

# Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church

*A community of disciples for Jesus Christ, dedicated to glorifying God through worship, spiritual growth and service to others.*

**Sunday, September 1, 2024**  
**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
***Service of the Word***

## GATHERING

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE

### \*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

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

C: **Amen.**

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

P: Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are captive 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: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: **Amen**

### \*GATHERING SONG

*This is My Father's World*

ELW 824

### \*APOSTOLIC GREETING

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.**

**\*KYRIE**

**213**

**\*CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

*Glory to God*

**213**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY** *(in unison, see insert)*

**WORD**

**READINGS** *(See Insert)*

**FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9**

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: 15** *(read responsively)*

**SECOND LESSON: James 1:17-27**

A: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia, alleluia!**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter

C: **Glory to you, Oh Lord.**

**\*GOSPEL READING: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you O Christ.**

**MESSAGE**

**Video Sermon**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Restore in Us, O God*

**ELW 328**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(in unison)*

P: People of God, do you believe in God the creator of all things, the giver of life and breath?

C: **Yes, we believe.**

P: People of God, do you believe in Jesus Christ, born Emmanuel, God with us,  
who was baptized and revealed as the beloved Son of God, who sought to heal humanity,  
who took our brokenness upon himself, who suffered, died, and rose for us,  
who ascended to heaven and one day will come again?

C: **Yes, we believe.**

P: People of God, do you believe in the Holy Spirit,  
who continually refreshes our lives and leads us every day,  
who gathers the church, the body of Christ in the world,  
who gifts us with faith and promise of eternal life?

C: **Yes, we believe.**

P: Thanks be to God!

C: **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(See insert)*

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG *Salvation Belongs to Our God* 219

**\*THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD** 220

P: O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: Amen.

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER** *(in unison)* 221

**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.**

SENDING

**\*BLESSING**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG *Savior, Again to Your Dear Name* ELW 534

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Share the Gift of Jesus!

C: Thanks be to God.

**\*POSTLUDE**

\*Congregation Stands  
Congregational Responses are **in bold**

Serving Today, September 1, 2024

Lay Leader: Ruie Jones

Lay Reader: Bea Isenhour

Serving Next Sunday, September 8, 2024

Minister: Deacon Deborah Johnson

Lay Assistant: Ruie Jones

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS. “THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE...”** We will rejoice and be glad in it.” Thank you for choosing Unity as your place to worship this morning. If you would like more information concerning the ministries and outreach of Unity church in the community please speak to one of our members.

**VIDEO SERMON:** Pastor Koester, Gethsemane Lutheran Church WELS – Omaha, Nebraska

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** given by Joy Burns in loving memory of her son, Jeffery Sheppard.

**THE 2024 FLOWER CHART** is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. The cost is \$50 for two vases. The flowers can be used for several Sundays so the cost can be split between 2-3 people if they want to recognize an occasion in the same month.

**GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS** is the annual ELCA churchwide service project which usually takes place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in September. Unity will participate by collecting food items which will be donated to the Community Food Pantry at St. Stephens ELCA. Food items on the list attached to the collection bin in the narthex will be collected throughout the month of September

## PRAYER CONCERNS

**MEMBERS WITH SPECIAL CONCERNS:** Harold Shook, Judy Prince, Mary Lou Huffman, Bob Raby, Bill & Farrell Gibbs, Kathy Whisnant, Sue Heavner.

**HOMEBOUND MEMBERS:** Candyce Webb, Kenneth Webb.

**FRIENDS AND FAMILY:** Brian Setzer, Lesa Fox, Eric Stoker, Deborah Johnson, Cee King, Sue Rowland (Deb Johnson’s sister), Billie Deter, Charley Coulter, Warren Bumgarner, Denise Little, Brian Childers, Terry Jenkins, Michael Fox (Farrell Gibbs’ grandson), Judy Houser, Dan Drinkard, Diane Futrelle, Gay Apple, Cort Hollar, David Adams, all public safety personnel and military personnel.

**PRAYERS OF PEACE:** Those affected by wars in Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, Russia and all around the world.

### **UNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, E.L.C.A.**

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**Facebook(Unity Lutheran)**

**Sunday School**

**Worship 10:30am**

**Deacon Deborah Johnson – (828) 291-4129 or [madeline5393@gmail.com](mailto:madeline5393@gmail.com)**