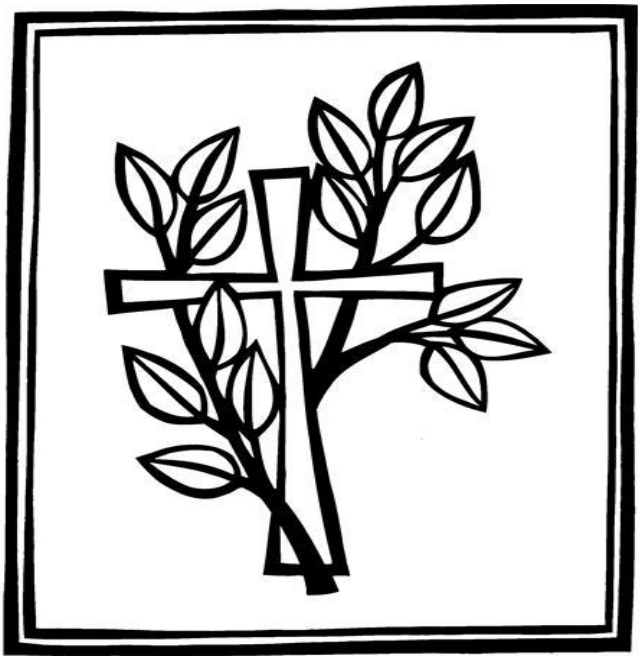
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

14th Sunday After Pentecost

August 30, 2026



God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
2205 Old Liberty Road, Eldersburg, MD 21784.
Church Office- 410-795-6333
Church Email- hslc.eldersburg@comcast.net
HSLC Website- www.hslceldersburgmd.org
Rev. Tom Kaye, Sr., Pastor
A Shared Ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

We extend the warmest welcome *to all worshipping with us today. No matter who you are: if this is your first time worshipping with us, if you haven't been here in a while, if you are here regularly, if you are seeking a community of people trying their best to follow Jesus, if you are curious about Jesus, or even if you are not entirely sure what or who you are looking for; know that you are welcome in this place, and we are so glad you are here! If this is your first time with us, we ask that you sign our Friendship Book, so that we might pray with/for you, get to know you better, and check-in with you from time to time.*

Holy Communion is open to all. *In this church, we preach, teach, and confess that this is the table of Jesus. It is Jesus who invites you to His table. You need not be a member of this church, or any other church; anyone who desires a deeper walk with Christ is invited. The ushers will direct you to proceed up the center aisle. You are invited to take an empty, individual cup from the silver tray near the baptismal font, and red wine, the blood of Christ, will be poured for you at the altar rail. You will also find red grape juice, the blood of Christ, in sealed individual cups in that same tray. As you come to the altar rail, you may stand or kneel as you are able, and the minister will place bread, the body of Christ, in your hand. If you are in need of a gluten free host, please let the minister know. If you prefer not to receive the Communion elements, Jesus still invites you into His Holy Communion; at the altar rail you may fold your arms and the minister will pray with and bless you.*

We believe *the varied sounds and actions from children of all ages during worship is evidence of Jesus among us, and bears witness to the life, growth, present and future of the Church. If your child makes noise, you are not bothering anyone, you are blessing everyone. If you would like an activity bag for your child during worship, please ask the greeter who handed you this bulletin.*

