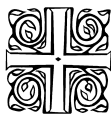


GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
200 West Anderson Lane - Austin, Texas 78752  
Called by grace, led by faith, welcoming all to share God's love.

NINTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST



AUGUST 10, 2025

✝ You are invited to make the sign of the cross

GATHERING

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

PRELUDE Barbara Freeman  
WELCOME TO WORSHIP Deacon Bill Krejci Presiding  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
CONFESSION AND FORGIVNESS *(responses in bold type)*

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people,  
turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of  
your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your  
forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior  
and Lord. Amen.

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

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We  
have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we  
have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved  
you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as  
ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.  
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your  
will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.  
Amen.

GATHERING SONG Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus + ELW 802

GREETING

CANTICLE OF PRAISE Now the Feast and Celebration + ELW 167

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of  
your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we  
may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus  
Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.

*(Please be seated)*

WORD

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

FIRST READING Genesis 15:1-6  
...Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 33:12-22  
<sup>12</sup>Happy is the nation whose God <sup>1</sup> is the Lord!  
Happy the people chosen to <sup>1</sup> be God's heritage!  
<sup>13</sup>The Lord looks <sup>1</sup> down from heaven,  
and sees all <sup>1</sup> humankind.  
<sup>14</sup>God sits firmly en- <sup>1</sup> throned and watches  
all who dwell <sup>1</sup> on the earth.  
<sup>15</sup>God fashions <sup>1</sup> all their hearts  
and observes <sup>1</sup> all their deeds.  
<sup>16</sup>A king is not saved by the size <sup>1</sup> of the army,  
nor are warriors rescued by <sup>1</sup> their great strength.  
<sup>17</sup>The horse gives vain <sup>1</sup> hope for victory;  
despite its great strength it <sup>1</sup> cannot save.  
<sup>18</sup>Truly, your eye is upon those who fear <sup>1</sup> you, O Lord,  
upon those who wait for your <sup>1</sup> steadfast love,  
<sup>19</sup>to deliver their <sup>1</sup> lives from death,  
and to keep them alive in <sup>1</sup> time of famine.  
<sup>20</sup>Our innermost being waits for <sup>1</sup> you, O Lord,  
our helper <sup>1</sup> and our shield.  
<sup>21</sup>Surely, our heart rejoic- <sup>1</sup> es in you,  
for in your holy name we <sup>1</sup> put our trust.  
<sup>22</sup>Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, <sup>1</sup> be upon us,  
even as we place our <sup>1</sup> hope in you.

SECOND READING Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16  
...Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God. *(Please stand)*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Halle, Halle, Hallelujah + ELW 172  
*(Please be seated)*

GOSPEL Luke 12:32-40  
The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord...  
...The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S STORY  
SERMON *(Please stand following)*  
HYMN OF THE DAY O Master, Let Me Walk with You + ELW 818  
APOSTLES' CREED ELW page 105 *(on insert)*  
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION  
...God of grace, hear our prayer...  
...Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in  
you, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.  
PEACE *(Please be seated following)*

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GATHERING OF OFFERING Special Music + Michael Harrison  
OFFERTORY Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful + ELW 182  
OFFERING PRAYER

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  
*(Please stand)*  
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...

...and join their unending hymn *(Holy, Holy, Holy + ELW 192)*  
...Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to 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 *(Please be seated following)*  
SONGS DURING COMMUNION  
Lamb of God + ELW 195  
The King of Love My Shepherd Is + ELW 502  
Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer + ELW 618

TABLE BLESSING & PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION  
O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast,  
the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to  
serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the  
hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

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

BLESSING  
Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and  
forever. Amen. *(Please stand for the sending song)*  
SENDING SONG O God, Our Help in Ages Past + ELW 632  
DISMISSAL  
Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.  
POSTLUDE Barbara Freeman



**FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6**

<sup>1</sup> After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” <sup>4</sup> But the word of the Lord came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup> He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” <sup>6</sup> And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

**PSALM 33:12-22**

**SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16**

<sup>1</sup> Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup> By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup> For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup> By faith, with Sarah’s involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup> Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

<sup>13</sup> All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup> for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

**GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40**

[Jesus said:] <sup>32</sup> “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup> Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

**A Kingdom for the Little Flock**

“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” Jesus promises the kingdom to us, his little flock, straining our minds with this uninhibited generosity. Even to us, so little and undeserving? Even to us, in the face of so many things to be afraid of? Suddenly everything we hold dear in this world is repriced, and the true value of things becomes plainly clear. We are being given the kingdom! So why not sell our possessions and give to those in need? We are being given the kingdom! So why not wait on expectant tiptoes for the master? When he comes he will wait on us! The Father’s free generosity calls forth in us a generosity we have never before known. Fear is now met with anticipation, and tightfistedness with open hands. We are being given the kingdom, so now we know what true treasure looks like. And yet, like our fathers and mothers in faith that the Hebrews reading speaks of, we too “desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one.” But in Christ our heavenly country has already arrived. In him, God has freely given us the kingdom.



*Gospel continued*

<sup>35</sup> “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup> be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup> Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. <sup>39</sup> “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

# GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

August 10, 2025

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*Welcoming all to share God's love.*