



AUGUST 17, 2025, 9:30A.M.

HOLY COMMUNION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING FOUR

* = Please stand as you are comfortable.

Bold type indicates congregational responses.

- **Welcome! No matter your background, circumstance, or footing in faith your presence is valued and celebrated as a part of the beloved community of God today.**
- Your generosity is appreciated and encouraged as it sustains and furthers the work of the congregation in the community and makes a difference in the lives of many. Gifts and offerings may be placed in the plate at the entrance before, during, or after the service. To give electronically, please visit richfield-lutheran.org/give
- We receive Holy Communion as a part of worship today, and you are welcome at Christ's table! Come forward at the direction of the ushers. Children may partake in the meal and/or come forward to receive a blessing as parents choose. Communion is received by intinction today (take the wafer and dip it into the wine or grape juice). If you prefer to receive communion in your pew, let your usher know and the servers will come to you. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available upon request to the servers.

As we Gather...

Today in worship we hear the penultimate story of the summer series of "God's Greatest Hits" with "Job: Out of the Whirlwind." The book tells the hard tale of a righteous person encountering extreme tragedy, and the discussion which unfolds between Job and his friends regarding the suffering. God finally responds from a whirlwind, and in one way or another Job finds courage and freedom to carry on. How may it give us wisdom and insight to our own life and the creation even now?

I. GATHERING

PRELUDE

COMMUNION PRELUDE

BECK

(The prelude gathers us in the Lord's presence. You are invited to center through it.)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 92 (adapted)

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to God's holy name.

To declare God's love in the morning, and God's faithfulness through the night

How great are your works, O God, to be revered above all things

Flourish in us your righteousness and make us blossom and bloom in your love!

WELCOME

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Together set us confess all which keeps us from love of God and our neighbors as ourselves...

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Merciful God,

you free us to love others, but we can often neglect neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we tend to turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we can grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, set us free from the bonds that hold us back, and continue to show us the way of abundant life.

Amen.

Beloved of God, in baptism the promise is proclaimed, you belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. Live now again in hope and faith.

Amen.

* GATHERING HYMN

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

ELW #697

* GREETING

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

* KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

*** CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

ELW #836, v. 1 & 2

Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of Love! Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, praising thee, their sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away. Giver of immortal gladness fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven reflect thy rays, stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow'ry meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

God of all creation, in life and death, blessing and woe, joy and hardship, grant us integrity and strength to seek and follow your call to faith and life. Amid all the world's suffering, including our own, surround us with the whirlwind of your love and compassion, and help us to share it, in Jesus' name. Amen.

FIRST READING: Job 1:1-5, 13-22

(The ancient story of Job confronts deep theological questions, especially questions of the existence of human suffering and God's relationship to creation.)

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil. ² There were born to him seven sons and three daughters. ³ He had seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred donkeys, and very many servants, so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the East. ⁴ His sons used to go and hold feasts in one another's houses in turn, and they would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. ⁵ And when the feast days had run their course, Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all, for Job said, "It may be that my children have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." This is what Job always did.

¹³ One day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in the eldest brother's house, ¹⁴ a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were feeding beside them, ¹⁵ and the Sabeans fell on them and carried them off and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; I alone have escaped to tell you." ¹⁶ While he was still speaking, another came and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants and consumed them; I alone have escaped to tell you." ¹⁷ While he was still speaking, another came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three columns, made a raid on the camels and carried them off, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; I alone have escaped to tell you." ¹⁸ While he was still speaking, another came and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house, ¹⁹ and suddenly a great

wind came across the desert, struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; I alone have escaped to tell you.”

²⁰ Then Job arose, tore his robe, shaved his head, and fell on the ground and worshiped. ²¹ He said, “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked shall I return there; the LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD.”

²² In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrongdoing.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 130:1-6 (*read responsively*)

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

² **Lord, hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my supplications!

³ If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?

⁴ **But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.**

⁵ I wait for the LORD; my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;

⁶ **my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.**

SECOND READING: Job 2:1-13

(*God’s wager with the “Accuser” advances, as does Job’s suffering.*)

¹ One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the LORD, and the accuser also came among them to present himself before the LORD. ² The LORD said to the accuser, “Where have you come from?” The accuser answered the LORD, “From going to and fro on the earth and from walking up and down on it.” ³ The LORD said to the accuser, “Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason.” ⁴ Then the accuser answered the LORD, “Skin for skin! All that the man has he will give for his life.” ⁵ But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face.” ⁶ The LORD said to the accuser, “Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life.”

