

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Aaron Dawson

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 7, 2025

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS/WELCOME

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Congregation: Amen

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (pg. 56 LBW)

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Most merciful God, C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives the sins of all who trust on the merit of Jesus Christ alone. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen

P: However, to all unrepentant sinners and despisers of God, of His Words, and of His Holy Sacraments, I say from God's Word and in the name of Jesus Christ, that God has kept their sins and will certainly punish in time and eternity, so long as they, during this time of grace, refuse to turn from them and to repent. We wish them from the heart that they would repent.

C: Amen

OPENING HYMN

LBW #486 "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart"

GREETING (pg. 57 LBW)

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE (pgs. 58-59 LBW)

P: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

SALUTATION (pg. 62 LBW)

P: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you. P: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty and ever-living God, you have given great and precious promises to those who believe. Grant us the perfect faith which overcomes all doubts, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. C: Amen

FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 1

L: Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

C: but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

L: He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

C: The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

L: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

C: for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

SECOND LESSON: Philemon 1-21

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (pg. 62 LBW) **Congregation Sings: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 14:25-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 14th chapter. Congregation sings: Glory to you, O Lord. (After Gospel is read) P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S SERMON-PRESENTATION OF THE BIBLES

SERMON

Pastor Aaron Dawson

HYMN OF THE DAY

LBW #487 "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS/PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 THE PEOPLE

L: Lord, in Your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (pg. 66 LBW) **(Please rise)** **Congregation Sings:** Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER (pg. 67 LBW) *P: Merciful Father,* **C: 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**

GREAT THANKSGIVING (pgs. 68-69 LBW)

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth....as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

LORD'S PRAYER

LAMB OF GOD (pg. 72 LBW) **Congregation Sings:** Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING, CANTICLE & PRAYER (pgs. 72 LBW) **(Please rise as you are able)** **Congregation sings:** Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

BENEDICTION (Sung)

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **C: Amen**

CLOSING HYMN

WOV #651 "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
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“Welcome to worship! Today, we give thanks for the grandparents and elders who have helped shape our faith and guide our steps. Like Timothy, who learned from Lois and Eunice (2 Timothy 1:5), may we honor the ones who planted seeds of faith in us.

NEWEST PRAYER CONCERNS:

Genet Dixon Dave Overholt Karen Bruns Rich Friemel
Family of Gale Lenover

CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:

Clarence Stanfill	Martha Stanfill	Sondra Sipes	Ray Hoff
Daniel Rodriquez	Kim Wyre	Annette Carlson	Marlys Morris
Wilma Suits	Brian Dietz	Karen Flessner	Roberta Arthur
Steve Schluter	Eugene Schmidt	Tracie Sisneros	Glenn Behnke
John Keith	Pen Pendleton	Denny Doyle	Pr. Barb Busboom
Rodney Larkin	Geraldine Gorecki	Lee Briggs	Carla Adkins
Jessica Hawn	Earl Smith	Gabbi Reynolds	Ben Moser
William Benton	Steve Ritchie	Sharon Lohen	Mary Mallicoat
Nick Shepherd	Michael Markarian	Joyce Keith	Merrill Wattjes
Joan Percival	Joyce Williamson	Bob & Jenny Hobby	

NURSING HOMES/ASSISTED LIVING:

Keith Dohleman Joan Mathis Luella Loschen Loretta Overholt

MILITARY (Bolded names are known to be in an area of higher danger):

Jon Stiebner	Alex Short	Brandon Elrod	Kasey Fenimore
Levi Loschen	Ryan Falletti	Riley Falletti	Eli Baker

TABLE GUILD

ACOLYTES

GREETERS

LECTOR

PRAYER LEADER

WORSHIP STEWARD

USHERS

Emily Deal, Sheila Sherman

Ivie Albers, Kali Schluter

Tom & Mary Edwards

Dennis Albers

Aubrie Albers

Lloyd Schluter

Sue Coffin, Travis & Nikky Flesner

WELCOME TO WORSHIP Thank you, God, for the gift of grandparents and spiritual mentors — for their steady love and faith passed down through generations (2 Timothy 1:5). Help us treasure their wisdom and honor their lives through how we live.

PORTALS OF PRAYER The fourth quarter Portals of Prayer (October-December) will be available to pick-up in the Narthex and outside of the church office this Friday, September 12th.

SUNDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY CLASS invites you join us for our new study about the prophet Gideon. His story teaches us that God transforms our weaknesses into triumphs that unlock His strength. Please join us for conversation, fun, and a whole lot of Bible study. This session starts on September 14th, right after church in the Confirmation room. Hope to see you there. Blessings!

ACOLYTE TRAINING will be held next Sunday, September 14th, during the Sunday School hour for any child wanting to become an acolyte.

YOUTH GROUP MISSION PROJECT Next Sunday, September 14th, at 6:00 p.m., we invite the congregation to join with the youth for their monthly mission project. This month we will have a pew polishing party. We will be cleaning, polishing and restoring the pews in the sanctuary. Please help if you can!

