

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
1100 EAST SUPERIOR STREET, DULUTH, MN

August 16, 2026

8:30 a.m.

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

You are invited to light a candle in prayer on the Tree of Life during the service.

The candle-lighter is hanging on the wall; you may need to take a candle out to light it.

Please pass the Friendship Notebook along your row and greet those around you that you may not know.

We welcome children in worship. There is a family room across from the right front sanctuary doors and a few steps to the left a staffed nursery for any who wish to use them.

Hearing assist receivers are available at the ushers' station.

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE *Here is Love* - hymn by Robert Lowry, arr. for trombone and piano by Molly Ijames

Trevor Engstrom, trombone; Karen Sande, piano

WELCOME

The assembly stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept 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.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW #771 *God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING Genesis 45:1-15

Joseph reconciles with his brothers

Word of God.

Word of Life.

Psalm 67 (read responsively)

May God be merciful to us and bless us; may the light of God's face shine upon us.

Let your way be known upon earth, your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,

for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has brought forth its increase; God, our own God, has blessed us.

May God give us blessing,

and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

The healing of the Canaanite woman's daughter

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Dianne O. Loufman

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW #587 *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Hear us, O God. or Bless we the Lord,
Your mercy is great. Thanks be to God.

PEACE

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

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. All are then seated for the offering.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING

*You are invited to use our digital offering plate. Text **"fleduluth"** to **73256**. You'll be sent a text with a link to give. Click on the link and enter your giving information. Thank you for supporting God's mission through FLC.*

OFFERTORY MUSIC *Amazing Grace*

arr. John Coates; Summer Choir

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!
Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

OFFERING PRAYER

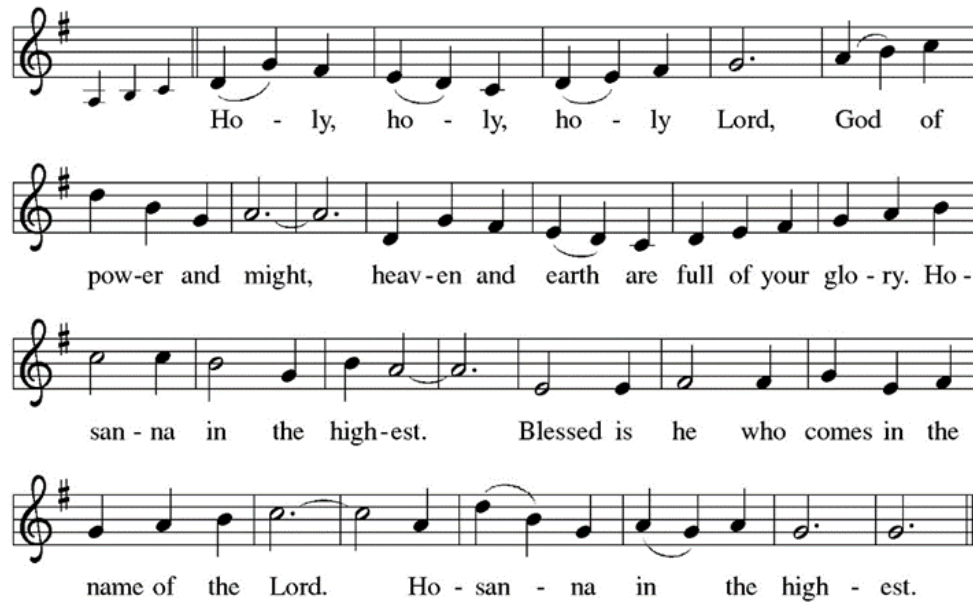
Let us pray together: Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

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 all of creation,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



The thanksgiving continues with the Words of Institution, concluding with the Lord's Prayer.

Nurtured by Jesus' words, we pray:

**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.

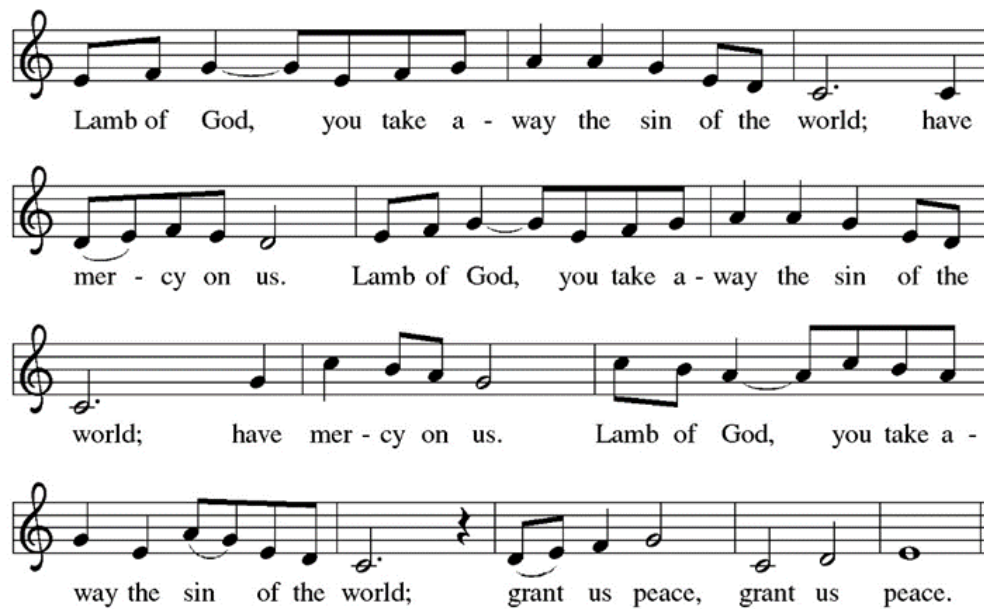
Invitation to Communion

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

The assembly is seated.

*We practice Eucharistic hospitality; all are welcome. Receive the bread and dip it into the wine (red)
or grape juice (white). Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION HYMN ELW #772 *Oh, That the Lord would Guide my Ways*

COMMUNION HYMN ELW #473 *Holy, Holy, Holy*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: 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,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

BLESSING

The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW #208 *Praise to You, O God of Mercy*

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

hymn tune Holy Manna, arr. Philip M. Young

Ministers	All People of First Lutheran Church
Pastor	The Rev. Dianne O. Loufman
Associate Pastor	The Rev. Andrea Bonneville DeNaples
Program Staff	Karen Sande, Director of Music Michael Fuchs, Director of Choral Activities Bryan Gatten, Director of Contemporary Worship
Assisting Minister	Paula Tsufis
Reader	Kris Brendle
Musicians	Trevor Engstrom, trombone; Summer Choir
Audio/Video Team	Eric Gatten, Shania Krause, Sam Weston

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First Lutheran Church, dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ, welcomes you into this community of faith, where we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender identity, race, education, economic status, sexual orientation, family structure, mental or physical abilities, or where they might be on their faith journey. We acknowledge the indigenous culture of this land. We are committed to the work of racial justice. We extend a special welcome in Christ's love.

faithlovecommunity
First Lutheran Church

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