

CREATED, SAVED AND GIFTED BY GOD
WE ARE CALLED TO SEEK,
SERVE AND SHARE JESUS CHRIST



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THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST [PROPER 15]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2005 - 5:30 PM

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST [PROPER 15]

What parents would not cry out for help to someone who could save their sick or tormented children? Here, in the gospel reading, we see a mother who will not abandon her mission to find relief for her suffering daughter. She is persistent and unflinching in her request for Christ's healing.

In this Canaanite woman, the church finds an image of its mission. The world is filled with people who are tormented, sick, and oppressed. In the prayers, the church asks for God's healing in a world that is troubled and wounded. In the eucharistic meal, the church receives the strength to enter this world and bring comfort, healing, and justice to those in need.

Saturday, August 13, 2005

5:30 p.m. Worship

With Open Arms

Jesus' disciples were eager to send her away, this pesky Canaanite woman with the demon-possessed daughter. Even Jesus seemed to rebuff the woman's pleas that he heal her child: "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." Her retort was immediate and sharp, however: "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Finally, Jesus relented, marveling, "Woman, great is your faith!"

What thoughts and feelings go through your mind and heart when you come to God in prayer? Do you worry that your concern might be too insignificant, unworthy of the Almighty's attention? Do you wonder whether the one who created all life really has the power to change things? Are you afraid that the Holy One will find your request audacious or your words too clumsy? Do you feel sheepish, maybe even a bit nervy, about asking God for your heart's desire because it has been so long since the two of you last spoke?

Whatever reasons you suspect God might have for rejecting you, whatever doubts you carry about prayer, be assured that the giver of all good is ready to listen to you. God's rules about who may approach the awesome throne are not our rules. Those whom we would reject, the great physician welcomes. The prayers we ourselves might ignore are answered with as much care and compassion as those we count worthy of God's consideration.

We—all of us—can approach the Most High with confidence, certain that the Compassionate One will hear us, humble in the presence of our defender's power, grateful for Yahweh's justice and mercy, dazzled by the Righteous One's grace. God will receive you with open arms.

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** Stand if you are able.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (spoken)

Trusting in the word of life given in baptism, we are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us seek the face of God, confessing our sin.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Holy God,

we have sinned against you and each other. We pray for your forgiveness and healing. The good we want to do, we often fail to do. The evil we do not want, we find ourselves doing. Deliver us, O God, save us from shame, and guide us in your way. Amen.

Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us; and God raised him up from death so that we too might walk in newness of life. Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through + Jesus Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

GATHERING

** HYMN 400 LBW (green hymnal)

Thou Whose Almighty Word

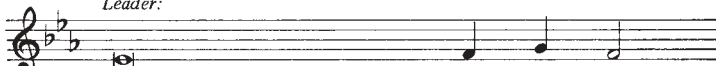
HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER

Setting by Marty Haugen

1. SERVICE OF LIGHT

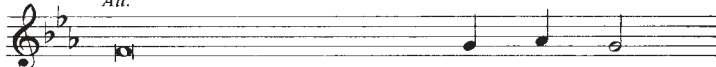
Procession

Leader:



Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world;

All:



the light no darkness can o - ver - come;

Leader:

Stay with us now, for it is evening,

All:

and the day is al - most over.

Leader:

Let your light scat - ter the darkness,

All:

and shine within your peo-ple here. —

Evening Hymn

All: a tempo

1. Joy-ous light of heav-'nly glo - ry, lov - ing
2. In the stars that grace the dark - ness, in the
3. You who made the heav-en's splen - dor, ev - 'ry

glow of God's own face, you who sing cre - a - tion's
blaz - ing sun of dawn, in the light of peace and
danc - ing star of night, make us shine with gen - tle

sto - ry, shine on ev 'ry land and race. Now as
wis - dom, we can hear your qui - et song. Love that
jus - tice, let us each re - flect your light. Might - y

eve - ning falls a - round us, we shall raise our songs to
fills the night with won - der, love that warms the wea - ry
God of all cre - a - tion, gen - tle Christ who lights our



you, God of day - break, God of shad - ows, come and
 soul, Love that bursts all chains a - sun - der, set us
 way, Lov - ing Spir - it of sal - va - tion, lead us

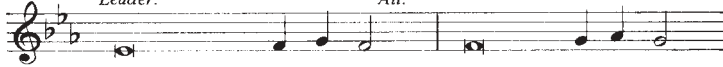


light our hearts a - new. _____
 free and make us whole. _____
 on to end - less day. _____

Evening Thanksgiving

Leader:

All:



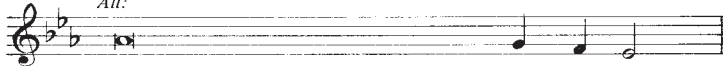
May God be with you all, and al - so with you;

Leader:



Let us sing our thanks to _____ God,

All:



It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PRAYER (sung)

Blessed are you, Creator of the universe, from old you have led your people by night and day. May the light of your Christ make our darkness bright, for your Word and your presence are the light of our pathways, and you are the light and life of all creation.

