



2025 LCMS YOUTH GATHERING

HEBREWS 12:1-3

JULY 19-23, 2025; NEW ORLEANS, LA

Faith Lutheran Church  
Naples, Florida

# 11<sup>th</sup> Weekend after Pentecost

August 23 & 24, 2025

*Divine Service, Setting Three, Page 184*

## AS WE GATHER

*The word discipline is derived from the Latin word discipulus, which means “learner.” One of the most interesting documents found among the Dead Sea Scrolls, discovered at Qumran in the Holy Land in 1947, is called The Manual of Discipline. It outlined the expectations for new members joining the Essene sect of Jewish men at the time of Jesus. As part of their community’s discipline, they were to have evidence in their lives of faithfulness to God, to show justice toward all people, and to love truth and hate falsehood. Their behavior was to reflect that discipline whatever age they were. As our God’s beloved sons and daughters, we are under His loving discipline. May we continue that blessed learning through all the seasons of our lives!*

## · PRELUDE

## · ANNOUNCEMENTS

## · MOMENT FOR MINISTRY (11:00)

LCMS Youth Gathering

## | CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*(The congregation stands at the ringing of the bell.)*



1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,  
 2 This day at earth's cre - a - tion The light first had its birth;  
 3 This day, God's peo - ple meet - ing, His Ho - ly Scrip - ture hear;  
 △ 4 That light our hope sus - tain - ing, We walk the pil - grim way,



O balm of care and sad - ness, Most beau - ti - ful, most bright;  
 This day for our sal - va - tion Christ rose from depths of earth;  
 His liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, Through bread and wine made near.  
 At length our rest at - tain - ing, Our end - less Sab - bath day.



This day the high and low - ly, Through a - ges joined to bless,  
 This day our Lord vic - to - rious The Spir - it sent from heav'n,  
 We jour - ney on, be - liev - ing, Re - newed with heav'n - ly might,  
 We sing to Thee our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;



Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," The tri - une God con - fess.  
 And thus this day most glo - rious A three - fold light was giv'n.  
 From grace more grace re - ceiv - ing, On this blest day of light.  
 The Church her voice up - rais - es To Thee, blest Three in One.

## | INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**People: who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

People: **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

## Service of the Word



**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



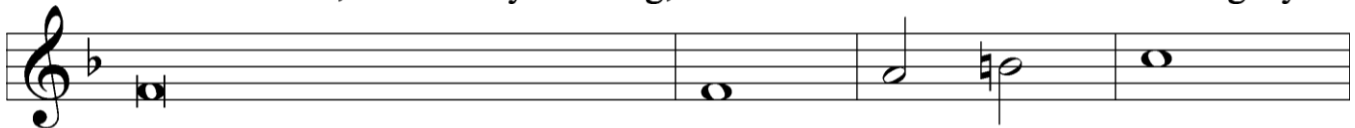
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy 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,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,

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

## **| SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

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**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Pastor:** Let us pray. O Lord, You call us to be faithful and to heed Your fatherly discipline. Preserve us by Your perpetual mercy, guide us in ways of peace and love, keep us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

## **· OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Isaiah 66:18-23

For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see My glory, and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands far away, that have not heard My fame or seen My glory. And they shall declare My glory among the nations. And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the Lord, on



horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to My holy mountain Jerusalem, says the Lord, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the Lord. And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the Lord. For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before Me, says the Lord, so shall your offspring and your name remain. From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before Me, declares the Lord.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to Go**

## **EPISTLE READING**

Hebrews 11:32–12:3; 12:12–24

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets – who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated – of whom the world was not worthy – wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. 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, 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. Consider Him who endured from sinners such hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted...Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears. For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” Indeed, so terrifying

was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

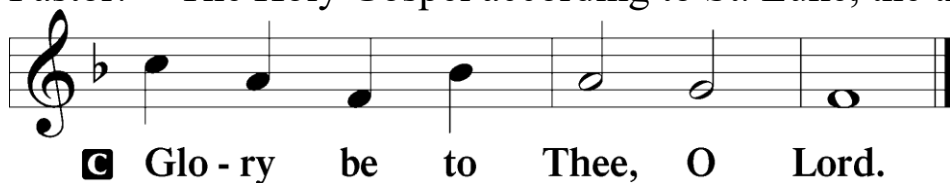
## | ALLELUIA

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## | HOLY GOSPEL

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.



