

All Saints Lutheran Church

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity
August 23, 2026

Faith Comes from Hearing

A man who was deaf and therefore also had an impediment in his speech was brought to Jesus (Mark 7:31–37). In the same way, all are by nature deaf toward God and therefore also unable to confess the faith rightly. For "*faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ*" (Rom. 10:9–17). Jesus put His fingers into the man's ears, and He spat and touched His tongue. Even so in Holy Baptism, water sanctified by the words of Jesus' mouth is applied to us; and the finger of God, that is, the life-giving Holy Spirit (2 Cor. 3:4–11) is put into our ears in the hearing of the baptismal Gospel. Jesus' sighing "*Ephphatha*" opened the man's ears, and his tongue was loosed to speak plainly as Isaiah prophesied of the Messiah, "*In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book*" (Is. 29:18–24). So also, He who sighed and breathed His last on the cross for us has given us to hear and believe in Him and has opened our lips that our mouths may declare His praise.

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN
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Rev. Jeffrey Ware, Pastor
Joshua Pauling, Vicar, Headmaster
Dr. Patricia Parker, Director of Music

Communion at All Saints

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. It is important, therefore, that those who come to the Lord's Table trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Scripture also teaches that Holy Communion is a confession of faith. Those who receive the sacrament together show forth their unity in Christ, that is, a unity of heart and mind accomplished when all who commune together believe the same doctrine and are at peace with one another.

Scripture teaches that those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and that Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar. Therefore, we, along with the historic Christian church, practice *Closed Communion.* Any who are not communicant members of All Saints, or another congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, are asked to speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper. Those not receiving communion are invited to come forward during communion to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest and bow your head, and the pastor will give you a blessing; and know that we would love to share more with you about our teaching and practice.

Prayers of preparation and thanksgiving for receiving the Lord's Supper are found in the LSB hymnal on p. 308.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15–35; 26:26–29; John 17:20–23; 1 Corinthians 11:17–34.

Divine Service 3

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

831 "How Shall They Hear," Who Have Not Heard



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Introit

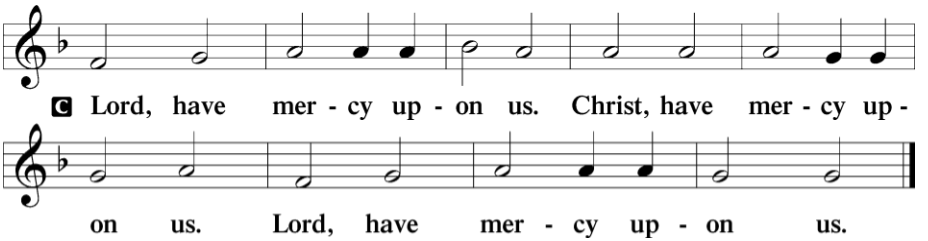
Psalm 70:2b, 4a, 5b; antiphon: vv. 1–2a



Make haste, O God, to de- | liver me!*
O LORD, make haste to | help me!
Let them be put to shame and con- | fusion*
who | seek my life!
Let them be | turned back*
and brought to dishonor who de- | sire my hurt!
May all who seek | you rejoice*
and be | glad in you!

You are my help and my de- | liverer;*
O LORD, do | not delay!
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
Make haste, O God, to de- | liver me!*
O LORD, make haste to | help me!
Let them be put to shame and con- | fusion*
who | seek my life!

Kyrie



Gloria in Excelsis





Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Almighty and merciful God, by Your gift alone Your faithful people render true and laudable service. Help us steadfastly to live in this life according to Your promises and finally attain Your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 29:17–24

17 Is it not yet a very little while
until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field,
and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest?
18 In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book,
and out of their gloom and darkness
the eyes of the blind shall see.
19 The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD,
and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.
20 For the ruthless shall come to nothing
and the scoffer cease,
and all who watch to do evil shall be cut off,
21 who by a word make a man out to be an offender,
and lay a snare for him who reproves in the gate,
and with an empty plea turn aside him who is in the right.

22 Therefore thus says the LORD, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob:

"Jacob shall no more be ashamed,
no more shall his face grow pale.
23 For when he sees his children,
the work of my hands, in his midst,
they will sanctify my name;
they will sanctify the Holy One of Jacob
and will stand in awe of the God of Israel.
24 And those who go astray in spirit will come to understanding,
and those who murmur will accept instruction."

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Psalm 34:1–2



I will bless the LORD at | all times;*
his praise shall continually be | in my mouth.
My soul makes its boast | in the LORD;*
let the humble hear | and be glad.

