



June 16, 2024

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost



The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

Good Morning and Welcome!

If you are an online worshiper or guest today, please leave a record of your time with us online. Thank you!

[Online Guest Form](#)

7740 HIGHWAY 72 W | (256) 721-0041 | MLUTHERAN.ORG

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

** Please stand as you are able*

Please use the Chicago Folk Service booklets on the pages where indicated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*INTERLUDE

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God’s abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,

help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God’s mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

Amen.

“Chicago Folk Service”
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*HYMN “Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”



1 Al-might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
 2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,



now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.
 but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
 but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.
 that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775-1852, alt.
 Music: ST. FLAVIAN, J. Day, *Psalter*, 1562

***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

***KYRIE "Deacon's Prayer"**

Chicago Folk Service, p. 10-11

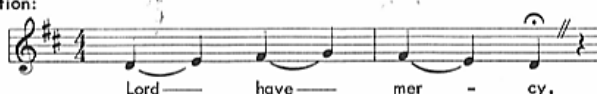
Leader: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:



Leader: For the peace that is from above and for our resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:



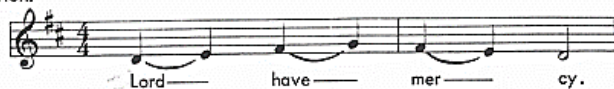
Leader: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the people of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:



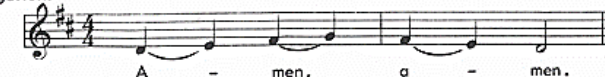
Leader: For this holy place and for those who in faith, devotion, and fear of God offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation:



Leader: Help, save, strengthen and defend us, O God, by your grace.

Congregation:



*CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Chicago Folk Service, p. 5

Glo-ry be to God on high, praise to you most
 Ho - ly! O Lord God, Heav'n - ly King
 God the Fa - ther Al - might - y! O Lord God,
 Lamb of God, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther:
 Christ who takes a - way our sin, have mer - cy up -
 on us. For you on - ly Lord, O Christ,
 with the Ho - ly Spir - it, are most high
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
 Glo - ry be to God on high! A - men.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

FIRST READING

Ezekial 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

THE PSALM

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

¹It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to your name, O Most High;

²to herald your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night;

³on the psaltery, and on the lyre, and to the melody of the harp.

⁴For you have made me glad by your acts, O Lord; and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

¹²The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, and shall spread abroad like a cedar of

Lebanon.

¹³Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God;

¹⁴they shall still bear fruit in old age; they shall be green and succulent;

¹⁵that they may show how upright the Lord is, my rock, in whom there is no injustice.

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Bonnie Flowers

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Chicago Folk Service, p. 6

Refrain
Sing praise to the Lord, all the earth!

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! fine

Play mu - sic to praise his name!

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! (VERSE)

*GOSPEL READING

Mark 4:26-34

²⁶[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

³⁰He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of

all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY “Your Grace Is Enough”

#38

$\text{♩} = 116$

G G/B C Em

1. Great is Your faith - ful - ness, O God; You wres - tle with
 2. Great is Your love and jus - tice, God of Ja - cob; You use the weak

6 G/B C G G/B C

the sin - ner's rest - less heart. You lead us by still wa - ters in - to mer - cy
 to lead the strong. You lead us in the song of Your sal - va - tion.

12 Em G/B C Am

and noth - ing can keep us a - part. So, re - mem - ber Your
 and all Your peo - ple sing a - long.

18 G/B Cmaj7 D Em D G/B C

peo - ple, re - mem - ber Your chil - dren, re - mem - ber Your prom - ise O God.

Song Continues on Next Page →

CHORUS 1

G D Em7 C G D

Your grace is e - nough, Your grace is e - nough Your grace is e - nough, for me.

