

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH
WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION
AUGUST 4, 2024

WELCOME & GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP

Empires rise and empires fall,
but our God is unchanging.
Let us not fear the future,
for our God is powerful and just.

CONFESSION

We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

Merciful and holy God, **you have called us to follow you in the way of justice, mercy, lovingkindness, and care for all the earth. In our human frailty we have turned away, letting our fears drive us to actions or inactions that cause harm to ourselves, our neighbors, and our world. Draw us back into your loving arms. Wipe away our fears and our mistakes, that with clean hearts we might live to serve you and all of creation.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

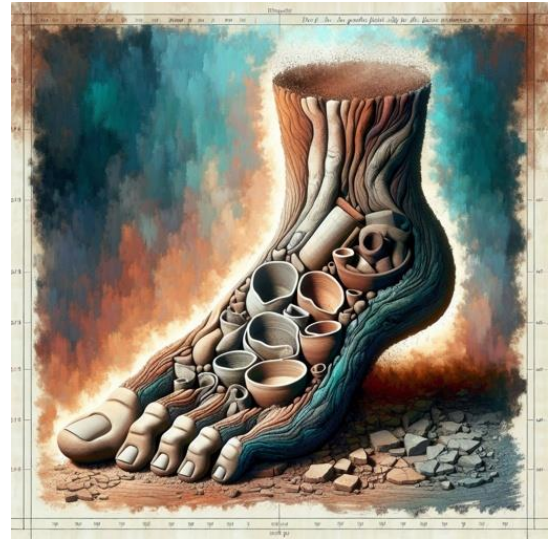
Hear this word of hope, beloved of God. Our God is rich in mercy and abundant in love and forgives you all your sins for the sake of Jesus Christ, who lives within and among us, and invites us to have life abundantly. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Word of Life, **you communicate with us in so many ways. We hear your words spoken to us both through people we like and people we do not like. We hear your voice in the wind and the waves and the sounds of nature. We dream dreams that draw us deeper into your mystery. Continue to speak to us that we might hear your call to the life you would have us lead. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

FIRST READING: DANIEL 2:24-49

Lector: Therefore Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of Babylon, and said to him, "Do not destroy the wise men of Babylon; bring me in before the king, and I will give the king the interpretation."



Assisting Minister: Then Arioch quickly brought Daniel before the king and said to him: "I have found among the exiles from Judah a man who can tell the king the interpretation." The king said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, "Are you able to tell me the dream that I have seen and its interpretation?"

Lector: Daniel answered the king, "No wise men, enchanters, magicians, or diviners can show to the king the mystery that the king is asking, but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and he has disclosed to King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen at the end of days. Your dream and the visions of your head as you lay in bed were these: To you, O king, as you lay in bed, came thoughts of what would be hereafter, and the revealer of mysteries disclosed to you what is to be. But as for me, this mystery has not been revealed to me because of any wisdom that I have more than any other living being, but in order that the interpretation may be known to the king and that you may understand the thoughts of your mind.

Assisting Minister: You were looking, O king, and lo! there was a great statue. This statue was huge, its brilliance extraordinary; it was standing before you, and its appearance was frightening. The head of that statue was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its middle and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. As you looked on, a stone was cut out, not by human hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and broke them in pieces. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold, were all broken in pieces and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, so that not a trace of them could be found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

Lector: This was the dream; now we will tell the king its interpretation. You, O king, the king of kings – to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, the might, and the glory, into whose hand he has given human beings, wherever they live, the wild animals of the field, and the birds of the air, and whom he has established as ruler over them all – you are the head of gold. After you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours, and yet a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over the whole earth. And there shall be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron; just as iron crushes and smashes everything, it shall crush and shatter all these.

Assisting Minister: As you saw the feet and toes partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, it shall be a divided kingdom; but some of the strength of iron shall be in it, as you saw the iron mixed with the clay. As the toes of the feet were part iron and part clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle. As you saw the iron mixed with clay, so will they mix with one another in marriage, but they will not hold together, just as iron does not mix with clay. And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall this kingdom be left to another people. It shall crush all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever; just as you saw that a stone was cut from the mountain not by hands, and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. The great God has informed the king what shall be hereafter. The dream is certain, and its interpretation trustworthy."