Luke 13:22-30

He went on His way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. And someone said to Him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And He said to them, “Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’ But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’ In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.





1 Saints, see the cloud of wit - ness - es sur - round us;  
 2 These saints of old re - ceived God's com - men - da - tion;  
 3 They call to us, “Your tim - id foot - steps length - en;  
 4 Come, let us fix our sight on Christ who suf - fered,



Their lives of faith en - cour - age and as - tound us.  
 They lived as pil - grim - heirs of His sal - va - tion.  
 Throw off sin's weight, your halt - ing weak - ness strength - en.  
 He faced the cross, His sin - less life He of - fered;



Hear how the Mas - ter praised their faith so  
 Through faith they con - quered flame and sword and  
 We kept the faith, we shed our blood, were  
 He scorned the shame, He died, our death en -



fer - vent: “Well done, My ser - vant!”  
 gal - lows, God's name to hal - low.  
 mar - tyred; Our lives we bar - tered.”  
 dur - ing, Our hope se - cur - ing.

## SERMON

## “A Great Cloud of Witnesses”

Pastor Owen Duncan

Text: Hebrews 11:32–12:3, 12:12–24

## APOSTLES' CREED

**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 was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**



## OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

*We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.*

**Prayer Requests:** Please print prayer requests on the blue “Prayer” card and hand it to an usher during this time.

## OFFERTORY MEDITATION

*“Have No Fear, Little Flock”*

setting by Richard W. Gieseke

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

### 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.**

# Service of the Sacrament

### PREFACE (5:00)

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

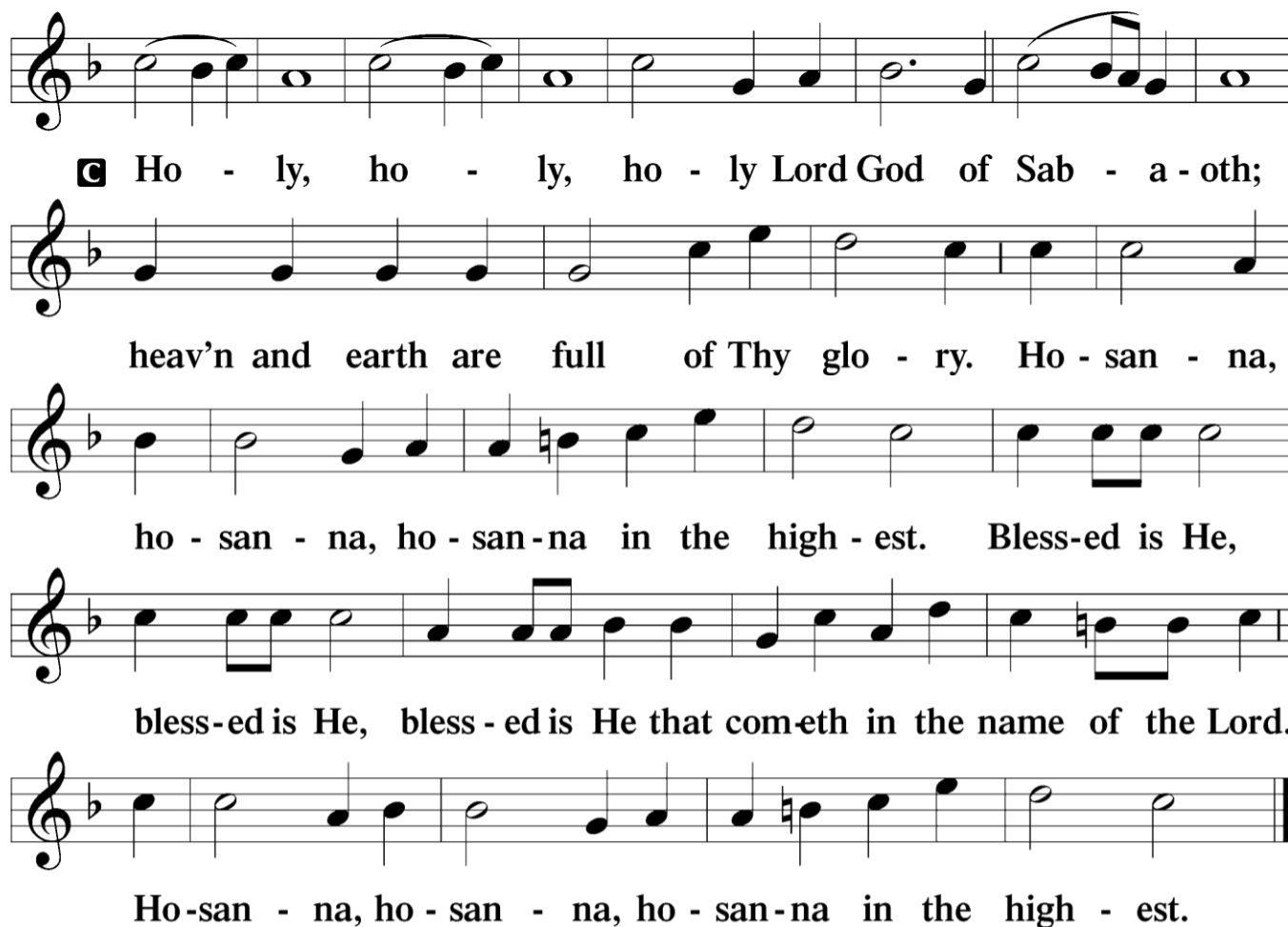
**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** We lift them to the Lord.

**Pastor:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**Pastor:** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. You have surrounded us with so great a cloud of witnesses that we may run with perseverance the race that is set before us. Therefore with Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets; all the apostles, all the evangelists, all those who have gone before us in the faith, and with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy 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 that com-eth in the name of the Lord.  
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

