

Augustana Lutheran Church

2100 New Hampshire Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20009

SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2008



It is the purpose of Augustana Lutheran Church to engage as many persons as will share its confession of faith in a fellowship of worship, learning, witness and service that the Word of God in Jesus Christ may become effective in their lives together and individually and relate effectively in Christian concern and love to the geographic community within which the Church is located.

We welcome all friends and visitors this morning to Augustana Lutheran Church,
a congregation “Reconciled in Christ” that has been racially integrated since 1954.

Please sign the guest register in the narthex and fill out the attendance registration booklet
located in the pews. Join us for hospitality in the Parish Hall following the service.

We invite you to be an active participant in the worship of God as you are able.
Note that the peoples’ responses in the liturgy are indicated by **bold type**.

The music of the Eucharistic Liturgy is found in the front of the hymnal..



Servants at God’s Altar

Celebrant and Preacher	The Rev. John S. Kidd
Deacon I	Patricia Richter
Deacon II	Rebecca Roth
Lector	Courtney Allen
Organist	Dr. J. Thomas Mitts
Soloist	Betsy Miller
Crucifer	Randell Laughlin
Bookbearer	Carolyn Gist
Torchbearers	Chantella Agbro Monique Agbro
Ushers	
Altar Guild	Alice Anderson Joyce Byamungu Walguti
Tellers	Mary Andoh John McKirgan
Hospitality Hosts	Judi and Mike Bucci Amy Yergey

**TIME AFTER PENTECOST
LECTIONARY 16**

July 27, 2008

10:30 a.m.

THE PREPARATION AND ENTRANCE RITE

Voluntary

Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

J. S. Bach

As the bells are rung, the Congregation stands and turns to face the Baptismal Font.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity,
one God, the source of life,
the word of salvation, the spirit of mercy.

Amen

Silence is kept for reflection

God of compassion,
**we confess that we have failed to bear witness
that you desire to draw all people to yourself.
In our hearts we have thought ill of those who differ from us,
and our love of others has not been genuine.
We have been caught up in the cares of the world.
We have neglected opportunities to welcome the stranger,
to feed the hungry, and to mend broken relationships.
Forgive our sins, merciful God,
that our hearts may burn with love for you and for those in need,
and that our lives may witness to your never-failing love for your creation.**

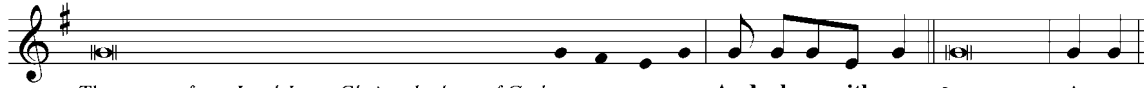
Amen

Brothers and sisters, buried with Christ by baptism into his death, your sins are forgiven. The death Christ died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also, by the power of the Holy Spirit, are dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. **Amen**

Hymn, No. 842

Oh, Worship the King

Apostolic Greeting and Prayer of the Day



*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,* **And al-so with you.** *Let us pray ... A-men.
be with you all.*

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

The Congregation is seated.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson

Genesis 29:15-28

Psalm 105:1-10



Give thanks to the LORD and call up- | on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD a- | mong the peoples.

Sing to the | LORD, sing praises,
and speak of all God's | marv'lous works.

Glory in God's | holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the | LORD rejoice.

Search for the strength | of the LORD;
continually | seek God's face.

Remember the marvels | God has done,
the wonders and the judgments | of God's mouth,

O offspring of Abra- | ham, God's servant,
O children of Jacob, God's | chosen ones.

The LORD is our God, whose judgments prevail in | all the world,
who has always been mindful of the covenant,

the promise made for a thousand | generations:
the covenant | made with Abraham,

the oath | sworn to Isaac,

which God established as a statute for Jacob,
an everlasting covenant for Israel,
saying, "To you will I give the land of Canaan
to be your allotted inheritance." | Hallelujah!

Second Lesson

Romans 8:26-39

The Congregation stands.

Gradual Hymn, No. 516

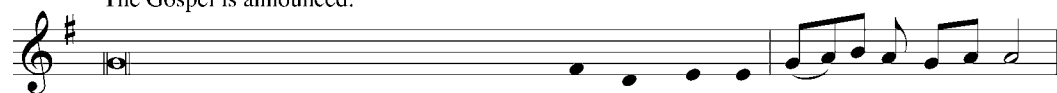
Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

Stanzas 1-2.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The Gospel is announced:



The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thir-teenth chap-ter. Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

After the Gospel is read:



The Gos - pel of the Lord. Praise — to you, O Christ.