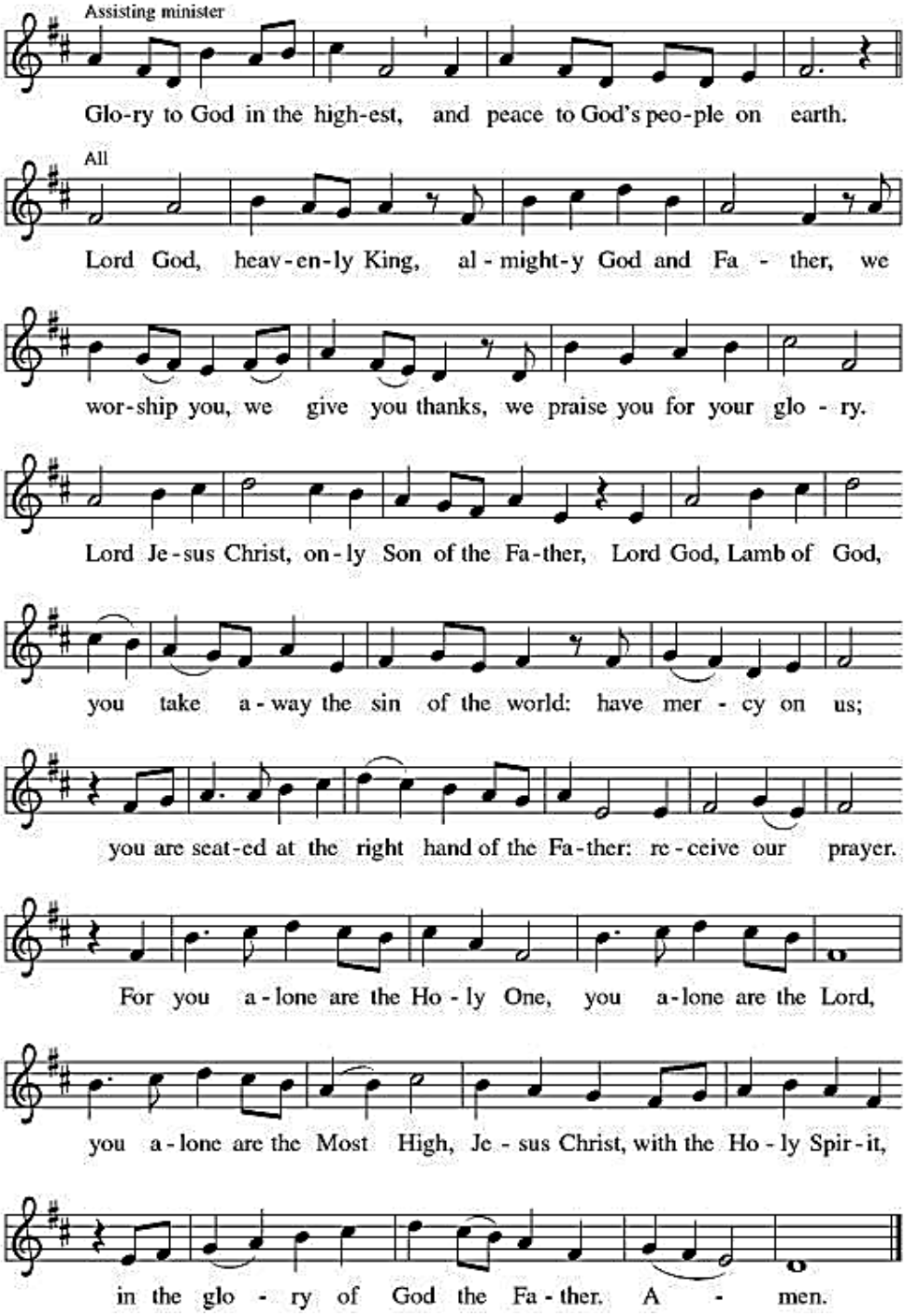
We stream *our worship service on a private zoom link and publicly on Facebook. We also setup a laptop in the lobby area, just outside of the sanctuary, so that we might connect with our members who regularly "Zoom-in" for service. Please stop by to say hello!*

PRELUDE
ANNOUNCEMENTS
LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.
Please rise, in body or spirit.

