

God's Service July 21, 2024  
9th Sunday after Pentecost  
ELW Holy Communion Setting Seven



**PRELUDE** *Moderato* by Telemann

### **GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

#### **GREETING P.4**

The Lord be with you.

**And with you, too.**

#### **ACT OF RECONCILIATION P.4**

Dear members of God's family, branded in baptism and united in Christ, let us come together honestly to tell God that we have not lived as we could and ask God to forgive us.

**Our Father, we have not fulfilled the hope in which you created us. We repent and ask your mercy that our sin be forgiven and our guilt removed.**

**Help us to learn from scripture and from one another your will for our lives, so that with your help we can claim the inheritance of unlimited freedom which you have willed to us through your son.**

**You came to our world in Jesus. Come to us now.**

God our Father does care about us. He sent his son Jesus Christ to us, and for us Jesus gave his life. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creature. Old things have passed away and all things are new. And all things are of God who has reconciled us to himself through Jesus Christ, and who has entrusted to us the ministry of reconciliation.

#### **PARDON P.5**

In Christ we are forgiven.

**In Christ we are free to forgive.**

**In Christ we are free to worship God.**

**In Christ we are free to live.**

Live without excuses.

**La, la-la, al-le-lu-ia,**

**We worship God with open hearts.**

**La, la-la, al-le-lu-ia.**

Dance now the weight is lifted.

**La, la-la, al-le-lu-ia.**

**Cleansed and fresh, we will share His gifts.**

**La, la-la, al-le-lu-ia,**

**Singing, la, la-la, al-le-lu-ia.**

## **WELCOME P.6**

Today, Mark's gospel makes clear how great is the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today's gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn't think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers' need. We are sent from Christ's table to care for others and for ourselves.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **SONG OF PRAISE P. 8**

Glory be to God on high,  
Praise to you most Holy!  
O Lord God, Heav'nly King  
God the Father Almighty!  
O Lord God, Lamb of God,  
Only Son of the Father:  
Christ who takes away our sin,  
have mercy upon us.  
For you only Lord, O Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit, are most high  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Glory be to God on high! Amen.

## **WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6**

*Jeremiah prophesied before the exile in 587 BCE. In this passage, he uses the metaphor of a shepherd to describe the bad kings who have scattered the "flock" of Israel. God promises to gather the flock and to raise up a new king from David's line to save Israel and Judah.*

A reading from Jeremiah.

<sup>1</sup> Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.

<sup>2</sup> Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. <sup>3</sup> Then I myself

will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. <sup>4</sup> I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

<sup>5</sup> The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup> In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 23**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD<sup>l</sup> is my shepherd;

I shall not<sup>l</sup> be in want.

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD makes me lie down<sup>l</sup> in green pastures  
and leads me be-<sup>l</sup>side still waters.**

<sup>3</sup> You restore my<sup>l</sup> soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways<sup>l</sup> for your name’s sake.

<sup>4</sup> **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall<sup>l</sup> fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they<sup>l</sup> comfort me. R**

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence<sup>l</sup> of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is<sup>l</sup> running over.

<sup>6</sup> **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days<sup>l</sup> of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the<sup>l</sup> LORD forever. R**

### **SECOND READING: Ephesians 2:11-22**

*The author of this letter reminds his audience that originally they were not part of God’s chosen people. Through Jesus’ death, however, they are included in God’s household of faith, whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.*

A reading from Ephesians.

<sup>11</sup> Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—  
<sup>12</sup> remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.  
<sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. <sup>15</sup> He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup> and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. <sup>17</sup> So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; <sup>18</sup> for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup> So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens

with the saints and also members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup> built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. <sup>21</sup> In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; <sup>22</sup> in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **AL-LE-LU-LE, ALLELUIA P.9**

Sing praise to the Lord, all the earth!

Al-le-lu-le, Al-le-lu-ia!

Play music to praise his name!

Al-le-lu-le, Al-le-lu-ia!

### **GOSPEL: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56**

*When Jesus sends his disciples out to teach and heal, they minister among large numbers of people. Their work is motivated by Christ's desire to be among those in need.*

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>30</sup> The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup> He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup> And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. <sup>33</sup> Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. <sup>34</sup> As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

<sup>53</sup> When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat.

<sup>54</sup> When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, <sup>55</sup> and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. <sup>56</sup> And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **SERMON**

#### **SONG OF THE DAY *Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us* (ELW 789)**

1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;  
much we need your tender care.  
In your pleasant pastures feed us,  
for our use your fold prepare.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have bought us; we are yours.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have bought us; we are yours.

2 We are yours; in love befriend us,  
be the guardian of our way;  
keep your flock, from sin defend us,  
seek us when we go astray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
hear us children when we pray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
hear us children when we pray.

