

9:30 AM Celebration Worship Service



July 19, 2026



Welcome to all, especially visitors! It is no accident that you are here! We've been praying for you. We believe God has brought you here and wants to touch your life. You are among friends.



If you are visiting, please sign in on our guest sign in sheet in the Narthex Hallway.



At our 9:30 AM service: words for the hymns are projected on the screens at the front of the sanctuary.



For the hearing impaired: hearing devices are available in the Narthex outside the sanctuary. ELC now has a wifi enabled Assist System. This will allow you to follow along with the service using your personal hearing aids. If your hearing aids are paired to your smartphone, please scan the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store QR code to download the waveCast app. Please see the tech team if you need any assistance.



Google Play Store



Wifi ELC Hears



Apple App Store



Restrooms: To locate a restroom, exit the back of the worship area. Take two rights and proceed down the hallway. At the stairs, go left. The Women's Room is on the left, the Men's Room is straight ahead.



Holy Communion at ELC: We welcome to the Lord's Table all the baptized people of God. Gluten free options and grape juice are available.



Nursery: We have a fully staffed nursery for infants through children six years of age or children of any age with special needs. The nursery opens at 9:15 AM on Sunday morning for our 9:30 AM worship service. The nursery is equipped with a pager system to help parents feel at ease. There is also a private nursing room for those who wish you use it.



Photo Release Form: Our 9:30 am AM service is live-streamed to our Facebook Page and YouTube Channel. All children coming to the front for the Children's Message or Holy Communion will be visible on the live-feed. If you do not want your child's image online, please do not send them up to the front. If you are ok with it, please fill out a Photo Release Form located on the sign-up table in the Narthex and put it in the offering box.



Reserved Seating: Please keep the reserved seats open for people with disabilities and their family members. Thank you!



Background Checks: Mandatory background checks have been completed for all of our Nursery & Children's Ministry Volunteers.

July 19, 2026

The Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Once the prelude starts, we ask you to take an opportunity to quiet your mind and heart, helping to create a reverent and welcoming atmosphere for worship.

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY SHARING

TEMPLE TALK

Stewardship

Todd Rankin

Please Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

P Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

C Amen.

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

FIRST READING

Romans 8:12-25

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God's children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

L The word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgement will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew the 13th Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away.²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well.²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’²⁸ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’²⁹ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them.³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Roxanne Cecco

SERMON

Pastor Drahus

Please stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ELW 693

THE APOSTLES CREED

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



Members of Our Congregation: Gary & Bobbi Biesecker, Don Cool, Cindy Hahn, Ellen Hess, Bill Kipe, Vic Martin, Karla Oller, Paula Kline, Art Koenig, Lena Rowe, and Carolyn & Lamar Sease.

Friends of the Congregation: Hilda Carey, Kevin Carey, Ron Cordell Sr., Barbara Dutton, Elijah Ford, Robyn Haskins, Terry L'Heureux, Jordan Kefauver, Debra Lensbower, Jonathan Mensch, Miner, Amanda Morningstar, Kristy Murphy, Larry Parks, Bob Schwoyer, Spahnolgtli Family, and Liane Tressler.

(Names will be posted for a month.

If you would like to have them on longer, please contact the church office.)

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please be seated

SPECIAL MUSIC

Shall We Gather at the River
Al Good

Please stand

MEAL

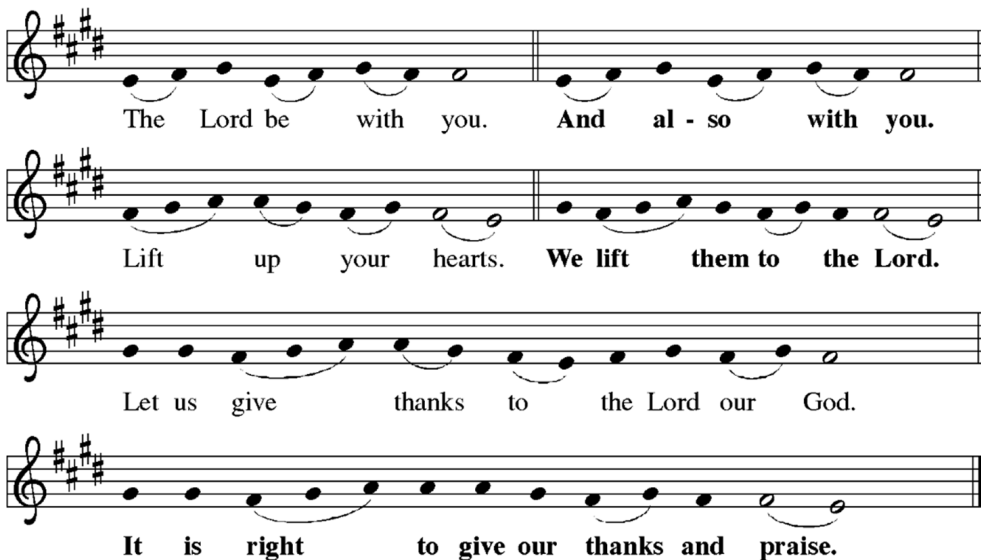
OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C Amen.