INVOCATION, CONFESSION, AND FORGIVENESS
P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, one God, who forgives all our sin, who's mercy endures forever. **C: Amen.**
P: 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.
C: Amen.
P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, and of one another.
(We pause for reflection)
P: Gracious God,
C: 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.
P: 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. **C: Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN*: For the Beauty of the Earth – LBW (Green) – 561, verses 1, 3, & 5.*
GREETING
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE *Cantor chants first line, congregation sings the rest together.*



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

SOLO: In Heaven's Eyes by Phill McHugh, sung by Chuck Alleman.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21

15 O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down
retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not
take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. 16 Your
words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a
joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD,
God of hosts. 17 I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I
rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled
me with indignation. 18 Why is my pain unceasing, my wound
incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful
brook, like waters that fail. 19 Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn
back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter
what is precious and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my
mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them.
20 And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am
with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. 21 I will deliver
you out of the hand of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of
the ruthless.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 26:1-8

1 Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; I
have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

2 **Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.**

3 For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

4 **I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

5 I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

6 **I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, that I may go in procession round your altar,**

7 singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

8 **LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.**

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good;
10 love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. 11 Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer.
13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

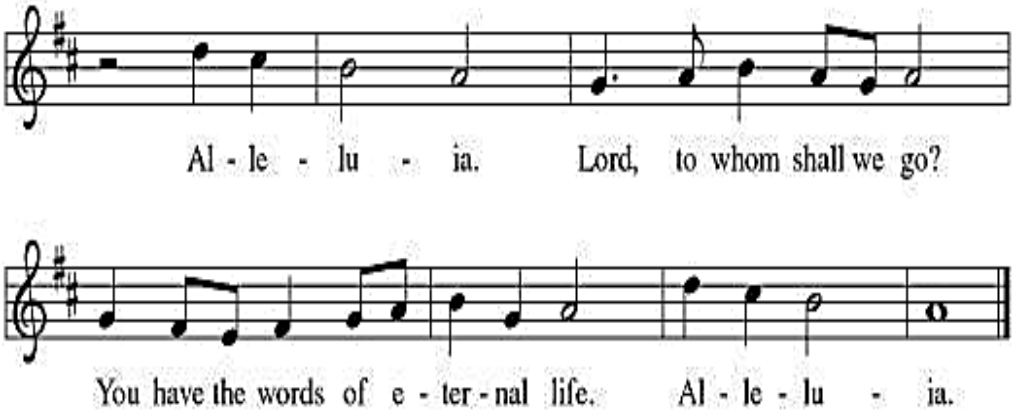
14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.
15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. 16 Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. 18 If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." 20 Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please rise, in body or spirit.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Congregation sings acclamation once.*



HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord

21 From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the
Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to
Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and
chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised.
22 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God
forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." 23 But he turned and
said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for
you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

24 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let
them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For
those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their
life for my sake will find it. 26 For what will it profit them if they gain
the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return
for their life?

27 "For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his
Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done.
28 Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste
death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