3 You have promised to receive us,  
poor and sinful though we be;  
you have mercy to relieve us,  
grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
early let us turn to you.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
early let us turn to you.

4 Early let us seek your favor,  
early let us do your will;  
blessed Lord and only Savior,  
with your love our spirits fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have loved us, love us still.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have loved us, love us still.

Text & Music: Public Domain

## **CREED P.10**

1 We all believe in one true God  
Maker of Earth and Heaven,  
the Father who to us in love,  
hath the name of children given,  
He in soul and body feeds us.  
All we need his hand provides us,  
through all snares and perils leads us,  
sees no harm betides us.  
He cares for us by day and night,  
All things are governed by his might.

- 2 (And) we believe in one true God  
Christ, his Son our Lord and Savior,  
who with the Father equal might,  
hath pow'r and glory forever.  
Born of Mary Virgin Mother  
by the working of the Spirit,  
he became our elder brother,  
that heaven we might inherit.  
Was crucified by sinners all,  
And raised to God by life again.
- 3 (And) we in the Holy Ghost believe,  
who Grace and Comfort giveth,  
and with the Father and the Son  
in eternal glory liveth.  
Who all Christian people even keeps  
in unity of Spirit, sins are truly forgiven  
through the Blest Redeemer's merit.  
All flesh shall rise again  
and we shall live with God eternal.

## **THE PRAYERS**

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

For the church of Jesus Christ in this and every land: Through the One who is the cornerstone of a firm foundation, join us together and build us up as a temple of mercy and peace. In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For the creation: Cause new trees to be planted. Restrain the melting of polar ice caps. Save land from destruction. Like a shepherd tends her sheep, raise up from among us caretakers of all you have made. In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of nations and heads of tribes: Where peace seems far off, bring it near. Where justice seems fleeting, bring it to light. Where discord seems relentless, bring harmony. In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For the health and well-being of family, friends, and neighbors: Heal those who are sick especially Shirley, Jim, Melissa, Heather, Lars, Darla, Anna, Gene, Chris, Susan, Cheryl and these others we name before you now in our hearts and with our voices. Give courage to all who struggle with addiction. Touch with your tender care all who reach out to you in pain. In your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

For this assembly and for the faith communities represented this week at the ELCA Youth Gathering: Nurture the faith of young people as they encounter new experiences and people. Break down dividing walls and inspire collaboration among people of every age. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving for those who have died: Make us certain that in Christ we are no longer strangers and aliens but citizens with the saints in the household of God. In your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

## **SHARING GOD'S ABUNDANCE**

**OFFERING MUSIC** *Lord Jesus, Think on Me* arr. by Frahm

## **OFFERTORY P. 12 "CREATE IN ME"**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
And renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence  
And take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation,  
And uphold me with your spirit free.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
And renew a right spirit within me.

## **PRAYER P.12**

Let us pray.

**Gracious Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us: ourselves, our time and our possessions. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ, Our Lord.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

## **DIALOGUE P.13**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Give thanks to the Lord.

**It is good and right to do.**

## **PREFACE**

### **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY P.13**

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Hosts.

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Glory be to you, O Lord most high.

Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosannah in the highest!

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God,

our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer,  
in the harmonious world of your creation,  
the plants and animals,  
the seas and stars  
were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world,  
you sent your Son to heal our ills  
and to form us again into one.

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.

Remembering, therefore,  
his acts of healing,  
his body given up,



and his victory over death,  
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth  
will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:

as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,  
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,  
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER P.15**

**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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

#### **COMMUNION**

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Amen.

#### **LAMB OF GOD P.16**

Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.

Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, give us your peace.

**DISTRIBUTION MUSIC** *Tidings* arr. by Krouse

**TABLE BLESSING P. 16**

The Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep us in his Grace. **Amen.**

**SENDING OF COMMUNION**

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

**SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**SEND US FORTH IN PEACE P.18**

Lord, we have your peace.  
Lord, we have your peace.  
Lord, we have your peace.  
Just as you said we have heard it,  
Just as you lived we have felt it.  
Lord we have your peace.  
Sustain us in your peace, O Lord,  
As we go our separate worlds.  
Keep this peace with us  
as we try to love in our troubled worlds.  
Send us forth in peace.  
Send us forth in peace to be a light  
To show your beauty forever.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS (ELW p. 183)**

**BLESSING P.20**

The Lord be with you.

**And with you, too.**

Bless we the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face to shine upon you,

And be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up his countenance upon you.

And give you peace,  
In the name of the Father,  
And of the Son,  
And of the Holy Spirit.

**DISMISSAL P.20**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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