

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

August 3, 2025

GATHERING: *God invites us to enter His presence*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP *(Time for Silent Preparation)*

 **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(Responsively)*

Jim Fox

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.
**Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before him with joyful songs.**
Know that the LORD is God.
It is he who made us and we are his;
we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise;
give thanks to him and praise his name.
**For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.**
—Psalm 100, NIV

 **INVOCATION** *(Responsively)*

Jim Fox

Sing praises to God, O you saints,
and give thanks to God's holy name!
We exalt you, O God, for you have restored us to life!
We may cry through the night, but your joy comes with the morning.
You hear us, O God, and you are gracious in our distress.
You turn our mourning into dancing!
Our souls cannot be silent!
O God, our Savior, we give thanks to you forever! Amen.

 **OPENING HYMN 1** *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

CONFESSING: *God invites us to be honest with Him*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jim Fox

We know that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.
—based on Romans 8:39

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jim Fox

O God of shalom, we have built up walls to protect ourselves from our enemies,
but those walls also shut us off from receiving your love.
Break down those walls. Help us to see that the way to your heart
is through the reconciliation of our own hearts with our enemies.

Bless them and us, that we may come to grow in love for each other and for you, through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jim Fox

God demonstrates his own love for us in this:
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
Since we have now been justified by his blood,
how much more shall we be saved
from God's wrath through him!

—Romans 5:8-9, NIV

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.
A-men, A-men*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You

All: And also with you

OFFERING: *Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him*

INVITATION With thankfulness we give in gratitude and joy. With prayerfulness we give in sacrifice and love. With hopefulness we give in commitment to God.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Blessed Assurance
Dennis Leshner, Juliana Leshner*

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions—signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us—Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

PREPARATION HYMN 151 *Good Christian Men Rejoice*

PROCLAIMING: *God speaks to us through His Work*

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 9:24-27, Hebrews 12:1-2

²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵ Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

SERMON

"Run with Jesus"
Rev. Dr. Dennis Leshner



SONG OF RESPONSE

Behold the Lamb (See Screen)

RESPONDING: *We respond to God's Word*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise!

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Leader: For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you
proclaim the Lord's death until He comes Again!

People: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come



PROFESSION OF FAITH *(Apostle's Creed, In Unison)*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and buried;
He descended into hell;
The third day he rose from the dead;
He ascended into heaven,
And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.

COMMISSIONING: *God sends us out into the world as His witnesses*

 **COMMISSION HYMN 228** *Rejoice, the Lord is King*

BENEDICTION & BLESSING

POSTLUDE

 *Please stand if you are able.*