PRE-CHORUS

1 2 3

C D.S. Am G/B

Your Re - mem - ber Your peo - ple, re -

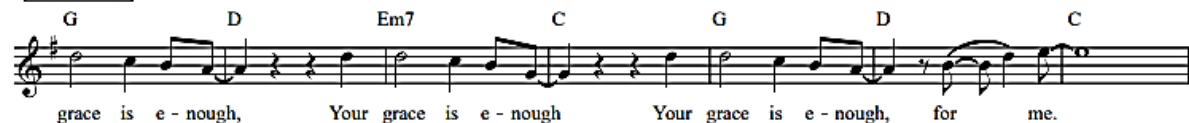
17 Cmaj7 D Em D/F# G C



mem - ber Your chil - dren, re - mem - ber Your prom - ise O God. Your

CHORUS 1

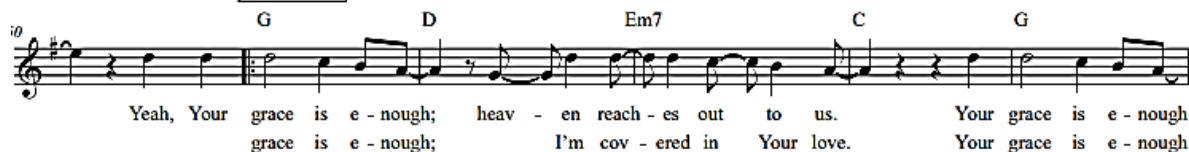
G D Em7 C G D C



grace is e - nough, Your grace is e - nough Your grace is e - nough, for me.

CHORUS 2

10 G D Em7 C G



Yeah, Your grace is e - nough; heav - en reach - es out to us. Your grace is e - nough
grace is e - nough; I'm cov - ered in Your love. Your grace is e - nough

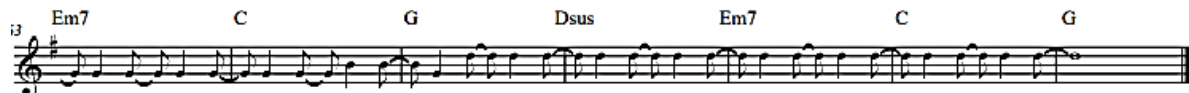
16 D C C G Dsus

ENDING



for me. God, I sing: Your for me. _____
for me, _____

13 Em7 C G Dsus Em7 C G



*Creed (written by 2024-2025 Confirmation Classes)

I believe in God, who created everything.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the son of God. Jesus was born of Mary and the Holy Spirit. He suffered on earth, was nailed to a cross and died for our sins. On the third day Jesus rose to new life. Jesus now rules, side by side with God and will return to judge both the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the church unified in Christ, that our sins are forgiven and the promise of eternal life. Amen.

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God, receive our prayer.

*THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.

OFFERING: "Your Great Name" (Neale and Nordhoff)

Band

*Presentation of Gifts "Create in Me"

Chicago Folk Service, p. 11-12

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O,
God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. —
Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence and
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. — Re -
store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -
hold me with your spir - it free. — Cre -
ate in me a clean heart, O — God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. —

The musical score is written on eight staves in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It includes lyrics and musical notation with various ornaments and repeat signs.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life,

you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty.

Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

*THANKSGIVING

Chicago Folk Service, p. 12

Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation:



1b

And with you, too.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation:



1c

We lift them up to God.

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord.

Congregation:



2

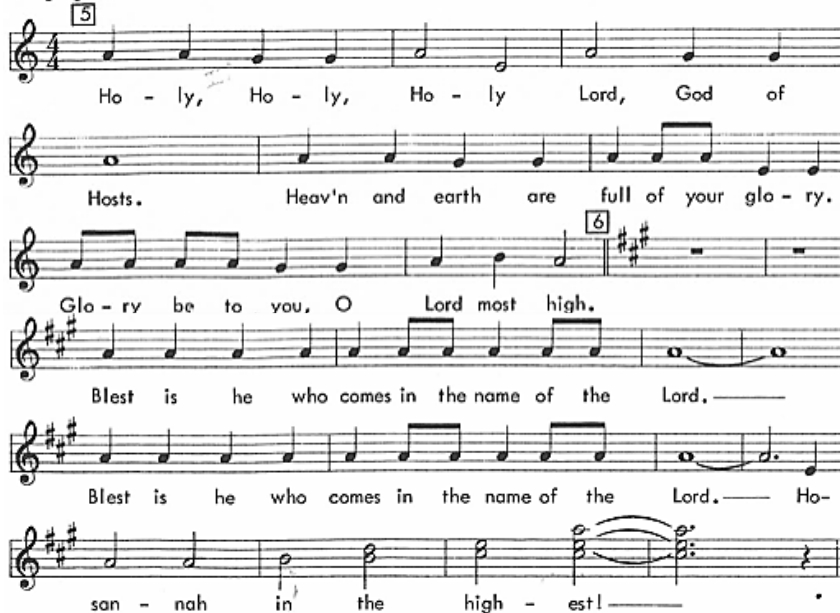
It is good and right to do.

