

# HOLY COMMUNION



*The treasure of the kingdom*  
August 8, 2010 + 10:00 a.m.

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*Central - in the heart of the city, welcomes all people to celebrate, discover and share the love of Christ*

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***As head of this household, Christ is the waiter who serves his children***  
*Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning — to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part today in assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.*

*The Holy Spirit gathers  
us in unity  
on the first day  
of the week, the day of  
Christ's resurrection*

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

*"Aria on a Chaconne"*

*Joel Martinson*

*At the sound of the carillon the assembly stands,  
turns and faces the baptismal font at the entrance.  
All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,  
as the presiding minister begins.*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** We gather together in the name of the Father,  
the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**All** Amen.

**P** Sisters and brothers,  
bear up one another in love,  
maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace,  
seek reconciliation in Christ's name.  
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*silence is kept for reflection*

**P** Holy and gracious God,

**All** **we confess that we have not led a life worthy of our calling.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;**

**we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We have not acted according to your will.**

**We have grieved your Holy Spirit.**

**Have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us according to the riches of your grace.**

**Make us holy and blameless before you in love,**

**so that we might live to the praise of your glory. Amen.**

**P** In the mercy of almighty God...

**All** Amen.

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

(hymn) 823

“Praise the Lord! O Heavens”

**GREETING**

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**A** And also with you.

**HYMN OF PRAISE**



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** ...through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**A** Amen.

*God speaks to us in  
scripture reading,  
preaching,  
and song*

*God promises childless Abram (later called Abraham) that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise and through this faith, he is considered righteous.*



## WORD

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*Children are invited to come forward; parents are welcome to come with their children.*

### FIRST READING

*God's promise of a child*

Genesis 15:1-6

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup> But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup> He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup> And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

The word of the Lord

**AI** Thanks be to God.

### PSALM

Psalm 33:12-22

*Let your lovingkindness be upon us, as we place our hope in you. (33:22)*

**L** Refrain

**AI** Refrain



**L** Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD!  
Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!  
The LORD looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.  
God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.  
God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.

**AI** Refrain

**L** A king is not saved by the size of the army,  
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.  
The horse gives vain hope for victory;  
despite its great strength it cannot save.  
Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD,  
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,  
to deliver their lives from death,  
and to keep them alive in time of famine.

**AI** Refrain

**L** Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD, our helper and our shield.  
Surely, our heart rejoices in you,  
for in your holy name we put our trust.  
Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us,  
even as we place our hope in you.

**AI** Refrain

*Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God need in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future.*

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup> By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup> For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup> By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old — and Sarah herself was barren — because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup> Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

<sup>13</sup> All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup> for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

The word of the Lord

**AI** Thanks be to God.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 24:42, 44

*The assembly welcomes the Gospel, singing the ALLELUIA before and after the cantor sings the verse.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**L** *Keep awake and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.*

*The assembly repeats the ALLELUIA.*

### GOSPEL

*The treasure of the kingdom*

Luke 12:32-40

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**AI** Glory to you, O Lord.

*Jesus says:* “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup> Sell your possessions, and give alms.

Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.

<sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup> Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup> be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they

*Jesus encourages his followers to recognize the true value of God's kingdom so that their hearts may be where their real treasure lies. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.*



may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks.

<sup>37</sup> Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup> But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The gospel of the Lord.

**AD** Praise to you, O Christ.

#### SERMON

Pastor Rick Nelson

"Fear Not"

*silence for reflection*

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

*(hymn) 771*

"God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens

#### APOSTLES' CREED

**A** We have been made God's people through our Baptism into Christ.  
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**AD** 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,  
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

**A** With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus,  
let us pray for the church, those in need,  
and all of God's creation.

*after each petition:*

Lord in your mercy,

**AD** hear our prayer.

**P** Receive these our prayers, O God,  
and give us all that we need for this day and the days to come.  
In Jesus' name we pray.

**AD** Amen.

God feeds us  
with the presence  
of Jesus Christ

# MEAL

## PEACE

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**AI** **And also with you.**

*The assembly is invited to share God's peace with one another.*

## GATHERING OF GIFTS

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. During this time, the table is set. After the offering is gathered, bread, wine, money, and other gifts are brought forward. The assembly stands as the procession reaches the chancel.*

*"O Rest in the Lord" from Elijah*

*Felix Mendelssohn*

*O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for him,  
and he shall give thee thy heart's desires.*

*Commit thy way unto him, and trust in him,  
and fret not thyself because of evil doers.*

*O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for him,  
and he will give thee thy heart's desires.*

*O rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him.*

## Offertory Prayer

**A** Let us pray together.

**AI** **Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things.**

**Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts.**

**With them we offer ourselves to your service**

**and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you  
have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us,**

**Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

**P** The Lord be with you.

**AI** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**AI** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**AI** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... join their unending hymn:





*All are invited to receive these  
gifts of God.*

*Children are welcome to receive  
communion or a blessing.*

*Communion at this service is served  
standing by individual chalices.  
Please follow the direction of the  
ushers to a communion station.*

*You are invited to kneel following  
communion if you desire.*

*Grape juice and gluten-free bread are  
available upon request.*

*God blesses and sends us  
in mission to the world*

*The presider continues with the Great Thanksgiving concluding:*

**Lord's Prayer** (1975)

**AI** 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.

**Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to the Table**

**P** The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Communion**

**Hymn**

(hymn) 488

"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"

*stanza 1 - all; 2 - solo; 3 & 4 - all, in harmony*

**Prayer after Communion**

**P** O God, we give you thanks  
that you have set before us this feast,  
the body and blood of your Son.  
By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need  
and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**AI** Amen.