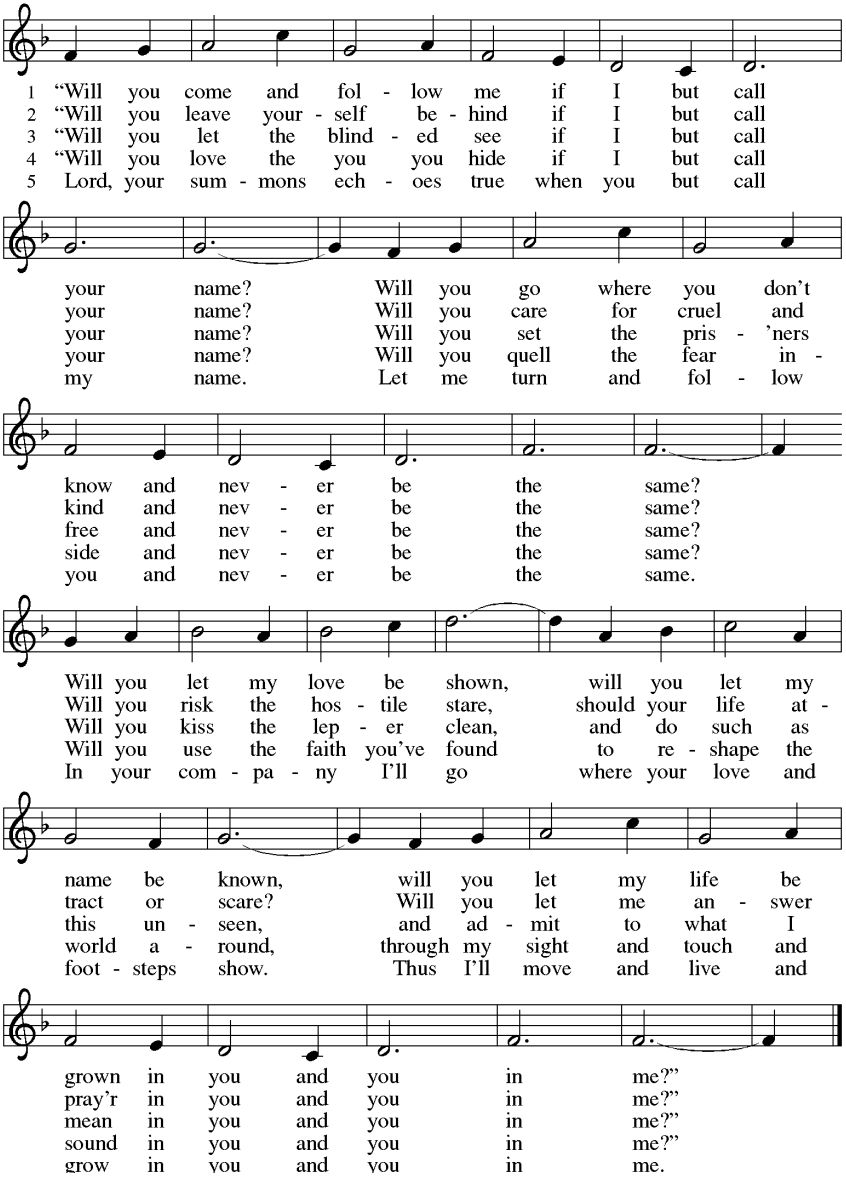
SERMON

After the sermon, please rise, in body or spirit, as we lift our hearts and voices together in song.

HYMN OF THE DAY: ***Will You Come and Follow Me – ELW (Red) – 798, verses 1, 3, & 5.***

Will You Come and Follow Me

The Summons



APOSTLES' CREED

A: Lets us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed,
C: We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. We 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. We 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 OF INTERCESSION

A: With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.
A brief silence.
A: For the church in every land, that its mission and ministry is anchored in the love of Christ. When threats or challenges arise, teach us to take up our cross and follow you in faith. Merciful God,
C: Receive our prayer.
A: For the well-being of your creation, that all that lives and grows on the earth may thrive. Bring relief to areas ravaged by droughts, floods, fires, storms, and other disasters (*especially*). Merciful God,
C: Receive our prayer.
A: For the nations and all in authority, that they seek to live in peace with one another. Bless the work of international and diplomatic organizations and all who work to bring peace to a world scarred by violence. Merciful God,
C: Receive our prayer.
A: For all those in need, that they be satisfied. Ensure all your children have safe access to food, water, shelter, and medical care. Bring healing to all who bear wounds in body, mind, and spirit (*especially*). Merciful God,
C: Receive our prayer.

A: For the congregation gathered here to serve you, that they remain strong in faith and united in purpose. Guide our committees, study groups, and other meetings toward honesty and humility, always seeking genuine love. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: For the faithful departed, that their witness continues to strengthen and guide the church. Renew our hope in your promises in this life and the life to come. Merciful God,

C: Receive our prayer.

A: Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: And also, with you.

P: Let us share a sign of peace with one another.