| **WORDS OF OUR LORD (5:00)**

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

| **PAX DOMINI (5:00)**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the

world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that

tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the

world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

### DISTRIBUTION (5:00) *(Please review our statement of faith inserted into the front of the hymnal.)*

*At this time we invite you to come up to commune. Please note that whoever takes Holy Communion here confesses the teachings of this congregation (1 Co. 11:26). If you do not agree with or do not know what we teach, you may still come to the rail—simply cross your arms as a sign that you do not wish to commune at this time and you will receive a blessing.*

### | BENEDICTION

**Pastor:** 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 in favor and ✠ give you peace.

**People:** Amen.



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -  
 4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -  
 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your  
 fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall  
 dore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His  
 dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -  
 prais - es be - fore Him! Let the A - men Sound from His



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
 might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.  
 peo - ple a - gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore Him!

## POSTLUDE

### OFFERTORY INFORMATION

“*Have No Fear, Little Flock*” is about a statement Jesus makes in the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of Luke’s gospel. Jesus has been telling the disciples not to worry. As Jesus explains, there is no need to worry because the God who nourishes and cares for the birds of the air and the lilies of the field will certainly provide everything the disciples need! And then He offers these beautiful words of reassurance: “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom” (Luke 12:32). The remaining stanzas, which speak of healing, restoration, and God’s loving presence throughout our lives, were written by a woman named Marjorie Jillson. She had multiple health issues, including a severe heart condition and lifelong struggle with thyroid disease. Knowing the difficulties Jillson endured in her life make her words all the more meaningful: “Praise the Lord high above; praise the Lord high above, for He stoops down to heal you, uplift and restore you; praise the Lord high above.”