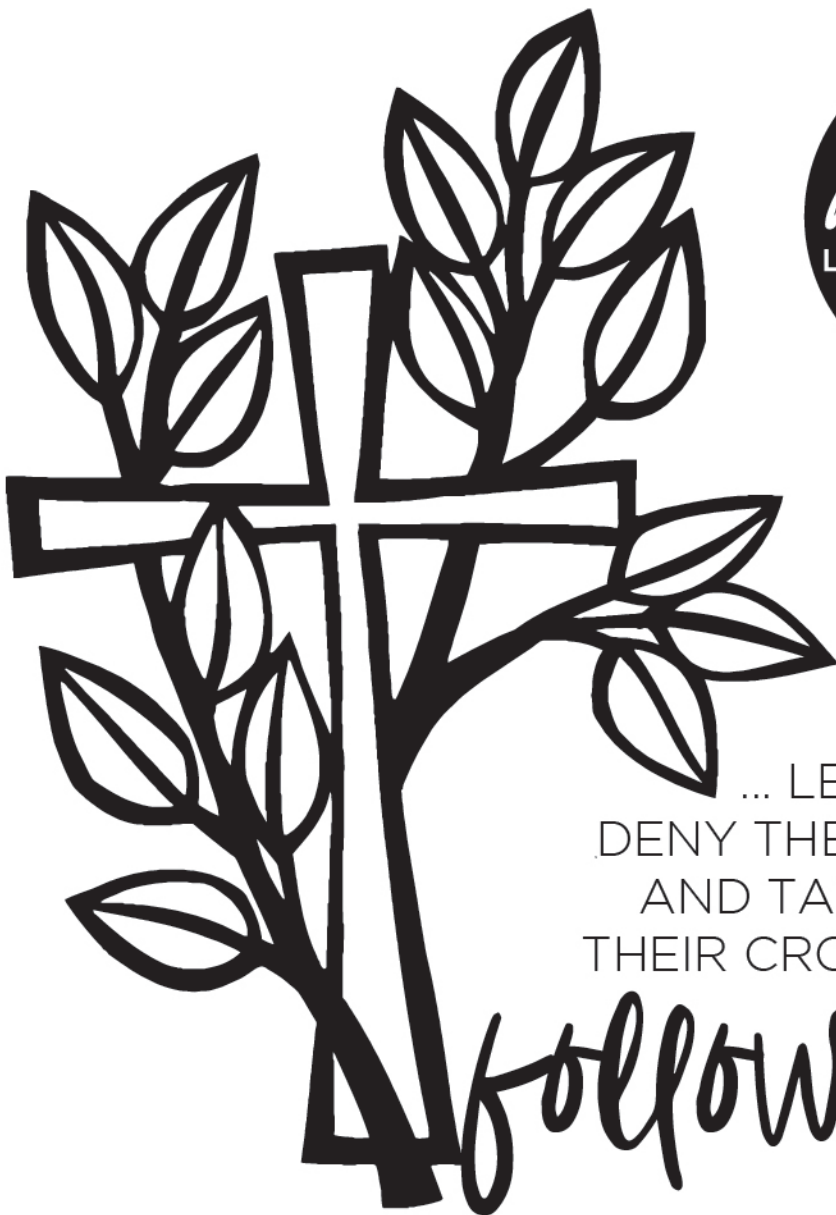




... LET THEM
DENY THEMSELVES
AND TAKE UP
THEIR CROSS AND

follow me

Matthew 16:24

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE
AUGUST 30, 2026

american

LUTHERAN CHURCH

801 Monroe Street
La Porte City, IA 50651

(319) 342-2852

Services led by
Pastor Sevaraj Periannan
(Pastor Selva)

Email:
selvaperia@gmail.com

Phone:
(319) 961-5828

Church Secretary
Brynna Hemsath

Email:
alsecretary@lpctel.net

FIND US ONLINE



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volunteer

Select a Sunday.
Select a Role.

BE OF SERVICE.



OUR MISSION

We are people who worship Jesus Christ, reaching out to teach and share his love for people. We believe through the Holy Spirit, God has empowered us to worship Jesus Christ through music, Word and Sacrament; To Teach the gospel through Sunday School, confirmation, Bible Study and Youth Ministry. To share the gospel and reach out through Fellowship, Evangelism and Ministry to all in need.

JOIN US for Worship, Fellowship & Sunday School each week!

- * Worship begins @ 9 am * Fellowship @ 10 am
- * Sunday School @ 10 am (September - May)

Welcome to Worship

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

INTRODUCTION

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

(Congregation, please stand)

***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, whose compassion endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

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.

(Acolytes come forward to light the candles once the congregation has started to sing our gathering hymn.)

GATHERING HYMN

ELW #879 For the Beauty of the Earth

GREETING

Let us be reminded that God's name is majestic in all the earth. With love for God and for one another, let us approach the throne of grace from which all blessings flow. Welcome, friends!.

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

pg. 203-204 (*Kyrie & Canticle of Praise*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

(Congregation, please be seated)

FIRST READING

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."

Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵ 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. ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merry-makers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸ 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.

¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ 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.

²¹ 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

Your love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.
(Psalm 26:3)

Psalms 26:1-8

¹ Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

² **Test me, O Lord, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.**

³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴ **I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

⁵ I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

(Psalm continued on page 5)

⁶I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord, that I may go in procession round your altar,

⁷singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸Lord, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.

SECOND READING

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.

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord."

²⁰Instead, "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." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

(Congregation, please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

S205a



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

After Peter confesses that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a “rock.”

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²¹From 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. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³But he 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.”

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For 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?

(Gospel continued on page 7)

²⁷“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. ²⁸ 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.**

(Congregation, please be seated)

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #798 Will You Come and Follow Me

(Congregation, please stand)

THE APOSTLES' CREED

(text is printed in the back cover of the red hymnal)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Petitions end “**Merciful God,**” Congregation responds, “**receive our prayer.**”*

SHARING THE PEACE

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

(Congregation, please be seated)

OFFERING

(Congregation, please stand)

OFFERTORY ELW #186 Create in Me a Clean Heart

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923. Music copyright 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God, giver of all good things, receive the gifts we bring, fruit of the earth and the work of human hands, that they may be used to your purposes for life and love in the world. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.

BLESSING

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

SENDING HYMN

ELW #656 Blest Be the Tie That Binds

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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