

14th Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 2026
8:30am Worship



Central Lutheran Church
1857 Potter Street
Eugene, OR 97403
www.welcometocentral.org

Central Lutheran Mission

Our mission is to be the hands and feet of Jesus by loving God and one another, nurturing faithful living, serving those in need, and sharing the Gospel.

Central Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Oregon Synod, is a Reconciling in Christ community: We affirm that Christ has made us one body with many members, all sharing in God's wondrous grace and unconditional love.

We celebrate both the human variation and inclusive unity of God's family. Following Jesus' example, we embrace all of God's people, regardless of ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, economic circumstance, and we firmly commit to racial equity. With welcoming hearts, we invite you to join us in worship, education, fellowship, and service.

Central Lutheran Staff

Pastor Laurie A Jones
pastorlaurie@welcometocentral.org
mobile: 206-354-6756

Crystal Miller, Children/Youth
Minister for Central/United/Emmaus
crystal@unitedlutheran.org

Kelly Colvin-Smith
Parish Administrator
churchoffice@welcometocentral.org

Dr. A. ElRay Stewart-Cook
Organist/Choirmaster
aesc@welcometocentral.org

Dr. Lindsey Henriksen Rodgers
Assoc. Organist/Children's Music
lindsey.henriksen@gmail.com

Cindy Culpepper
Financial Manager
cindy@welcometocentral.org

Prayers requests may be submitted to:
prayers@welcometocentral.org



CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

PRELUDE

Astralis – Jenni Pinnock

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

We confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN #864 Praise My Soul (*please stand*)

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.

Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en-dures un-chang-ing on.
Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

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.**

KYRIE

<i>Cantor</i>	<i>Assembly</i>	<i>Plainsong</i>
		
Lord, have mer - cy.	Lord, have mer - cy.	
		
Christ, have mer - cy.	Christ, have mer - cy.	
		
Lord, have mer - cy.	Lord, have mer - cy.	

GLORIA



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
 Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
 Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift_ high our thanks and praise.
 on the cross you died to_ save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
 Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be-fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
 Hear our prayer; re - store, for-give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
 For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen. *(you may be seated)*

FIRST LESSON Jeremiah 15:15-21

Jeremiah's delight in the word of the Lord is contradicted by the heaviness of God's hand upon him and God's seeming unfaithfulness. God's tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, "I am with you."

O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. Therefore thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 26:1-8



Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived | with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and | have not faltered.

Test me, O | Lord, and try me;
examine my heart | and my mind.

For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes;
I have walked faithful- | ly with you.

I have not sat | with the worthless,
nor do I consort with | the deceitful.

I have hated the company of | evildoers;
I will not sit down | with the wicked.

I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O Lord,
that I may go in procession | round your altar,
singing aloud a song | of thanksgiving
and recounting all your won- | derful deeds.

Lord, I love the house in | which you dwell
and the place where your glo- | ry abides.

Glory be to the Father, and to the | Son, and to the | Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is | now, and will be fore- | ver. Amen.

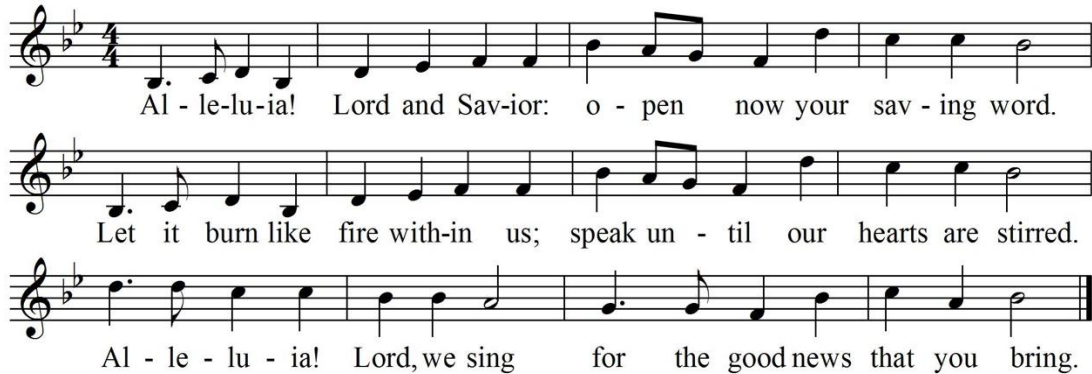
ANTHEM *Church in the Wildwood* – William Savage Pitts Cantors

SECOND LESSON Romans 12:9-21

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord.” Instead, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please stand as you are able)*



