

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

August 23rd, 2026



MARTIN LUTHER
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
St. Louis, MO
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Cover: “Healing the Deaf Mute” from the Church Postil of Martin Luther, 1563.

THE COMMON SERVICE

Hymn ----- Oh, Sing to the Lord

CW 252

1. Oh, sing to the Lord; make a jubilant noise!
Glory be to God!
Oh, serve him with joy; in his presence now rejoice!
Sing praise unto God out of Zion!
2. Not we, but the Lord is our Maker, our God;
Glory be to God!
His people we are, and the sheep led by his rod;
Sing praise unto God out of Zion!
3. Oh, enter his gates with thanksgiving and praise;
Glory be to God!
To bless him and thank him our voices we will raise;
Sing praise unto God out of Zion!
4. For good is the Lord, and his mercy is sure;
Glory be to God!
To all generations his truth shall still endure;
Sing praise unto God out of Zion!

Stand.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.



CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie

C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: A - men.

The musical notation consists of a single staff with a melody for the word 'Amen'. The lyrics are written below the notes.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Glory be to God

Gloria in Excelsis



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of



God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;



you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,



are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

Be seated.

THE WORD

First Lesson ----- Isaiah 29:17-24

Isn't it true that in a very short time

Lebanon will be turned into a fertile field,
and the fertile field will seem like a forest?

On that day, the deaf will hear the words from a

book,

and out of gloom and darkness the eyes of the
blind will see.

The humble will rejoice in the LORD once again,

and the poor will delight in the Holy One of Israel.
But the ruthless will come to nothing.
Those who mock will be no more,
and all those who plan evil will be cut off—
all those who slander others with a word,
all those who argue cases at the city gate,
all those who use false testimony to deprive the
innocent of justice.
Therefore this is what the LORD, who redeemed
Abraham,
says about the house of Jacob:
Jacob will not be ashamed anymore.

His face will not grow pale.
But when his children see what I do among
them,
they will honor my name.
They will honor the Holy One of Jacob.
They will stand in awe of the God of Israel.
Those who are confused will come to
understand,
and those who complain will gladly receive
instruction.

Psalm of the Day ----- Psalm 78

CW p.95

Refrain

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

O my people, hear my teaching;
listen to the words of my mouth.

I will utter things from of old,
what we have heard and what our fathers have told us.

We will not hide them from our children;
we will tell the next generation
the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD.

Refrain

The LORD decreed statutes for Jacob
and established the law in Israel,

so the next generation would know them,
and they in turn would tell their children.

Then they would put their trust in God*
and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Second Lesson ----- 2 Corinthians 3:4–11

Such is the confidence we have through Christ before God. Not that we are competent by ourselves to claim that anything comes from us; rather, our competence is from God. He also made us competent as ministers of a new testament (not of letter, but of spirit). For the letter kills, but the spirit gives life.

If the ministry that brought death (which was engraved in letters on stone) came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look directly at the

face of Moses because of the glory of his face (though it was fading), how will the ministry of the spirit not be much more glorious? For if the ministry that brought condemnation has glory, the ministry that brought righteousness has even more glory. In fact, in this case, what was glorious is no longer very glorious, because of the greater glory of that which surpasses it. Indeed, if what is fading away was glorious, how much more glorious is that which is permanent!

Verse of the Day

Isaiah 25:9

M: Alleluia. Look, here is our God! We waited for him, and he saved us! Let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation! Alleluia.



Stand.

Gospel ----- Mark 7:31–37

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

Jesus left the region of Tyre again and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, within the region of the Decapolis.

They brought a man to him who was deaf and had a speech impediment. They pleaded with Jesus to place his hand on him. Jesus took him aside in private, away from the crowd. He put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. After he looked up to

heaven, he sighed and said, "Ephphatha!" (which means "Be opened!") Immediately the man's ears were opened, his tongue was set free, and he began to speak plainly. Jesus gave the people strict orders to tell no one, but the more he did so, the more they kept proclaiming it. They were amazed beyond measure and said, "He has done everything well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak!"

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Nicene Creed

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated.

Hymn of the Day ----- Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old

CW 520

1. Your hand, O Lord, in days of old Was strong to heal and save;
It triumphed o'er disease and death, All darkness and the grave.
To you they came, the blind, the dumb, The paralyzed and lame,
The lepers in their misery, The sick with fevered frame.
2. Your touch then, Lord, brought life and health,
Gave speech and strength and sight;
And youth renewed and frenzy calmed Revealed you, Lord of light.
And now, O Lord, be near to bless, Almighty as before,
In crowded street, by beds of pain, As by Gennes' ret's shore.
3. Oh, be our great deliv'rer still, The Lord of life and death;
Restore and quicken, soothe and bless, With your life-giving breath.
To hands that work and eyes that see Give wisdom's healing pow'r
That whole and sick and weak and strong May praise you evermore.

Sermon ----- Mark 7:31-37

Healing from Jesus Who Does All Things Well

Stand.

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

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 free Spir - it. A - men.

Be seated.

Offering

Stand.