BLOOD DRIVE The ImpactLife Blood Drive will be held at American Lutheran Church on Wednesday, September 17th, from 11:30 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. in the ALC Youth Hall.

OPEN HOUSE for the 90th Birthday of Loretta Fruhling Elliott will be held on Sunday, September 28th, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at American Lutheran Church. All are invited to attend.

GREAT RIVERS MISSION DISTRICT CONVOCATION will be held here at American Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 11th. More information will be posted in upcoming bulletins. Cost to attend will be a \$10 donation to cover for lunch. Please call the church office at (217)893-4550 by Friday, October 3rd, if you plan to attend.

SOUND BOOTH HELP NEEDED We are still needing additional people to help in the Sound Booth. Please call Neal White (217-840-4471) or the church office (217-893-4550) if you are interested or would like more information.

SHEETS NEEDED The Quilting group is still accepting donations of flat cotton sheets to be used for liners in the quilts. Donations may be brought to the church office.

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION If you are a baptized believer, trusting that the life giving and sustaining power and presence of Christ is truly present in bread and wine, we welcome you to the Lord's table. Children who commune in their home congregations are welcome to commune; those who are not currently communing at the Lord's table are invited to come forward for a blessing keeping their hands to their sides. The center of each tray holds light colored, non-alcoholic juice for those with special circumstances. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request for those with allergies.

ATTENDANCE FROM LAST WEEK:

9:00 a.m. Worship Service – 105

BROADCAST/FLOWER CHART The cost to sponsor the broadcast on WPXN is \$50. The cost to provide flowers for Sunday is \$25. Please sign up on the chart outside the Narthex and call the office with the details to print in the bulletin.

ATTENTION USHERS Please check in with the worship steward on duty when you arrive to ensure that they know you are here and can assign you the area you are to cover.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Ezekiel 34:11-24; Psalm 119:169-176; 1 Timothy 1:5-17; Luke 15:1-10

THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 7

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Rally Sunday Celebration

Monday, September 8

12:30 p.m. Quilting

Wednesday, September 10

4-5:30 p.m. Choir Practice

Thursday, September 11

9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Sunday, September 14

9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Sunday School
 Women's Bible Study
 Acolyte Training
6:00 p.m. Youth Group – Mission Project

Radio Broadcast Sunday Mornings at 9:45 a.m. on WPXN 104.9FM

RALLY SUNDAY

Sunday, September 7th
Immediately following the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

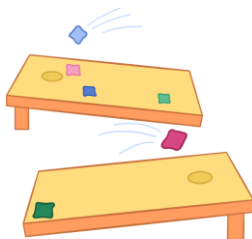
Lunch will be provided -
Brats, Hot Dogs, & Smoked Pork Loin



There will be plenty of activities!
Dunk Tank, Bingo, Face Painting,
Badminton, Kickball, Bags, &
Water Balloons



Something for Everyone!!!



Daily Prayers & Lessons – Week of the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 7, 2025 – September 13, 2025

Prayer: Almighty and Eternal God, you know our problems and our weaknesses better than we ourselves. In your love and by your power help us in our confusion and, in spite of our weakness, make us firm in faithfulness; through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Daily Lessons:

Note: The following first readings are Deuterocanonical books.

Although they should be in all Bibles, they are most often only found in study Bibles or Bibles misnamed, Catholic Bibles. They can also be found online at

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Tobit 1&version=RSVCE>

Sunday	Tobit 8:1-10:12	Psalm 119:105-112	Revelation 15:1-8
Monday	Tobit 11:1-12:22	Psalm 119:113-120	Revelation 16:1-21
Tuesday	Tobit 13:1-14:15	Psalm 119:121-128	Revelation 17:1-6
Wednesday	Judith 1:1-16	Psalm 119:129-136	Revelation 17:7-18
Thursday	Judith 2:1-28	Psalm 119:137-144	Revelation 18:1-10
Friday	Judith 3:1-4:15	Psalm 119:145-152	Revelation 18:11-20
Saturday	Judith 5:1-6:21	Psalm 119:153-160	Revelation 18:21-24

Morning Prayer We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all danger and harm. We ask you to preserve and keep us, this day also, from all sin and evil, that in all our thoughts, words, and deeds we may serve and please you. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us. Amen

Mid-Day Prayer Gracious Jesus, our Lord and our God, at this hour you bore our sins in your own body on the tree so that we, being dead to sin, might live unto righteousness. Have mercy upon us now and at the hour of our death, and grant to us, your servants, with all others who devoutly remember your blessed Passion, a holy and peaceful life in this world and, through your grace, eternal glory in the life to come; where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, you live and reign, God forever. Amen

Evening Prayer We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have this day so graciously protected us. We beg you to forgive us all our sins and the wrong which we have done. By your great mercy defend us from all the perils and dangers of this night. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one have no power over us. Amen