATURDAY	9 AM Church Council Meeting & Retreat

Readings for Sunday, August 16

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Psalm 67;
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

Attendance for last week 30 and via Zoom 7

Upcoming Events – Mark your Calendar

August 16 Worship Service
August 20 Birthday Luncheon
August 21 Knitting Club

Prayers for healing:

Jan Collins; Family of Judi Riggs (Price Family); David Bettis, Brad Branstad; Gleneda Muralt; Dorothy Woody; Rosie Sullivan; Eric Smith; Gleneda Muralt's niece, Shereida; Nan Dailey; Kimberly Castillo's daughter Jillian and mother-in-law Lupe; Pam Andersen; Pastor John Russell-Curry and his family; Warren Westerberg; Sylvia Poupard; Jeane & David Hetland; Annie Sofranek; David Cherf; and people who are ill around the world.

We lift prayers for our Benevolence of the Month, **Restore Merced** and for our Sierra Pacific Synod Bishop, **Jeff Johnson**.