Please be seated

OFFERING

Here at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, there are many ways you are able to give. Our ushers will pass around an offering plate, in which you can place your weekly offering. If you are attending worship online or you simply wish to give online, you may do so by visiting our website, ***hslceldersburgmd.org/give****. We give thanks to God for the ways you continually offer your time, talent, and treasure for the sake of God and neighbor in our ministry.*

Please rise, in body or spirit.

OFFERTORY HYMN

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.

OFFERING PRAYER

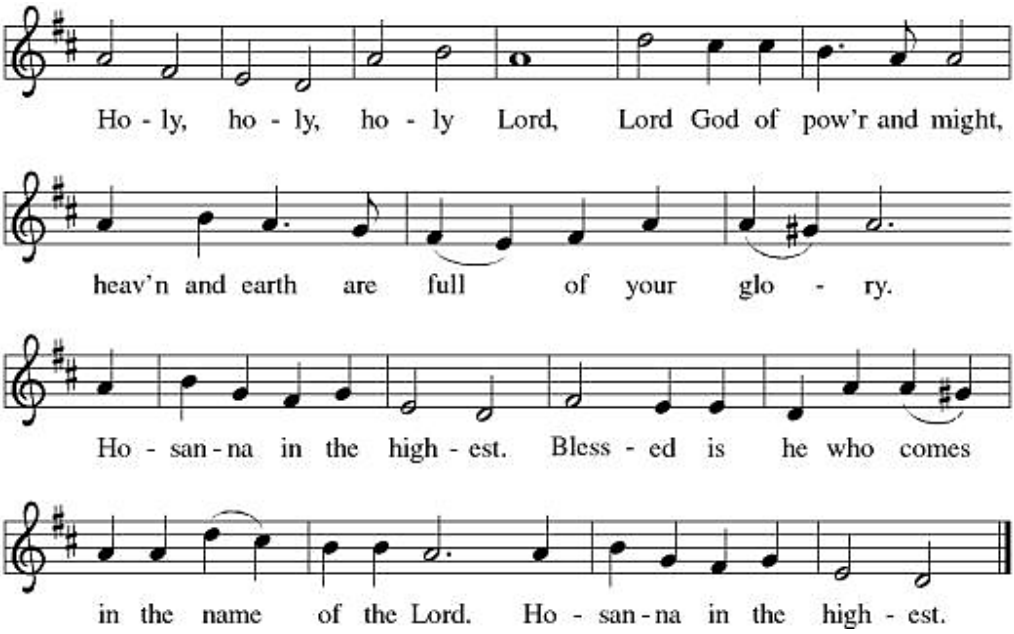
P: Let us pray, Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,

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.
C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.
C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

P: 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.

P: 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.

P: Holy God, holy and merciful one, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love.

C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world. **C: Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray the prayer our Lord Jesus taught us, in the language of our hearts:

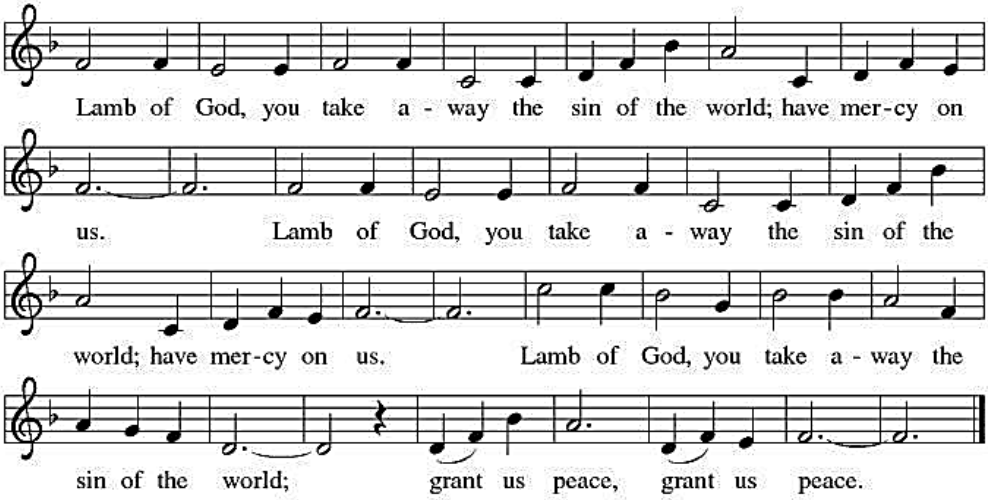
C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P**:** Jesus invites you. Jesus welcomes you. All are invited. All are welcome. Come taste and see that the Lord is good! **C: Amen.**

