

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Aaron Dawson

Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost

August 23, 2026

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 us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen

OPENING HYMN

LBW #369 “The Church’s One Foundation”

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: Isaiah 51:1-6

RESPONSIVE PSALM PRAYER: Psalm 138

L: I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

C: I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your love and faithfulness;

L: for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

C: When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

L: All the kings of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.

C: They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

L: Though the LORD be high, he cares for the lowly; he perceives the haughty from afar.

C: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

L: The LORD will make good his purpose for me; O LORD, your love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.

SECOND LESSON: Romans 12:1-8

**Please stand for the procession of the cross, bowing as it passes by,
and remain standing until the cross is returned to its base.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**LBW #559 “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
(Please rise)**

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 16:13-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 16th chapter. Congregation sings: Glory to you, O Lord. (After Gospel is read) P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SONG OF RESPONSE

LBW #564 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Aaron Dawson

HYMN OF THE DAY

LBW #500 “Faith of Our Fathers”

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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER (pgs. 69-71) & 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

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

LBW #456 "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"
(Vs. 1-3, 6)

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

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*If we are not in line with your will, graceful God,
may this be the day we make our lives fully dedicated to you.*

NEWEST PRAYER CONCERNS:

Robert Pilarski Toni (Hinrichs) Santrock (mother/Brianne Nierenhausen)

CONTINUED PRAYER CONCERNS:

Tom Finger	Rich Friemel	Angie Trenberth	Tracie Sisneros
Jim Perry	Mary Kempfer	Ron Minch	Chrissie Hall
Kim Ross	Kay Thomas	Sondra Sipes	Barb Corbly
Marty Mirocha	Melvina Heap	Paul Albers	Kim Wyre
Annette Carlson	Wilma Suits	Brian Dietz	Robert Arthur
Steve Schluter	Glenn Behnke	John Keith	Pen Pendleton
Denny Doyle	Lee Briggs	Carla Adkins	Jessica Hawn
Gabbi Reynolds	William Benton	Steve Ritchie	Sharon Lohen
Mary Mallicoat	Bob & Jenny Hobby	Merrill Wattjes	Joan Percival
Joyce Williamson			

NURSING HOMES/ASSISTED LIVING:

Dave Overholt	LouAnn Baugher	Pr. Barb Busboom	Genet Dixon
Luella Loschen	Joan Mathis	Martha Stanfill	Paul Wolters
Keith Dohleman	Earl Smith		

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
Matthew Mislán			

ALTAR GUILD

ACOLYTES

GREETERS

LECTOR

PRAYER LEADER

WORSHIP STEWARD

USHERS

DeAnn McMorris, Sue Coffin

Jake Holland, Liam Hall

Jack Flesner, Carson McClain

Midge Seim

Joyce Holland

DeAnn McMorris

Justin Kaiser, Jack & Brenda Spitz

WELCOME TO WORSHIP With gratitude we come to give thanks to the Lord for God's boundless grace. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we extend the hand of friendship and love to all who have come.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PLANNING MEETING will be held today immediately after church in the Crucifixion Room (first Sunday School room outside the Chapel).

CONFIRMATION PARENT MEETING will be held this Wednesday, August 26th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Bible Study/Confirmation Room. Please see Pastor for more information.

DISCOVER THE GOD WHO CHERISHES YOU In the 7-session study on Hosea, Jennifer Rothschild unpacks the story of an unlikely couple, an unusual courtship, and an illicit affair. But the marriage didn't end; instead, a love story began. It's Hosea and Gomer's love story and it is your love story. You'll understand that when you're looking for identity, God calls you His own. When you feel enslaved, God frees you. When you wander away, God brings you home. No matter where you are, God sees who you are and loves you faithfully. His unfailing love changes everything. We will start this study on Wednesday, September 16th, at 1:00 p.m. in the Women's Bible Study room. If you are interested, please contact Deanne Rosenbeck by Tuesday, September 1st, so that our workbooks can be ordered. The cost of the workbook will be \$22. Please text/call or email Deanne at 217-621-8816 or dwattjes@hotmail.com. See you "Gomer" girls in September.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY will be studying the Psalms starting in October. We will be ordering workbooks for this study, so if you would like to attend, please let Pastor or the church office know.

LOOKING AHEAD Rally Sunday will be held on September 13th. Please watch upcoming bulletins for more details.

DOORS LOCKED The following doors will be left unlocked after the church service begins: both sanctuary doors on the east and west and the sanctuary door on the south. All other doors will be locked shortly after the church service begins and unlocked right before the church service ends. This is being initiated to help ensure the safety of our parishioners. Thank you.

ATTENTION USHERS When you are ushering on a Sunday morning, please check-in with the Worship Steward on duty when you arrive at church. This assures the Worship Steward knows you have arrived and can assign you the area you are to cover.

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 – 79

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.

FOOD PANTRY The Community Service Center of Northern Champaign County Food Pantry is in need of non-perishable food items. Donation boxes are located in the Narthex and in the entryway outside the church office.

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26:1-8; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28