*SANCTUS

Chicago Folk Service, p. 13

It is truly right and proper...evermore praising you and saying:

Congregation:



3

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of
Hosts. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Glo - ry be to you, O Lord most high.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord. — Ho -
san - nah in the high - est!

6

*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

*THE 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

Christ, O Lamb of God, who takes a - way the
 sin of the world, - have mer - cy on us.
 Christ, O Lamb of God,
 who takes a - way the sin of the world, have mer-cy on
 us. Christ, O Lamb of
 God, who takes a - way the sin of the world, -
 give us your peace.

DISTRIBUTION

HYMN "For the Fruit of All Creation"

ELW 679



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYDY NOS, Welsh traditional

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Hymn “One Church”

Leader: Lord, we have your peace.

Congregation:

2

Lord, we have your peace.

3

Lord, we have your peace. Lord, we have your
peace. Just as you said we have heard it,

Just as you lived we have felt it. Lord we have your

4a

peace. Sus - tain us in your peace, O Lord, as we

go to our sep - rate worlds. Keep this peace with

4b

us as we try to love in our trou - bled worlds.—

5

—

6

Send us forth in peace.

Send us forth in peace to be a light to show your

beau - ty for - ev - er. —

*BLESSING

*SENDING SONG "We Know That Christ Is Raised"

ELW 449



1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.
2 We share by wa - ter in his sav - ing death.
3 The Fa - ther's splen - dor clothes the Son with life.
4 A new cre - a - tion comes to life and grows



Em - braced by death, he broke its fear - ful hold,
Re - born, we share with him an Eas - ter life,
The Spir - it's fis - sion shakes the church of God.
as Christ's new bod - y takes on flesh and blood.



and our de - spair he turned to blaz - ing joy.
as liv - ing mem - bers of our Sav - ior Christ.
Bap - tized, we live with God the Three in One.
The u - ni - verse re - stored and whole will sing:



Hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932
Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852-1924
Text © John B. Geyer.

*DISMISSAL

*POSTLUDE "Little Organ Prelude in G" (JS Bach)

WE REMEMBER IN THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH TODAY

Content Redacted

THE FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God in thanks for our 42nd anniversary by Laura Peterson.

ALL ARE INVITED to enjoy coffee and fellowship after service in the Fellowship Hall.

A NURSERY, staffed by Sarah Walker, is through the double doors in the Narthex leading to the Sunday School classrooms. Newborns, toddlers, and children up to Pre-K are welcome.

***** SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGE continues through July 28. MLC will have a single Sunday morning Service of Worship at 9:30 a.m. with fellowship after the service.** Adult Sunday School groups will meet at 8:30 a.m. and choir rehearsal at 9:00 a.m.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024 “WAVES OF GRATITUDE” is June 17 - 20 at St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church for children ages 4 through completed 5th Grade. An optional light dinner is available at 5:30 p.m. and VBS is from 6 to 8 p.m. To register visit, St. Matthew’s site at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/aazpcna> POC: Bonnie Flowers.

SIGNUP GENIUS FORM ANNOUNCED FOR OWENS HOUSE DINNER SERVER VOLUNTEERS

More team members are being sought to help fill the 4-5 server slots needed on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month from 4:45 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. at the DRM facility for assisting homeless women with children. Downtown Rescue Mission’s new volunteer hub makes it easier than ever to get onto the roster. No advanced in-person training required. For information, visit the signup at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0849A4AA2FA0F49-50046933-owens#/> or contact the new coordinator, Beverly Berry.

