

Sunday, August 31, 2025 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

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Ministers of East Koshkonong ~ All the people of God Presider ~ Pastor David Berggren Organist ~ Judy Rusch Assisting Minister ~ Holly Loomis Acolyte ~ Caitlin Terland Lector ~ Anders Amundson Greeter ~ Kurt & Barb Klemp Ushers ~ Hal & Vicki Schuh

Offering Counters ~ Brenda Schroeder, Leila Carl & Diane Ash

Sermon One with Children

Gathering Hymn Gather Us In ELW #532

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the + holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling on God's transforming power.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

Source of all life, we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by your love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

God sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven, + God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

A: O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C**: **Amen.**

First Reading Proverbs 25:6-7a

⁶ Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, ^{7a} for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"

than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

L: Word of God, word of life. C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 112

Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD and have great delight in God's commandments!

² Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the up-

right will be blessed.

³ Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴ Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶ For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trust-

ing in the Lord

⁸ Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.

⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

¹⁰ The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.

Second Reading Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

The mutual affection continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

L: Word of God, word of life. C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

P: The holy gospel according to Luke 14;1, 7-14 C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely. ⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." ¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Two

Hymn of the Day As We Gather at Your Table ELW #522

Creed

C: 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 Intercession

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

A brief silence.

For the leaders of the church, we pray. Inspire deacons, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and Christian education directors with a passion for speaking the word of God. Equip all the baptized to share your word of grace. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For the well-being of creation, we pray. Sustain farm workers and all who labor in fields and vineyards to grow the food we eat. Revive plains and pastures, and provide for the cattle and creatures who rely on the land for their sustenance. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For the leaders of towns, cities, provinces, states, and nations (*leaders may be named*), we pray. Guide them to enact equitable laws and policies for all. On this Labor/Labour Day weekend, make us mindful of workers whose labor often goes unnoticed. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For the lowly and those who are ignored, we pray. Provide for the needs of vulnerable communities, those who are unemployed, burdened by debt, or struggle to make ends meet. Accompany all who need reassurance of your loving presence *especially* Ronald, Lyra, Jackie, Judy, Mary Lou, Lisa, Landon, Terry, Ed, Kathy, Cherie, Gary, Barb, Lindsay, Betsy, Jim, Chris, Robert, Michelle, Karen, Monica, and Gwendolyn. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

For the hospitality ministries of this congregation, we pray. Give ushers and greeters a spirit of welcome for visitors, and bless the work of those who feed and nourish us (*specific ministries may be named*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

For all the saints who from their labors rest, we give thanks. With them, we offer our sacrifice of praise to you, O God, the same yesterday and today and forever. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **Amen.**

Sharing of the Peace

Noisy Offering

Offering Prayer

P: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Dialogue

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 our thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

P: 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, 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

P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C: 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.

Invitation to Communion

Prayer after Communion

P: Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **C: Amen.**

Blessing

P: The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age. C: Amen.

Sending Song Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus ELW #501

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. God is at work in you. C: Thanks be to God.

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Calendar/Announcements

Sunday, August 31, 2025 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

Wednesday, September 3, 2025 5:30 p.m. Worship

Sunday, September 7, 2025 9:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship 10:00 a.m. Fun on the Prairie

We are glad you joined us! We hope that you will experience the good news in mind, body, and spirit s we pray, listen, sing and share the peace of Christ and the meal of Holy Communion. You are invited to worship in as many ways as you are comfortable and able. In this bulletin, bold print indicates congregation's responses. The presence, energy, and noise of children are most welcome here! The sound of children in worship is the sound of a new disciple being formed. This congregation is glad to share in this work. We welcome and invite children to participate in worship.

Rally Sunday worship on September 7 will be outside, weather permitting. **Please bring your own chairs.** Family fun day events will follow during fellowship time.

Confirmation classes for new and returning students who aren't being confirmed this fall will begin on September 10. Both parents and students are asked to attend this first opening class in the EKLC sanctuary at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday School classes will resume in September. We are currently in need of more volunteers to help teach these Sunday School classes. The curriculum has been set up and will be provided to anyone who volunteers to help lead classes. If interested, please see Denise Rockney for more information. Thank you.

Visit Guatemala! Witness the church's generosity first hand. Help in UPAVIM's Fair-Trade workshop. Visit the cultural gems of Guatemala October 19-27. More information can be found at www.upavim.org/guatemalatour

With summer here, school food programs for those experiencing food insecurity are not available. Listed below are items of greatest need during the

summer. There is a collection box in the Narthex at church. Items in the box will be delivered to the Food Pantry regularly. Specifically needed for the summer: Individual meals for kids (microwave mac and cheese, etc.) meals that are easy for kiddos to make on their own. Also, there is a great need for KID FRIENDLY cereal (kinds of cereal that kids would like.) Thank you in advance!

Noisy Offering totaled \$2,900.69 for the year! Thanks for your generosity!

You may make a secure offering/donation to EKLC by following the directions below. All donations are secured through Vanco. Thank you for your generous offering in this way! Online giving directions, you may set up recurring donations or make a one-time donation.

Go to www.eastkoshkonong.org and click on Donate. Create a profile through this secure website, if you haven't already, and complete the form on the website.

Option 2: Download the GivePlus app on your smartphone for either Android or iOS. If needed, create an account with your email address. Sign into your account and search for "East Koshkonong Lutheran Church." Select the plus "+" sign and complete the form.