Hymn, No. 516

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

Stanzas 3-4.

Sermon

The Congregation stands.

Hymn of the Day, No. 589

All Depends on Our Possessing

Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 the People

Each petition concludes with one of the following responses.

Hear us, O God; **Your mercy is great.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Sharing of Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The Congregation is seated.

Solo

If God Be for Us

G. F. Handel

The Congregation stands.

Offertory Hymn, No. 467

We Place upon Your Table, Lord

Offertory Verse and Prayer

The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young, by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Happy are they who dwell in your house! They will always be praising you.

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**

The Great Thanksgiving – Setting Five, page 161

The Distribution of the Blessed Sacrament

All Christians are invited to receive the Sacrament.

Non-communicants are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

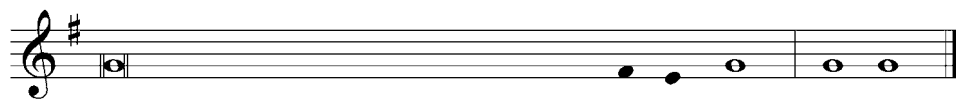
Hymn, No. 781

Children of the Heavenly Father

THE POST-COMMUNION

The Congregation stands.

Eucharistic Blessing



The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **A - men**

Nunc dimittis



I leave, as you have prom-ised, Lord, in peace and glad - ness.



Mine eyes have seen their great re-ward, and gone is sad - ness.



This is the Sav - ior of the world, the joy of Is - ra - el.

Post Communion Prayer

O God, our provider, you nourish us with holy food and drink, and you open our hearts to the needs of others. Refresh us with your Spirit, that our words and deeds may proclaim your creative and life-giving Word, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Benediction

Dismissal

Go in peace. Welcome others as Christ has welcomed you.

Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Concerns of the People

In our prayers, let us include the following:

+ **Members:** Josephine Allen; Louise Anderson; Kevin Canfield, Celia Davenport; Herman Davis, Sr.; Dorothy Gladney; Julia Reed, Craig Shireman, Don Werner.

+ **Friends and Family:** Jeffrey Berry (Bob & Alice Anderson); Connie Boorer (Hunter); Ruby Brooks (Anthony); Melissa & Kevin Brown (Larisch); George Cahill (Pizza) the Cahill family (Fenton); Sean Castilla (Laughlin); (Teresa Cross (Knauff); Jerry Custer (Bowers); Mindy Davis (Isbell); Elvera Desmond (Julfs); Beverly Anderson Fauser (Louise Anderson; Patricia Franks (Knauff); Pat Frohman (Hunter); Betty Grady (Werner); Keeva Harmon (Burton); Leona Harper (Knauff); the Rev. Jane Henderson (Schilke); Irma Holderbein (Heinemeier); Denise Kellam (Bucci); Sara Kepple (Richter); Jennifer Kileo (Hart); Kate and the Rev. Luther Knauff (Knauff); Richard Larisch (Larisch); Ann Lockwood (Werner); Samantha Lopez (Kahler-Larson); Celeste Lotz (Knauff); Adelaide Lusambilli (Markle-Elder); Bill Lynch (Hunter); Jan McGurty (Larisch); Ken Merritt (Hunter); William Moon (Wassum); Bruno Muzzi (Markle-Elder); Chris Nelson (Burch-Nelson); Christopher Palermo (Williams); Grace Patterson (Burton); Josephine Pizza (Pizza); Carrie Reynolds (Knauff); Veronica Richardson (Knauff); Marvin Safrit (Anderson/Bowell); The Sharp family (Hart); Robert Shelton (Arrington) Janet Spleen (Jaeger); Caleb Richter-Tate (Richter); Diana Tate (Richter); Jim Tate (Richter); Nancy Telford (Richter); Marty Wagner (Hart); Cay and John Wiant (Larisch); Jeff Whisenant (Bonds); Joleita Yurchak (Roth-Renne).

Names remain on the prayer list for four weeks and may be renewed by notifying the office.