Please be seated.

COMMUNION HYMN- Lamb of God



Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. Guidance for receiving Communion is on Page 2. After all have communed, please rise, in body or spirit.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless us and keep us in God's grace, from now and until life everlasting. **C: Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us pray, 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.

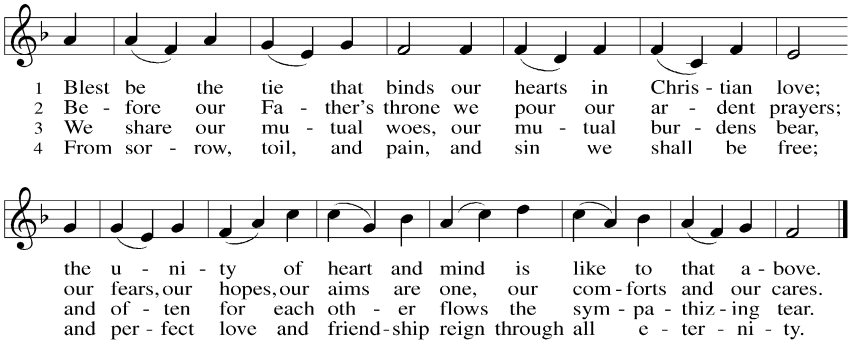
C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: You are exactly who God created you to be. Created in Christ Jesus for good works. Created and called holy. Created and called beloved. Now go forth into the world in peace and be of good courage. Hold fast to that which is good. Render to no one an evil thing for an evil thing. Strengthen the fainthearted. Support the weak. Help the afflicted. Show Christ's love to everyone and let the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the +Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: ***Blest Be the Tie that Binds – LBW (Green) – 370.***

Blest Be the Tie That Binds



Text: John Fawcett, 1740–1817, alt.
Music: DENNIS, Johann G. Nägeli, 1774–1836, adapt.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, be of good heart!

C: Thanks be to God!

A: Our purpose is to love God,

C: And bring people into a growing relationship with Jesus and his church.

"We all serve as ministers in the mission of the Church."

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ACTIVITIES AT HOLY SPIRIT LUTHERAN CHURCH:

Sunday (8/30) 10:30 am – Fellowship
11:00 am – Worship w/Holy Communion; Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday (9/6) 10:30 am – Fellowship
11:00 am – Worship w/Holy Communion; Blessing of the Backpacks

Please contact Pastor Tom by email at HSLC.pastor@comcast.net if you would like to meet, have any questions, or for any pastoral emergencies.

Upcoming Events Reminder: Please see the "Events" tab on our website for all our upcoming events.

Blessing of the Backpacks: At service on 8/30 and 9/6
Sunday School Starts: September 13 at 9:30 am

Volunteers

	This Week (08/30/2026)	***Next Week (09/06/2026)***
Greeters	Kim N.	TBD
Ushers	Henry K. Luke F.	TBD
Acolyte	Maryann F.	TBD
Assisting Minister	Laura B.	TBD
Communion Assistant	Laura B.	TBD
Lector	Lily K.	TBD
Altar care	Krissy K.	TBD
Fellowship/Coffee	Bowman	Timko