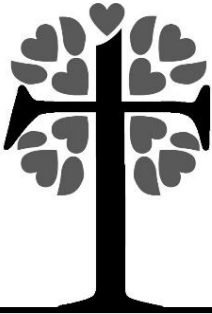


Welcome to Tree of Life Lutheran Church



August 31, 2025 – Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Leader in regular type, **congregation in bold type**

↑ means stand as you are able

Restrooms are by the kitchen and by the Wiggle Room

Wiggle Room is available for anyone needing a brief break from worship, at the end of the piano wing of the sanctuary

WiFi is available: Look for TOL-GUEST; password is OdessaTOL1

We Gather as God's People

PRELUDE

You can use this time for quiet reflection, prayer and preparation for worship.

↑ CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ and trusting in his grace, let us confess our sins in the presence of God and one-another. *Silence for reflection.*

Most merciful God: **You free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit, but we turn to sin in our thoughts, words and deeds. You surround us with goodness, but we grow weary in doing what is right. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, forgive us. Heal us and show us the path of life. Amen.**

You belong to Christ Jesus, and you are God's children through faith. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

↑ HYMN

"Come Thou Fount Of Every Blessing"

RED HYMNAL #807

↑ 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.**

↑ HYMN OF PRAISE

“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”

ELW #857

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praise.

I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth to show the way, from the earth

to the cross, my debt to pay, from the cross to the grave,

from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray: O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

We Hear God's Word

FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:6-7a

A reading from Proverbs:

⁶ Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, ⁷ for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 112

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in God's commandments!

² **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³ Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴ **Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶ **For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

⁸ **Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.

¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine
away; the desires of the wicked will perish.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

A reading from Hebrews:

¹ Let mutual affection continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?"

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Composed by D.D. Dillard

Voice

Al-le - u - ia Al-le - u - ia Al-le - u - ia glo-ry to God! A - le-

5 u - ia Al-le - u - ia Al-le - u - ia Glo-ry to God A - le God! For the

10 Lord Most High is *rit.* wor- thy of glo- ry and praise Al - le u - ia Al-le- *a tempo*



↑ **GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

↑ APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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;
 and descended into hell.
 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.**

↑ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

By the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all people according to their needs:

Holy Father, fill your Church around the world with a devotion to your Word and a passion for humble service in your name. Strengthen those who suffer persecution or imprisonment because of the faith. Keep us all steadfast in our faithfulness. God of grace... **Hear our prayer.**

Grant that summer's growth might bring an abundant harvest, so that we and all creatures might thrive. Protect any who suffer from drought, storm or natural disaster. God of grace... **Hear our prayer.**

Bless our nation with liberty, justice, peace, prosperity, concord and integrity. Guide our leaders to be generous and fair, humble and honorable, charitable and wise. God of grace... **Hear our prayer.**

On this Labor Day weekend, bless those who toil for the benefit of all. Be with your people wherever we work, and grant that we may labor not for self alone, but for the common good. Give workers pride in what they do, and a just return for their labor. Help the unemployed and the underemployed to find fulfilling jobs. God of grace... **Hear our prayer.**

Send your healing and comfort upon the lowly, the poor, the lame, the suffering and the sorrowful. We especially pray for Annalise, Bill, Bob, Chris, Dan, Danielle, Dot, Elizabeth, Erika, Hanne-Lore, Patrick, Paul, Sarah, William, Winnie and those we name with our lips or in our hearts... *(Time for personal petitions)* God of grace...

Hear our prayer.

Help Tree of Life to live as your humble and faithful people. Inspire us to show mutual affection. Help those who are married live with honor, and those who are single live with integrity. Keep us free from the love of money, and help us share what we have. Make our leaders worthy of their calling. Bless our bishops, Elizabeth and William; our pastor, Robbie; St. Stephen's Lutheran Church and its pastor, Sue; and Lutheran Campus Ministries and its chaplain. Mindy. God of grace... **Hear our prayer.**

Accept our thanksgiving for all the saints who from their labors rest. Sustain us in the assurance that your Son is the same yesterday and today and forever, and that he will bring us to that day when we all sing our praise together. God of grace...

Hear our prayer.

We lift up these and all our prayers to you, O Lord, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

↑ **PEACE**

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

We Share God's Holy Meal

↑ **OFFERTORY**

RED HYMNAL #884

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye Heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost**

↑ **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray together: **Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care. Prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day. The congregation responds:

↑ SANCTUS

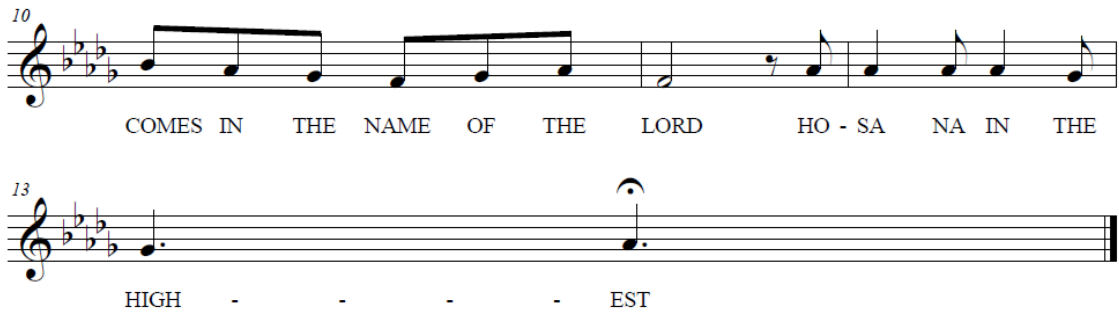
Composed by D.D. Dillard

Voice

HO - LY HO - LY HO - LY LORD GOD OF POW'R AND

MIGHT HEA - VEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLO - RY HO -

SA - NA IN - THE HIGH - EST BLESS-ED IS HE - WHO



↑ EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & 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.

↑ LORD'S PRAYER

**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

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

All baptized Christians are welcome to commune. Wine and white grape juice are in the individual cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

COMMUNION

Composed by D.D. Dillard

LAMB OF GOD YOU TAKE A - WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD_____ HAVE

5 MER - CY ON US MER - CY ON US MER - CY ON US LAMB OF GOD YOU

10 TAKE A - WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD_____ HAVE MER - CY ON US MER - CY ON US

15 MER - CY ON US LAMB OF GOD YOU TAKE A - WAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD

20 GRANT US PEACE

HYMNS

“Change My Heart O God”
“Spirit Song”

BLACK BINDER #4
BLACK BINDER #6

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together: Holy Lord, you gathered us to your table, and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus’ name. Amen.

God Sends Us in Mission

ANNOUNCEMENTS

↑ **BENEDICTION**

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

↑ **HYMN**

“Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee”

RED HYMNAL #836

↑ **MISSION STATEMENT**

What is our Mission? **To be faithful children of God, called by grace through Christ, and sharing this gift with Middletown, Odessa, Townsend and the World.**

↑ **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace; serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

You may listen to the music or depart to do God's work.

Please join us for refreshments in the fellowship room after the service.

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