+ **In Christian Joy** with former members Mike Carson and Ron Steigerwalt who will be married on Sunday, August 10, 200 at First Lutheran Church in San Diego, CA. If you would like to send them a card or note, please call the office for their address.

Gifts to the Glory of God: Today's flowers are given to the Glory of God by Kevin Canfield and Robert Bennett.

Herman Davis, Sr. has been moved from ICU to a medical ward. Cards and notes can be sent to him as follows: Herman Davis, Sr., Washington County Hospital, Room 3018, 251 East Antietam Street, Hagerstown, Maryland 21740.

The Augustana Young Adults group, in anticipation of a summer barbeque, is looking for a small, light grill they could transport to church for use on the evening of August 3rd. If you have one to lend, please send an email to Jacqueline at jmnader@gmail.com or call her at (919) 623-0387.

We are looking for Volunteers for Martha's Table on August 2nd and September 6th. Members of Augustana provide food to homeless people on the first Saturday of the month. If you would like to help, please contact Amy Yergey at (301) 370-3854 or ayergey@yahoo.com

-- Today, July 27, 2008 -- The Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost --

Nursery Program: 10:30 – Noon – Nursery

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of the Month Food Collection: Our Social Ministries Committee will be collecting food items for the Augustana/Santa Maria Food Pantry. The need is great, please be generous.

Borg Book Study: Led by the Rev. James Heinemeier, this group is reading and discussing Borg's book entitled Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time. They meet monthly on the fourth Sundays of the month in the Library at 12:30. Contact Jim Heinemeier at 301/605-7050 or

ISHJTH@hotmail.com.

-- Events this Week--

Saturday, August 2nd: There will be a Thurifer training session at 10:00 a.m. for everyone wanting to be a Thurifer. All those currently serving as Thurifers are urged to attend as well. For more information contact either Fred Bowell or Doug Anderson.

-- Next Sunday, August 3, 2008 – Pentecost 12 --

Nursery Program: 10:30 – Noon – Nursery

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Lessons: Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14: 13-21

Hospitality Hour Hosts: Lynn Fischer, Alan Fox, LeeAnn Hart

All Committees Meet – meeting rooms to be assigned next week.

BBQ for the “Young Adults” of Augustana Lutheran Church: Please join us starting by the red doors at Augustana and moving over to Meridian Hill Park after we get done grilling on August 3rd at 7:00 p, for this very special event. Come and enjoy the company, get to know others from Augustana, and take part in the feast! If you would like to help, you can bring a side dish to share, but it's not required. Please RSVO via email to Augustana-young-adults@googlegroups.com by August 1st! We hope to see you there.

-- Upcoming Events and Misc. Announcements --

Sunday, September 7, 2008: "Land and Promise" a conference co-sponsored by the , Metro DC Synod ELCA and the Washington Chapter of the American Jewish Committee and the Episcopal Diocese of Washington is set for 2 to 8 p.m. Sept. 7 at the Cafritz Conference Center, Marvin Center, George Washington University. Keynote speakers will be Rabbi David Rosen, International Director of Interreligious Affairs (AJC), and the Rev. Peter Pettit, Director of the Institute for

Jewish-Christian Understanding, Assistant Professor of Religion Studies, Muhlenberg College.
Register at jewishlutheranconference@gmail.com.

July 27, 2008

TIME AFTER PENTECOST — LECTIONARY 17

INTRODUCTION

In baptism God promises that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith, ancient yet ever new. In today's gospel Jesus offers images from everyday life that reveal to us the reign of God. It is like a tree that becomes a safe and sheltering home, like yeast that penetrates and expands, like a treasured pearl, like a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

FIRST READING: Genesis 29:15–28

The young shepherd Jacob met his match in the old shepherd, Laban, his father-in-law. Laban gave Jacob his older daughter, Leah, when he had promised to give him Rachel. Jacob worked fourteen years to earn his favorite wife, Rachel, but the years seemed like a few days because of his love for her.

Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" ¹⁶Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. ¹⁸Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." ¹⁹Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." ²⁰So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

²¹Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." ²²So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. ²³But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. ²⁴(Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) ²⁵When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" ²⁶Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. ²⁷Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." ²⁸Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26–39

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very

Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31–33, 44–52

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.

[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Augustana Lutheran Church

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Dr. J. Thomas Mitts, Organist and Choir Director

William R. Riggs, Administrative Officer

Marcial Pacheco, Building Maintenance Supervisor

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