Lector: Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face, worshiped Daniel, and commanded that a grain offering and incense be offered to him. The king said to Daniel, “Truly, your God is God of gods and Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this mystery! Then the king promoted Daniel, gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon. Daniel made a request of the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego over the affairs of the province of Babylon. But Daniel remained at the king’s court.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL: LUKE 21: 20-28

When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. ²¹Then those in Judea must flee to the mountains, and those inside the city must leave it, and those out in the country must not enter it; ²²for these are days of vengeance, as a fulfillment of all that is written. ²³Woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress on the earth and wrath against this people; ²⁴they will fall by the edge of the sword and be taken away as captives among all nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. ²⁵“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

PASTOR JANET KETTERING

HYMN OF THE DAY | SHINE, JESUS, SHINE

<https://youtu.be/J3iB30gCQAc?si=1jSLAAWRs5G5RRS2>

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Eternal God, you call us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with courage, not knowing where we go but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Trusting in God's power and mercy, we pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Throughout history nations have risen and fallen, O God. Relieve us of our projection to some imagined future, good or bad, and anchor us in the reality of this moment and in the unalterable truth that you alone are God; that you alone are eternal. God of mystery, **hear our prayer.**

Each successive power in the world has wrought destruction on your beautiful creation, striving for material wealth at the expense of nature's health. Make us to work tirelessly to repair the damage, and to protect the world from further degradation. God of mystery, **hear our prayer.**

Make leaders at every level, from local committees to national governments, attuned to the highest good of all those they oversee. Give them the humility to put the needs of others before their own. God of mystery, **hear our prayer.**

So many suffer trauma and pain from sickness, poverty, war, addiction, and more. Surround all who struggle with your healing love. We pray especially for Jim Elkins... Janice...Dave...Dorothy...Terry...all those we lift through our Prayer Chain, and for Rick and Kelly as they continue the healing process of Rick's illness and recent surgery. God of mystery, **hear our prayer.**

In this election year, grant wisdom to all candidates, voters, election officials, and all involved in selecting those who will lead us. God of mystery, **hear our prayer.**

Renew our energy in the seemingly endless work of caring for those in need. Help us to see where our work is having a positive impact, and inspire us to continue to act in love and service to our neighbors. God of mystery, **hear our prayer.**

Let us love, not in words or speech, but in truth and action. Strengthen and equip us to care for those in need through the outreach ministries of our community: The Community Infant Program, Little Free Pantry, All Roads (formerly Boulder Shelter for the Homeless), Rise Against Suicide, and other acts of kindness we share with one another. Use us to share Christ's love with our neighbors in need, especially those who are lost, poor, beaten down, abused, forgotten, silenced, or avoided. God of mystery, **hear our prayer.**

Encourage the work of the Joshua School and organizations like them. Empower those who nurture the minds, bodies and spirits of children and adults living on the Autism Spectrum. Help us to help them reach their fullest potential. God of mystery, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for peace in Jerusalem, Israel, and Palestine. Grant that your holy and life-giving Spirit may move among us, breaking down walls that divide, giving light and courage to the refugee and the most vulnerable in society, ushering in the day that all may live in safety and security. God of mystery, **hear our prayer.**

Other intercessions are invited here.

We remember with joy all the saints who have led us in your word and in the world. Inspire us by their example to work for peace and justice. God of mystery, **hear our prayer.**

Confident in your life-giving love, we lift these prayers and all those in our hearts into your loving care. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

And also with you.

(Please share a sign of God's love and peace with each other.)

OFFERING/OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God, you have given each of us all that we need to live a meaningful life. In gratitude we return to you these gifts out of your own abundance to us. Use them for the sake of all who struggle, that they might know your love. **Amen.**

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY: SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks and praise to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. In the beginning your Spirit moved over the face of the waters. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. At his baptism in the Jordan your Spirit descended upon him and declared him your beloved Son. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, baptizing us with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood and empowered by the gifts of the Spirit. Make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world.

COMMUNION

By eating this bread and drinking this wine we become one in hope...the hope that is ours in the Prayer that Jesus taught us:

**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.**

The God who inspired Daniel to delve into the mysteries of dreams now invites you into the mystery of Jesus' presence in the bread and wine at this holy table. Come and be fed and nourished for a life in the Spirit!