Al - le-lu-ia! Lord and Sav-ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.
Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.
Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

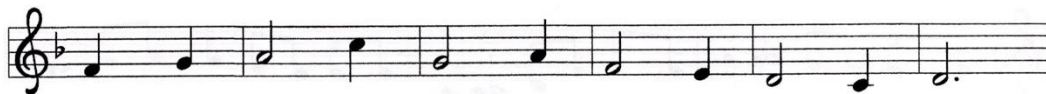
GOSPEL Matthew 16:21-28

The gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.** From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” But Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”
The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Laurie A. Jones

HYMN #798 Will You Come and Follow Me *(please stand)*



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



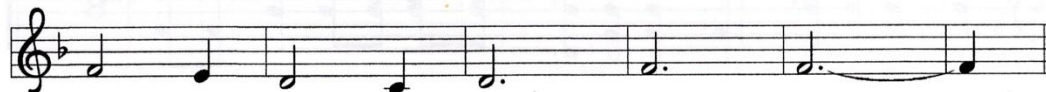
know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and you ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church throughout the ages, let us profess our Christian faith using the words of 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. *(please be seated)*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANTHEM

Lord, Hold My Hand –Dolly Parton

Cantors

OFFERING

*You are invited to place your offering
in the plate as you come forward for communion.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(please stand as you're able)*

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.

PROPER 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 Christ our Lord; who rose beyond the bounds of death, and on this day as he had promised, poured out your Spirit of life and power upon the chosen disciples. At this the whole earth exalts in boundless joy. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord most ho - ly, God of pow'r and God of might:
heav'n and earth re - veal your glo - ry. Hail, ho - san - na, Lord of light!
Bless - ed be the ris - en Sav - ior. Hail, ho - san - na, Lord of light!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as 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. *(please be seated)*

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf - fered death our — lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us — free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter - nal — peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION *(please stand)*

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **Amen.**

HYMN #547 Send Forth by God's Blessings *(see next page)*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

We invite you to remain seated through the voluntary; however, if you choose to depart, we kindly ask you to do so in silence.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY *Salem Seasons: II. Summer – Margaret Sandresky*

The liturgy is adapted from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship, © 2006, Augsburg Fortress, with permission to reproduce and podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license A-706755. All rights reserved.

Today's Worship Leaders:

Assisting Minister: Arya Saks

Cantors: Taylor Huett & Alyse Jamieson

For additional information on weekly and upcoming events visit our website welcometocentral.org.

HYMN #547 Send Forth by God's Blessings



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, our true faith con - fess - ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er - liv - ing,



the peo - ple of our God from this dwell - ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face—



The sup - per is end - ed. Oh, now be ex - tend - ed
our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing,



the fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
em - brac - ing God's chil - dren, the whole hu - man race.



The seed of Christ's teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now



reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we share.



Your grace shall in - cite us, your love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing



to work for your king - dom and an - swer your call.
give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Your vote matters... Grab a cup of coffee and a goodie and join us for a brief congregational meeting in the Parish Hall following the service this morning. The business portion of the meeting is to amend the 2026 Annual Budget adopted at the semi-annual meeting in January to include a Compensation and Benefits Package in anticipation of calling an Associate Pastor.

Mark your calendars...
Our Fall Program Year Kicks Off in September:

- Tuesday, Sept 8th Pocket Concert at noon in the Sanctuary
- Wednesday, Sept 9th Chorale rehearsals resume at 7pm
- Saturday, Sept 12th Children's Choir & Junior Cantors Retreat 9am-4pm at Central
- Sunday, Sept 13th Back to School Blessing at both services
- Monday, Sept 14th Book Club meets at 7pm via Zoom
- Sept 15th Together Tuesday resumes with meal at 5:15pm; followed by Music Together class at 5:45pm; Children's Choir & Junior Cantors rehearsal at 5:45pm; and Adult Education at 6pm
- Sunday, Sept 20th Confirmation Mentor & Mentee Munch & Mini-golf at 12:30pm (Meet at Roaring Rapids Pizza followed by mini-golf at Camp Putt Golf Park)
- Wednesday, Sept 23rd Confirmation Students & Parents Orientation with meal at United starting at 5:30pm
- Sunday, September 27th Brombaugh 50th Anniversary kick-off with Friends Organ Concert at 4pm in the Sanctuary

Note: Our last 11am worship service at the Garden (2345 Laura Street, Springfield) is Sunday, September 27th. On October 4th both worship services (8:30am & 11:00am) will be in the Sanctuary.