*Thank you for your continuous support of ELC ministries. Your generosity is making a difference. Please place your offering in one of the boxes at the entrance to the Sanctuary.
You are a blessing!*

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

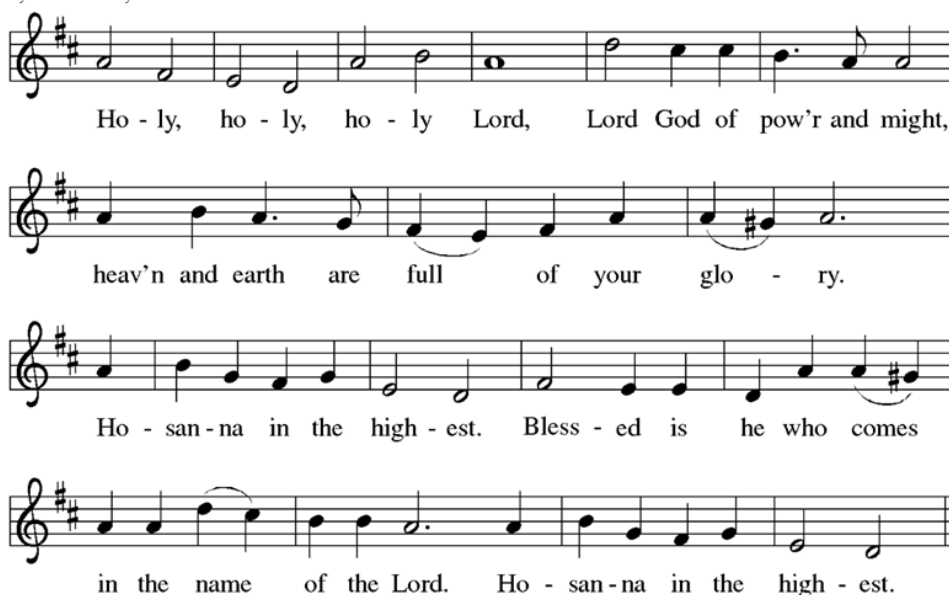
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The second staff also has a double bar line after the first measure. The third and fourth staves end with double bar lines. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

Please be seated

COMMUNION SONG



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION

At the direction of the ushers, please come forward to receive Holy Communion. We welcome to the Lord's Table all the people of God. Gluten free options and grape juice are available. After receiving the bread and wine, you may kneel at the altar for a quiet prayer, or you may return to your seat. After all have returned to their places, the presiding minister will invite the assembly to stand for a table blessing.

Please stand

TABLE BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray. Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C Amen.

Please stand

SENDING

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

Great is Thy Thankfulness

ELW 733

DISMISSAL

P Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS	
Acolyte	Graeme Murray
Altar Guild	Karen Walker & Roxanne Cecco
Assisting Minister	Pam Wagaman
Audio Visual	Brian Walker & Sawyer Hegedus
Children's Message	Roxanne Cecco
Children's Worship	Sue Mason
Communion Asst.'s	Nancy Mace & Janey Jenkins
Flower Delivery	Ellie Bauerle
Greeters	Janey Jenkins (W) Open (C)
Lector	Jeff Mace
Nursery Helper	Aubrey Cordell
Ushers	Team A

Mission Statement

Gathering in Community, Growing in God's Word, Going in Service for Christ.



In memory of Ellie Bauerle's husband, Robert, & her sister, Mary Plaumann, on their birthdays, by Ellie.

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Staff:

Rev. Drahus Oslik: Pastor
Rev. Rosalie Brunner: Associate Pastor
Deborah L. Zacher: Director of Music and Organist
Becky McDonald: Business Manager
Hayley Martz: Office Secretary & Children's Ministry Coordinator
Andy Rovelstad: Treasurer
Bobbi Kelso: Youth Director
Karen Walker: Contemporary Worship Team Leader
Cathy Robinson: Housekeeper
Emily Cordell: Nursery Caretaker