*silence for reflection*

## SENDING

**BLESSING**

**AI** Amen.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN**

(hymn) 624

"Jesus, Still Lead On"

**DISMISSAL**

*Please face the processional cross for the dismissal.*

**A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**AI** Thanks be to God.

*The carillon sends the assembly into mission.*

*Please exit the north doors for fellowship on the north plaza.*

**POSTLUDE**

"Passacaglia"

Gordon Young

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## SERVING TODAY



Pastor D. Foy Christopherson *presiding*  
Pastor Rick Nelson *preaching*  
Brad Boogren *assisting minister*  
Erica Doss *reader*

Jane Lien *associate cantor/organist*  
Laura Holst *soloist*  
Mark Brodin *sound operator*

Richard Stegall *sacristan*  
Shirley Dahl *crucifer*  
Dave Dahl *radio announcer*  
Donald Moe, Susan & Tom Jorgensen *lead ushers*

Shirley Dahl, Deanne & Leon Tibben,  
Barb Hoernemann *communion ministers*

Larry Peterson & Lois Steer,  
Bob & Phyllis Whitney *hosts and greeters*



**Chancel flowers today** are given by the Floral Guild. If you wish to donate flowers contact Gloria Hahn at 952-545-6109 ten days in advance.

**Sunday worship** is broadcast locally on WDGY 740 AM at 11 a.m.; or listen online from anywhere at [wdgyradio.com](http://wdgyradio.com). To sponsor a Sunday morning radio broadcast or refreshments in honor or memory of a loved one or a special occasion, contact Barbara Brown at 612.767-9210.

## SENDING OF COMMUNION FROM THE ALTAR-TABLE



Occasionally, after everyone has communed, you will see members of our Caring Ministry Team come to the altar to receive small packages. This is the bread and wine of communion being sent out to those of our assembly who cannot be with us... the homebound, the hospitalized, and others.

Our sending prayer is:

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care:  
As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth from this assembly bearing your word and sacrament. Nourish and strengthen all who share in this communion, that through the body and blood of your Son all may know the comfort of your abiding presence. Amen.

To join this ministry contact the church office.

## WORSHIP LIFE

### *No Fear*

"No Fear" is a piece of scripture co-opted by corporate America. Nike commercials tout star athletes and inspirational amateurs willing to do what it takes to excel and then go a step further. Congregations, on the other hand, have the reputation of being fearful of conflict and slow to change. If you listen to the words of Jesus, it is the church, not business, that should be showing no fear in its mission. Dressed for action, we should be ready to serve and ready to give up all for the sake of serving and meeting Jesus at an unexpected hour. Today is a day to motivate and revive listening members to be active disciples. While this passage is often used to focus on wealth and materialism, take the day to talk about getting into action.

There are several aspects of the call to "no fear" that can be emphasized for the day: no fear in being active in the life of the mission of the congregation; no fear in serving in one's community; no fear in serving through one's vocation; and, yes, no fear in giving one's money. Lutherans have been characterized as shy and unassuming people, but this Sunday is an occasion to bring out the boldness of Reformation Lutherans: Here we stand; we can do no less—and also, Here we go; we can do so much more.

## Discovering Central's Heritage

*Special summer presentations by the Docent Ministry Team*



### **Today**

Discovering Central's musical heritage.  
Fifteen minute visual presentation followed by Q & A.  
Held in the sanctuary following worship.

### **August 15**

Discovering Central's history & sanctuary.

### **August 22**

Discovering Central's artistic heritage.

**Just visiting? Stay connected!** You are invited to join *Friends of Central*. All across the country - and beyond - many people have a spot in their hearts for Central Lutheran - people who are members of congregations elsewhere but who feel a connection both to our history and our ongoing mission. Join *Friends of Central* by visiting our website, or drop us an e-mail.

**Want to know more?** Visit Central's website for the latest word in our life together. The website is your source for the most current calendar. Missed a sermon? Want to hear it again? Go to the audio sermon archive. There's also a bulletin archive, newsletter archive and lots of interesting facts about our life together. Visit [www.centralmpls.org](http://www.centralmpls.org).

## WELCOME!



**Everyone is welcome.** As a community of the people of God, the members of Central Lutheran Church are called to welcome all people regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ “there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male or female” (Galatians 3:28). Christ has made us one.

**Guests are welcome.** We are pleased you are worshiping with us today. We invite guests to complete the “Welcome to Central” card found in the pew racks and leave it with an usher or place it in the offering plate. If you would like more information about Central, please contact us at 612-870-4416, or email [info@centralmpls.org](mailto:info@centralmpls.org).

**Children are welcome** at all services. Worship bulletins for children and activity bags are available at sanctuary entrances. If you would prefer to use Central’s nursery (available for children ages four and younger), you will find it up the steps from the information desk at the south entrance (across from the fellowship hall). An usher or greeter will be glad to assist you.

**Welcome to the Lord’s Table.** All are welcome at the Lord’s Table. Please follow the guidance of the ushers and instructions in the order of service. During communion, ministers will bring bread and wine to persons in designated access seating areas. If you are not in a designated access seating area and desire to commune where you are seated, please notify an usher who will direct communion ministers to come and serve you. Communion may be received in one kind (only bread or only wine) from any station if wheat bread or alcohol presents a health concern. Gluten-free breads and alcohol-free wine are available by request at most liturgies from most communion stations.

**We envision** becoming a thriving, vibrant model of urban Lutheran ministry for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This lofty vision requires us to ask each day if our goals for worship, learning, and service are clearly reaching a diverse neighborhood and city in language and action that reflect the world as well as our heritage.



Large print service folders,  
assisted listening devices, and access seating  
are available to aid your participation in worship.  
Please inquire with an usher.





**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

*Grace abounds.*

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**CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*in the heart of the city, welcomes all people  
to celebrate, discover and share the love of Christ*  
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