Prayer of the Church

*The minister offers the petitions and the congregation joins with **"hear our prayer."***

Online giving option:
mluther.org/give



*Offerings support the spread
of the Gospel here and around the world.*

- M: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- M: O Lord, You gather us by the work of Your Spirit and dwell in our midst by Your Means of Grace for the sake of Your Son. Open our mouths to tell of Your name and declare Your praises to all who will hear. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

- M: Heavenly Father, bless Your Church, Jerusalem on high, who is our mother in Christ until Christ is fully formed in us. Bless all pastors, that they may be faithful stewards of Your mysteries, and guide all who bring the message of salvation to those who have not heard. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: O God, You have given Your Church as a home to all nations. Through Holy Baptism, You welcome them to be Your chosen people. Gather all those who have wandered from Your grace, and enrich our own homes with the joy of reconciliation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Merciful Lord, grant that all nations and leaders might act for peace; promote godliness among all; and protect all who live under violence, oppression, injustice and fear, that all people might extol You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Father in heaven, Your Son healed the senses of many and opened them to Your grace. Bless [_____ and] all in need of health, and draw them nearer to Him in faith. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Almighty God, bless all who will partake this day of Christ's most precious body and blood in the Sacrament of the Altar. Give them discernment of His body, that they would come to His table in humility and faith to receive the forgiveness of sins and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: O Lord, we give thanks and praise to You for those who have died trusting in our Savior and sharing in His endless life. Grant that we may also receive our portion with the saints in light. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the mar-

riage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus

C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san -

na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -

na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

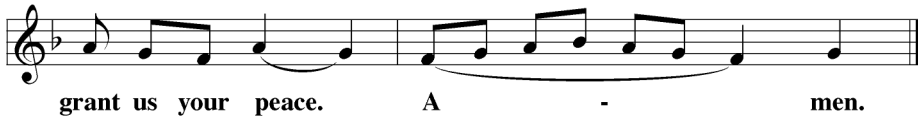
The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O Christ, Lamb of God

Agnus Dei

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

In Holy Communion we believe that Jesus gives us his own body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask that, in keeping with God's Word, only confirmed members who are in confessional unity with our church (WELS and ELS) would come forward to receive this sacrament. If you have any questions or are interested in communicant membership, please speak with the pastor.

During the distribution, the congregation sings the following hymns:

Hymn ----- If God Himself Be for Me CW 419

1. If God himself be for me, I may a host defy;
For when I pray, before me My foes, confounded, fly.
If Christ, my head and master, Befriend me from above,
What foe or what disaster Can drive me from his love?
2. This I believe, yea rather, Of this I make my boast,
That God is my dear Father, My friend who loves me most,
And that, whate'er betide me, My Savior is at hand
Through stormy seas to guide me And bring me safe to land.
3. I build on this foundation: That Jesus and his blood
Alone are my salvation, My true, eternal good.
Without him all that pleases Is valueless on earth;
The gifts I have from Jesus Alone have priceless worth.

4. He canceled my offenses, Delivered me from death;
He is the Lord who cleanses My soul from sin through faith.
In him I can be cheerful, Courageous on my way;
In him I am not fearful Of God's great Judgment Day.
5. No sin can now condemn me Or set my hope aside.
Now hell no more can claim me; Its fury I deride.
No sentence now reproves me; No guilt destroys my peace,
For Christ, my Savior, loves me And shields me with his grace.
6. No danger, thirst, or hunger, No pain or poverty,
No earthly tyrant's anger Shall ever vanquish me.
Though earth should break asunder, You are my Savior true;
No fire or sword or thunder Shall sever me from you.
7. My heart for joy is springing And can no more be sad,
'Tis full of joy and singing, Sees only sunshine glad.
The sun that cheers my spirit Is Jesus Christ, my King;
The heav'n I shall inherit Makes me rejoice and sing.

Hymn ----- Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

CW 234

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear Now to his temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!
2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen All that is needful has been
Sent by his gracious ordaining?

3. Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.
What need or grief Ever has failed of relief?
Wings of his mercy did shade you.
4. Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew What the Almighty can do
As with his love he befriends you.
5. Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the Amen Sound from his people again;
Gladly forever adore him!

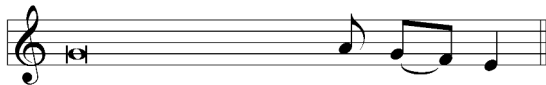
After the distribution is finished the congregation stands and sings:

Song of Simeon

Nunc Dimittis

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing
to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-
pared be - fore the face of all people, a light to light - en the
Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



C: And his mercy endures for - ev - er.

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

Be seated.

Hymn ----- I Will Sing My Maker's Praises

CW 253

1. I will sing my Maker's praises And in him most joyful be,
For in all things I see traces Of his tender love for me.
Nothing else than love could move him With such deep and tender care
Evermore to raise and bear All who try to serve and love him.
All things else have but their day; God's great love abides for aye.

2. He so cared for and esteemed me That the Son he loved so well
He has given to redeem me From the quenchless flames of hell.
O my Lord, the Spring of blessing, Could somehow my finite mind
Of your love the limit find, Though my efforts were unceasing?
All things else have but their day; God's great love abides for aye.
3. All that for my soul is needful He with loving care provides,
Nor of that is he unheedful Which my body needs besides.
When my strength cannot avail me, When my pow'rs can do no more,
Then will God his strength outpour; In my need he will not fail me.
All things else have but their day; God's great love abides for aye.
4. Since there's neither change nor coldness
In God's love that on me smiled,
I now lift my hands in boldness, Coming to you as your child.
Grant me grace, O God, I pray you, That I may with all my might,
All my lifetime, day and night, Love and trust you and obey you
And, when this brief life is o'er, Praise and love you evermore.