Epistle

2 Corinthians 3:4–11

4Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. 5Not that we are sufficient
in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, 6who has
made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For
the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

7Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such glory that the
Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an
end, 8will not the ministry of the Spirit have even more glory? 9For if there was glory in the
ministry of condemnation, the ministry of righteousness must far exceed it in glory. 10Indeed,
in this case, what once had glory has come to have no glory at all, because of the glory that
surpasses it. 11For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what
is permanent have glory.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

Psalm 81:1





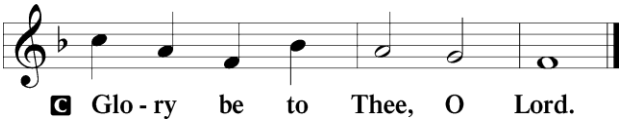
Sing aloud to | God our strength;*
shout for joy to the God of | Jacob.



Holy Gospel

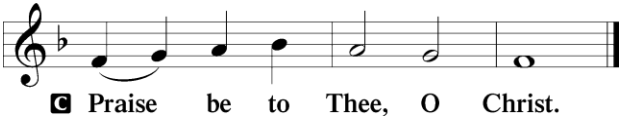
Mark 7:31–37

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.



[31][Jesus] returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in
the region of the Decapolis. [32]And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech
impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. [33]And taking him aside from the
crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. [34]And
looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." [35]And his
ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. [36]And Jesus charged them to
tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. [37]And they
were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the
deaf hear and the mute speak."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



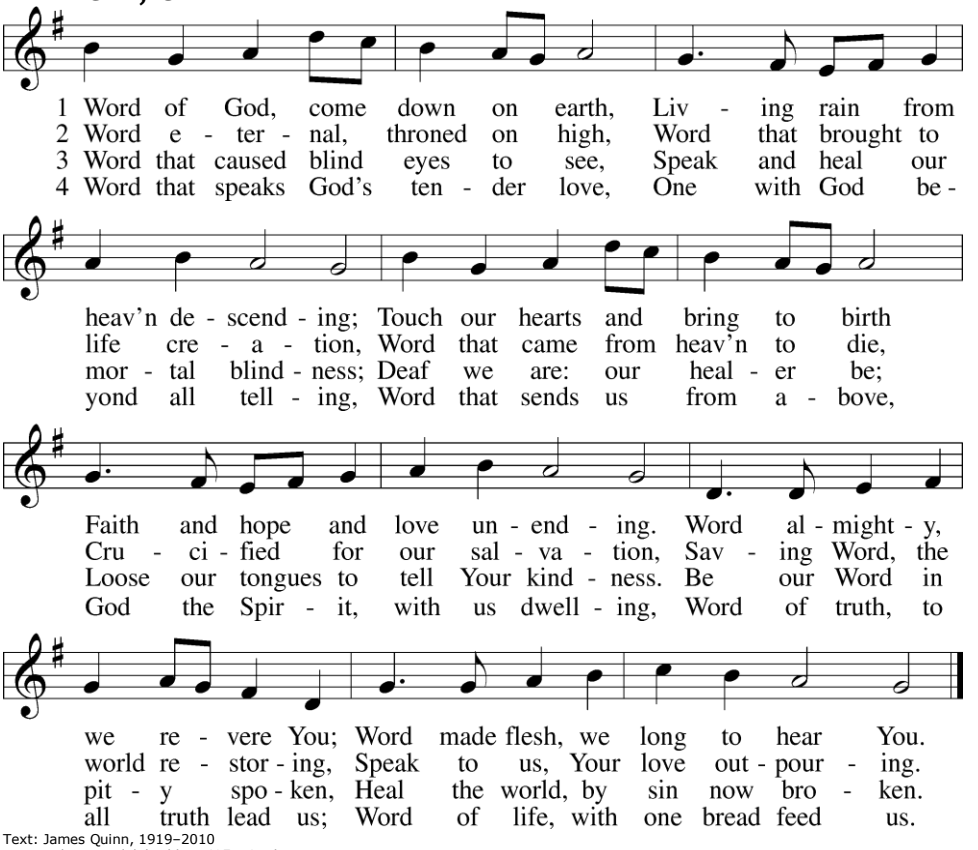
Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