SHARING THE MEAL

This is the body of Christ, broken in love for you.

This is the blood of Christ, poured out in forgiveness of you.

COMMUNION HYMN | TABLE OF GRACE

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/GFJKJAVUZ-s?si=sG-s5skQNs6ZCmSU](https://youtu.be/GFJKJAVUZ-s?si=sG-s5skQNs6ZCmSU)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Holy, gracious God, **here at this table your promise of life is made tangible. We have rested in the depth of your love and tasted your nourishing presence. Together, at this table, you have offered us life. Together, by your grace, we accept that life and give you thanks. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that all may know life and love in Jesus' name. Amen.**

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING & BENEDICTION

May the love of God create new life within you.

May the power of God transform your old habits into new hope.

May the Spirit of God grant you wisdom and vision,
emboldening you to proclaim the good news of God's love to all.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN | DAYS OF ELIJAH

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/CA9LNZJNPJQ?si=9L4X3NYFN_7ONPIU](https://youtu.be/CA9LNZJNPJQ?si=9L4X3NYFN_7ONPIU)

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.

We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person—questions, complexities and all.

Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

WORSHIP RESOURCES:

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CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS – REV. CHRISTOPHER NEY

PRAYER OF THE DAY – NARRATIVE LECTIONARY WORSHIP RESOURCES COPYRIGHT © 2024 CLERGY STUFF

SCRIPTURE READINGS – NEW REVISED STANDARD BIBLE, UPDATED EDITION

RESPONSE TO THE WORD – ERIC MILNER WHITE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – RE-WORSHIP, UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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BLESSING & BENEDICTION – PASTOR RYAN, ADAMSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS:

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CAROLINE MICHALAK

ALTAR GUILD: GERRY & KEN MOORHEAD, LYNN TRUMBLE & KAY WERPY

ASSISTING MINISTER: DICK WERPY

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION: TBD

LECTOR: NINA SOLTWEDEL

PASTOR: REV. JANET KETTERING

ZOOM TECHNICIAN: FUZZ NEWKIRK

SHEPHERD CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEEK OF AUGUST 4 – AUGUST 11, 2024

Sunday, August 4th - Daniel: Dream Interpreted

9:30 a.m. Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship with Holy Communion
Coffee and Conversation Immediately following worship

Wednesday, August 7th

11:00 a.m. - Amazing Grace Bible Study

Friday, August 9th

7:00 a.m. – Men’s Zoom Breakfast Bible Study

5:00 p.m. – Friday Night Perspectives Gathering

Sunday, August 11th- Daniel: Fiery furnace

9:30 a.m. – Hybrid In-Person/Zoom Worship

Coffee and Conversation Immediately following worship

**AUGUST
BIRTHDAYS**

GEORGE C. 8/1

GERRY M. 8/2

MOLLY V. 8/15

**SAVE THE DATE FOR BOY SCOUT TROOP 377 FUNDRAISING CAR WASH
ON SUNDAY AUGUST 25TH AFTER WORSHIP!**

DAILY NARRATIVE LECTIONARY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 4, 2024

Monday, August 5, 2024

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/daniel-11-2-nebuchadnezzar-conquers-jerusalem2024>

Daniel 1:1-2 Nebuchadnezzar Conquers Jerusalem

Tuesday, August 6, 2024

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/daniel-13-7-four-young-israelites-at-the-babylonian-court2024>

Daniel 1:3-7 Four Young Israelites at the Babylonian Court

Wednesday, August 7, 2024

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/daniel-18-21-god-favors-the-four-young-israelites2024>

Daniel 1:8-21 God Favors the Four Young Israelites

Thursday, August 8, 2024

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/daniel-21-11-nebuchadnezzars-dream2024>

Daniel 2:1-11 Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

Friday, August 9, 2024

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/daniel-212-16-nebuchadnezzars-rage2024>

Daniel 2:12-16 Nebuchadnezzar's Rage

Saturday, August 10, 2024

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/daniel-217-23-god-reveals-nebuchadnezzars-dream2024>

Daniel 2:17-23 God Reveals Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

Sunday, August 11, 2024

<https://clergystuff.com/nl-devotions/daniel-31-2-7-8-30-the-fiery-furnace2024>

Daniel 3:1-2,7-8, 30 The Fiery Furnace