

Sunday, August 22, 2021
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion

August 22, 2021 • 9:00 a.m. Service

WELCOME TO EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

In today's gospel many people take offense at Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus' disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John's gospel for Peter's confession of faith. "To whom can we go?" asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. "You have the words of eternal life." In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.

PRELUDE

Prelude and Fugue in C Major

J. S. Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRINITARIAN CHIMES

The assembly stands.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Please sing "Sotto Voce" (softly).

GATHERING SONG:

Blessed Assurance

ELW 638

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen..

The assembly is seated.

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

In the Near East, covenant means “agreement” or “alliance.” It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Ephesians 6:10-20


Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.

The word of the Lord.


Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel. Please sing “**Sotto Voce**” (softly).

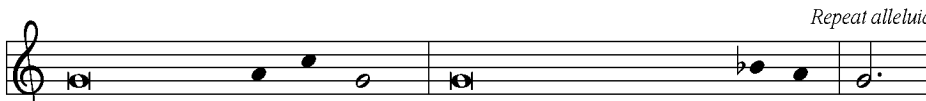
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (SUNG)



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Repeat alleluia

The holy gospel according to John, the sixth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 6:56-69

The "hard saying" that offends Jesus' disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: "To whom shall we go?"

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

Pastor Rick Bliese

A moment of silent meditation follows the sermon.

The assembly stands. Please sing "Sotto Voce" (softly).

HYMN OF THE DAY

You Are the Way

ELW 758

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.**

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(You may take your preferred posture of prayer).*

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

PEACE

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.
The peace of Christ be with you always.*

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

The assembly is seated.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

During this time, the table is set.

OFFERTORY

Blest Be the Lord
Steve Esala, soloist

Schutte

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (SUNG) *Please sing “Sotto Voce” (softly).*

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

PREFACE

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 (SUNG)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of pow’r and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

Jesus Christ is the host of this Holy Communion, in which we celebrate the Real Presence of Our Lord among us. Jesus' presence is in the sanctuary. Jesus' presence is also real in your home. Please have bread and wine available and ready (or juice). All the baptized are welcome to participate this morning in their homes during the livestream worship. Follow the presiding pastor for instructions.

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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.
Come!

COMMUNION

*When giving the bread and cup, the communion assistants in
the sanctuary and at home will say:
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond
Amen.*



The assembly stands.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Jesus, Bread of life,

we have received from your table

more than we could ever ask.

As you have nourished us in this meal,

now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.

In your name we pray.

Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.**

Please sing "Sotto Voce" (softly).

SENDING SONG

O Jesus, I Have Promised (Verses 1, 2, 4)

ELW 810

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Crown Him!

arr. Macdonald

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