Amen.

**** PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken)**

Let us pray.

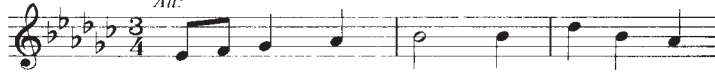
Almighty and ever-living God, you have given great and precious promises to those who believe. Grant us the perfect faith which overcomes all doubts, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

PSALMODY (sung)

Psalm 141

All:



Let my prayer rise up like in-cense be -



fore you, the lift-ing up of my



hands as an of-fer-ing to you.

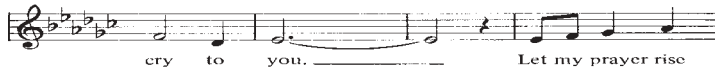
Cantor and Congregation (Chancel choir sings echo):



O God, I call to you, come to me



now; O hear my voice when I



cry to you. Let my prayer rise



up like in cense be - fore you, the



lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to



you. Keep watch with - in me, God;



deep in my heart may the light of your love be



burn - ing bright. Let my prayer rise



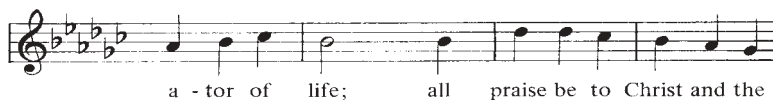
up like in - cense be - fore you, the



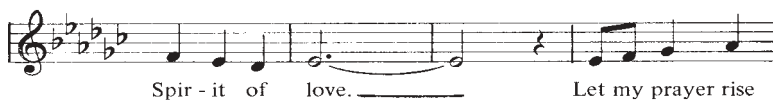
lift-ing up of my hands as an of-fer-ing to



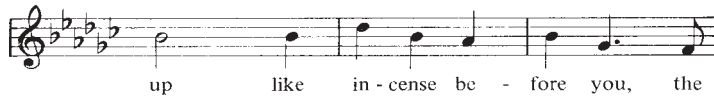
you. All praise to the God of all- Cre-



a - tor of life; all praise be to Christ and the



Spir - it of love. Let my prayer rise



FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

A reading from Isaiah.

Whereas the Israelite community, defined by early legal traditions, was expected to live the righteous and obedient life, the prophet makes a new announcement: now righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community. In other words, commitment to the Lord makes a person a member of God's people—not race, nationality, or any other category.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

A reading from Romans.

As a Jewish Christian, Paul is dismayed that other Jews have not believed in Jesus as their Messiah. In his letter to the Romans, he discusses whether these Jews remain the chosen people of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

** **GOSPEL VERSE** (spoken)

Alleluia. The Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Alleluia. (Heb. 4:12)

**** HOLY GOSPEL**

Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be pagan and unclean approaches him for help.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MEDITATION

**** HYMN 359 LBW (green hymnal)**

In Christ There is No East or West

**** PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (spoken)**

Prayers are included for the whole Church, the nations, those in need, the parish and special concerns. The minister gives thanks for the faithful departed, especially for those who recently have died.

Gathered, enlightened, and empowered to serve, let us pray for the church, the nations, and all people seeking God's mercy and care.

God of love, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers, holy God, and give us all we need for this day and the days to come, through the power of the Holy Spirit and in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**** PEACE**

The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

OFFERTORY

(Please place your offering in the offering plate located on the shelf in the Narthex. Thank you.)

We ask that our members complete a green card and our visitors a gold card and leave them in the offering plate in the narthex. Cards are located in the pew racks. Thank You.

- ** **GREAT THANKSGIVING** (spoken)
 (Please gather around the Communion Rail with your green hymnal.)
 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 him thanks and praise.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

- ** **LORD'S PRAYER** (spoken) (personal option - holding hands)
 Let us 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.

HOLY COMMUNION - Receiving the Lord's Tangible Presence

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ shed for you. Communicant may say **Amen.**

BLESSING (spoken)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **Amen.**

- ** **BLESSING** (sung)

The image shows musical notation for a blessing. It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff is divided into two parts: 'Leader' and 'All'. The lyrics for the first staff are 'Let us bless our God: praise and thanks to you.' The second staff is for the 'Presider' and has the lyrics 'May God, Cre - a - tor bless us and keep us, may'.

Christ be ev - er light for our lives, may the
 Spir - it of Love be our guide and path, for
 all of our days. _____
 A - - - - - men.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music in a single system. The first three staves contain the main melody with lyrics underneath. The first staff has the lyrics "Christ be ev - er light for our lives, may the". The second staff has "Spir - it of Love be our guide and path, for". The third staff has "all of our days. _____". The fourth staff is a separate line of music, starting with a fermata over the first measure, and has the lyrics "A - - - - - men." underneath it. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat).

** HYMN 559 LBW (green hymnal)

Oh For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

POSTLUDE

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