CHILDREN’S SERMON SIGNUP GENIUS FORM If you feel called and gifted to prepare these short, child-friendly messages on the day’s Gospel text, answer that call and sign up using the new site. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0849A4AA2FA0F49-48455481-children#/> If you have further questions, please reach out to Bonnie at education_rep@mlutheran.org

WOMEN OF THE ELCA 36th Annual Convention of the Southeastern Synod “Created to Shine Like Stars” will take place in Huntsville, AL Friday, September 20th—Sunday, September 22nd at the Huntsville Embassy Suites. Pastor Kris will serve as convention chaplain. For more information or to register follow www.seswelca.weebly.com, talk to Pastor Kris, or see display on welcome center.

KIT MINISTRY ITEM - Rice Mixes **FOOD PANTRY** - Pens (Blue or Black—No Gel)

| | | | |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| <u>Pastor</u> | Kristine Schroeder | <u>Acolyte</u> | |
| <u>Director of Music</u> | Randall Fields | <u>Greeters</u> | Rick & LeeLinda Baggett |
| <u>Organist/Accompanist</u> | Melanie Payne | <u>Lector</u> | Lee Smith |
| <u>Communication & Tech Director</u> | Meredith Kilby | <u>Ushers</u> | Mark Thompson, Bruce Machamer |
| <u>Office Managers</u> | Bobbey Huwaldt | <u>Stream Team</u> | Danny Hopkin, Lee Seitz |
| | Meredith Kilby | <u>Altar Guild</u> | Janet Smith |
| <u>Nursery Attendant</u> | Sarah Walker | <u>Flower Guild</u> | Linda Heideman |

Pastor Kris Schroeder

Email: pastor.kris@mlutheran.org

Pastor’s Office Hours are M-W

Members will never be directly solicited for funds or to purchase gift cards by a staff or council member.

****CHURCH CALENDAR****

Sunday, June 16

8:30 a.m. - Adult Sunday School - Room 11/12

10:30 a.m. - Summer Fellowship Coffee

Monday, June 17

5:30 p.m. - Vacation Bible School@ St. Matthews Episcopal

Tuesday, June 18

5:30 p.m. - Vacation Bible School@ St. Matthews Episcopal

Wednesday, June 19 - Church Office Closed

5:30 p.m. - Vacation Bible School@ St. Matthews Episcopal

Thursday, June 20

5:30 p.m. - Vacation Bible School@ St. Matthews Episcopal

6:30 p.m. - Kit Ministry

Saturday, June 22

9:00 a.m. - Council Retreat

Sunday, June 23

8:30 a.m. - Adult Sunday School - Room 11/12

9:00 a.m. - Choir Rehearsal

9:30 a.m. - *Service of Worship: Bread of Life w/the Lord's Supper

10:30 a.m. - Summer Fellowship Coffee

**These services are live streamed on mlutheran.org*

LOOKING AHEAD

June 24 - MOM's (Men of Messiah) @ Back Forty Brewing POC Adam Ballard

June 27 - Call Committee Meeting

July 16 - 20 - ELCA National Youth Gathering (New Orleans)

July 16 - Worship Music Committee Meeting

August 6 - Rally Day -Sunday School Resumes for Pre-K to Grade 12

September 20 - Women of ELCA SE Synod Annual Convention

Attendance:

June 2 - Online - 114 June 9 - 198

Offerings Counted June 9, 2024

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Church Ministries | \$4,743.00 |
| Capital Investment Fund | \$580.00 |
| Senior Youth (National Gathering) | \$50.00 |
| Flowers | \$30.00 |
| Messiah Mugs | \$48.50 |
| Music Camp | \$1,632.00 |
| Disaster Relief Trip | \$100.00 |
| Owen's House | \$10.00 |

MESSIAH'S PRAISE BAND & STREAM TEAM

Ric Birdsong - Guitar
Gerry Meyers - Vocals
Matt Saari - Drums
Melanie Payne - Keyboards
Stephen Strand - Bass
Paul Zutter - Sound

SignUp Genius



Online Giving

