



**16<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost  
Rally Day  
&  
Service of First Communion**

**September 12, 2021**  
9:30am Livestream

**St. Luke Lutheran Church**

4595 SW California St.  
Portland, OR 97219  
(503) 246-2325

## Gathering

Prelude:

Molly Wheeler, piano

Welcome (Announcements)

Pastor Beth Brashear

Confession and Forgiveness

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.**

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.

**Amen.**

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:

O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn:

**“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”**

Red Hymnal no. **858**

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!  
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!**

**Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning  
and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.  
Have you not seen all that is needful has been sent by his gracious ordaining?**

**Praise to the Lord! who will prosper your work and defend you;  
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do if with his love he befriend you.**

**Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!  
Let the amen sound from his people again. Gladly forever adore him!**

## **The Word**

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Tammy Witcosky, reader

The Lord GOD has given me

the tongue of a teacher,

that I may know how to sustain

the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—

wakens my ear

to listen as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear,

and I was not rebellious,

I did not turn backward.

<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me,

and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;

I did not hide my face

from insult and spitting.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me;

therefore I have not been disgraced;

therefore I have set my face like flint,

and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

<sup>8</sup> he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

9 It is the Lord God who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

Second Reading: James 3:1-12

Elise Moentmann, reader

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup> For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. <sup>3</sup> If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. <sup>4</sup> Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup> So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! <sup>6</sup> And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup> For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, <sup>8</sup> but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup> From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup> Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? <sup>12</sup> Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation:

**“Hallelu, Hallelu!”**

Congregation

**Hallelu, hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah! Praise ye the Lord. (repeat)**

**Praise ye, the Lord! Hallelujah! Praise ye, the Lord! Hallelujah!**

**Praise ye, the Lord! Hallelujah! Praise ye, the Lord!**

Gospel: Mark 8:27-38

Pastor Patti Welch

<sup>27</sup> Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” <sup>28</sup> And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” <sup>29</sup> He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” <sup>30</sup> And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup> Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup> But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup> He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup> For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup> Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup> Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

Pastor Patti Welch

Anthem:

"To God Be the Glory" by Vicki Hancock Wright

Rejoice Choir

Molly Wheeler, piano

Prayers of the Church

Prayer Leader: Insalaco Family

Response: Lord, in your mercy.

**All: Hear our prayer.**

Apostle's Creed

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

**I 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. 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.**

## Holy Communion

### 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.**

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.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.

Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

Breathe new life into us.

Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

### Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### Invitation to Communion

Jesus is the host of this table and all are welcome.

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at God's table.

Come as you are. These gifts are for you.

Celebration of First Communion for Rosie Adibonou, Lucy Fabbro, Max Insalaco, Lucy Lynham, Caleb Peirce, Eric Schlechter, Owen Schlechter, and Carver Snowden

### First Communion Blessing

Child of God, may this simple food feed you in faith, hope, and love. May you taste that God loves you enough to die for you and to bring life through death. May you be strengthened to live that love here with other believers and in your family, your school, your hobbies, your whole life. We ask this in Christ Jesus, who feeds us with his own love and life. Amen.

Musical Reflection:                      “Eat this Bread, Drink This Cup”                      Dan Hibbett, solo  
Molly Wheeler, piano

### Post-Communion Prayer

O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Sending

### Connect and Serve

**Connect:** Join us for worship and spiritual formation on Sunday mornings!

Next Sunday begins our new schedule:

- 9:00 - 10:00: Adult Education: Exploring Sunday Scriptures Together  
(hybrid in-person and Zoom)
- 9:15 - 10:00: Modern Worship Service with Children’s Church (details about Children’s Church can be found in the September Messenger)
- 10:15 – 11:15: Education Hour for Children’s Ministry, MSM, SLY & Parent Group
- 10:30 – 11:30: Traditional Worship (in- person and live-streamed)

**Connect: Register your child or teen** for Children’s Ministry, Middle School Ministry, or SLY! The fillable PDF form is available online at [stlukechurch.com](http://stlukechurch.com). Go to the “Learning” tab and to “Forms.” [https://www.stlukechurch.com/uploads/1/0/2/2/102269046/2021\\_2022\\_medical\\_liability\\_release\\_form.pdf](https://www.stlukechurch.com/uploads/1/0/2/2/102269046/2021_2022_medical_liability_release_form.pdf)  
Download the form, complete it, and email it back to us at one of the following email addresses:

- Children’s Ministry: Prek-5<sup>th</sup> Grade – [Childrensministry@stlukechurch.com](mailto:Childrensministry@stlukechurch.com)
- Middle School Ministry/Confirmation: 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade – [pastorbeth@stlukechurch.com](mailto:pastorbeth@stlukechurch.com)
- SLY (Saint Luke Youth): 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade – [highschool@stlukechurch.com](mailto:highschool@stlukechurch.com)

**Serve: Support an Afghan refugee!** Stop by the Social Concerns table in a few minutes to learn more and to sign up!

**Serve: Christmas In September.** Now through Sunday, September 26, our Christmas tree is in the narthex with “ornaments” that list items needed for the Northeast Emergency Food Program pantry. Take an ornament, buy the items listed, and return them. The Christmas In September cart will be outside of the narthex from 9am-4pm weekdays or bring items when you come to worship on Sunday!

**Serve: Assist with worship.** Worship is a community gathering, and it takes a community to make it happen. There are many ways you can serve to make our in-person worship happen – whether as an **usher, a reader, an AV tech, a musician, or our Communion ministries.** Check out the Messenger or the Weekly Update for details.

## Benediction & Blessing of the Backpacks

Sending Song: **“The Lord Now Sends Us Forth”** Red Hymnal no. **538**

**The Lord now sends us forth with hands to serve and give,  
to make of all the earth a better place to live. (repeat)**

**The angels were not sent into our world of pain  
to do what we were meant to do in Jesus’ name;  
that falls to you and me and all who are made free.  
Help us, O Lord, we pray, to do your will today. (repeat)**

Postlude: Molly Wheeler, piano

Flowers on this Rally Day Sunday are gifted by Elise Moentmann in memory of her parents, Carl and Gladys on the anniversaries of their birthdays

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