⁷ So the accuser went out from the presence of the LORD and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. ⁸ Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself and sat among the ashes.

⁹ Then his wife said to him, “Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God and die.” ¹⁰ But he said to her, “You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive good from God and not receive evil?” In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

¹¹ Now when Job’s three friends heard of all these troubles that had come upon him, each of them set out from his home—Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite. They met together to go and console and comfort him. ¹² When they saw him from a distance, they did not recognize him, and they raised their voices and wept aloud; they tore their robes and threw dust in the air upon their heads. ¹³ They sat with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his suffering was very great.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

*** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

p 151

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

*** GOSPEL: Matthew 5:10-12**

(Jesus’ list of blessings in his famous “Sermon on the Mount” concludes with statements regarding those who suffer for doing what is right and just.)

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Track 9 – Job: Out of the Whirlwind

Pastor Charlie Ruud

HYMN OF THE DAY

*I Know that My Redeemer Lives
(Please stand for the final verse.)*

ELW #619

*** PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

After each petition:

...Merciful God,

Hear our prayer.

*** PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

(The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.)

II. THANKSGIVING and MEAL

PIANO ANTHEM

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring
Leo Schroeder

BACH

*** OFFERTORY**

Earth and All Stars

ELW #731 v. 1

Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blowing snowstorm! Sing to the Lord a new song!

God has done marvelous things. I too sing praises with a new song!

*** WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

*** LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG

Eat This Bread

ELW #472

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.

Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

POST- COMMUNION BLESSING

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

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION SONG

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

ELW #204

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell everyone what God has done.

Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name.
Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in joy
With shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!

IV. SENDING

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

* BLESSING

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing so that you may abound in hope and live in love, through the Triune God.

Amen.

* SENDING HYMN

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

ELW #773

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

CHACONNE

COUPERIN

(The postlude sends us out to be Christ's peace in the world. You are invited to savor it.)

(Our service continues with sharing fellowship in Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall, across the hall; and then in the world with other neighbors.)

THIS WEEK'S DAILY BIBLE READINGS:

Mon, April 18. Palm 32

Tues, April 19. Acts 7:44-53

Wed, April 20. Jeremiah 35:30-38

Thurs, April 21. Palm 103:1-8

Fri, April 22. 2 Chronicles 8:12-15

Sat, April 23. Nehemiah 13:15-22

Next Sunday we conclude the summer worship and preaching series with Ezekiel 37 in which the prophet Ezekiel is given a vision of a vast valley of dry bones being raised to new life. It's a fitting conclusion to our Volume 1 of "God's Greatest Hits" pointing to hope beyond hope in newness, life, and promise through the most dead of circumstances. In what ways do you and we hope for this in our lives? What might God be looking to say to our dry bones? Worship next Sunday to join in the story.

Summer Tracklist:

Fruitful Fields: God's Greatest Hits, Volume 1

1. Sun, June 15 | Genesis 1:1-1:19 | **God's Poetic Creation: Six Days and the Sabbath**
2. Sun, June 22 | Genesis 3:1-3:24 | **The Second Creation Story: Adam, Eve & Sin**
3. Sun, June 29 | Genesis 4:1-4:16 | **Cain & Abel: "Am I My Brother's Keeper?"**
4. Sun, July 6 | Genesis 11:1-11:9 | **Tower of Babel: Diversified and Scattered**

5. Sun, July 13 | Genesis 19:12-19:38 | **Sodom & Gomorrah: Inhospitable Judgment**
6. Sun, July 20 | Exodus 3:1-3:15 | **Moses: God's Reluctant Liberator**
7. Sun, July 27 | Exodus 7:14-7:25 | **The First Plague**
8. Sun, Aug 3 | Judges 14:1-14:20 | **Samson & Delilah**
9. Sun, Aug 10 | **Collaborative Outdoor Worship at Veteran's Park Pavilion**
10. Sun, Aug 17 | Job 1:13-1:22, 2:1-2:10 | **Job: Out of the Whirlwind**
11. Sun, Aug 24 | Ezekiel 37:1-37:14 | **Dry Bones Raised**

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