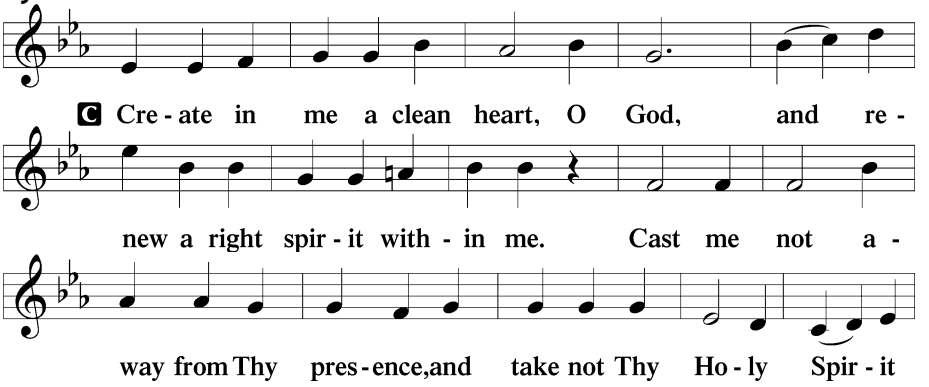
545 Word of God, Come Down on Earth



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Sermon

Offertory



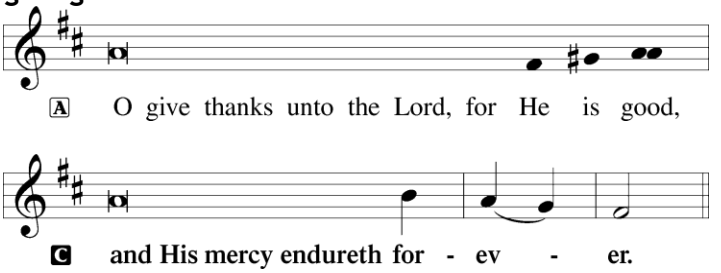


Prayer of the Church

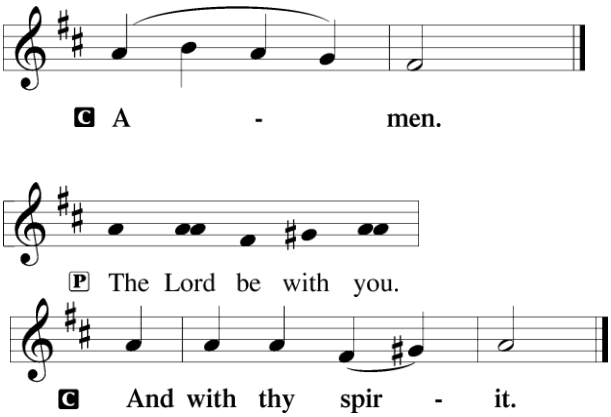
Nunc Dimittis



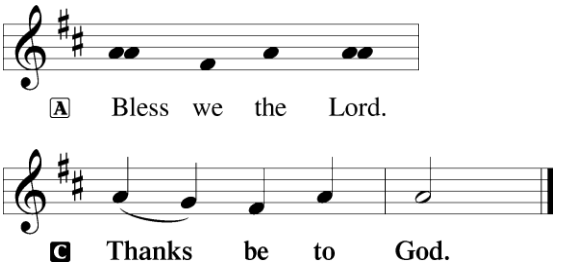
Thanksgiving



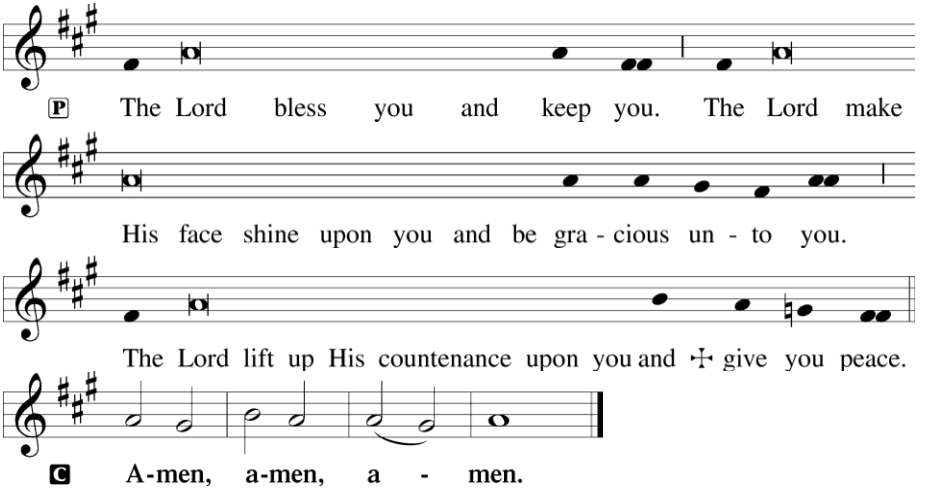
P Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benedicamus



Benediction



846 Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old



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Tune: English; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958, alt.
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Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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