



Grzegorz Dawidowicz

Saint Michael's Lutheran Church

Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost
ELW setting 3

September 7, 2025

10:00 a.m.

** Please stand.*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Aubade

Edward Broughton

*** INVOCATION**

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.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Merciful God,

you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.

**You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.**

**In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.**

**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.**

Amen.

*** HYMN #335**

JESUS, KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Lord, have mer - cy.

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 mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

O Lord Christ, **good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

LESSON

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 1

sung responsively



¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel [|] of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats [|] of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law [|] of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching [|] day and night. R**

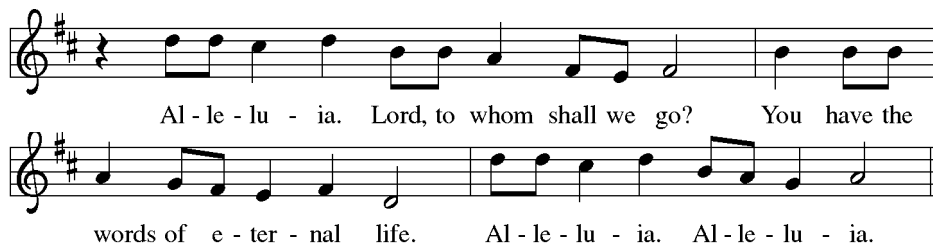
³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with
leaves that [|] do not wither;
everything they [|] do shall prosper.

⁴ **It is not so [|] with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind [|] blows away.**

⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when [|] judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council [|] of the righteous.

⁶ **For the LORD knows the way [|] of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall [|] be destroyed. R**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



***HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 14:25-33

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Mark Grorud

***HYMN #798**

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME

BLESSING OF THE LWR KITS

APOSTLE'S 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.

* PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with one of these responses:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

(The prayers conclude:)

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bless we the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

* PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

Risen One,
you call us to believe and bear fruit.
May the gifts that we offer here
be signs of your abiding love.
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

* PREFACE DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

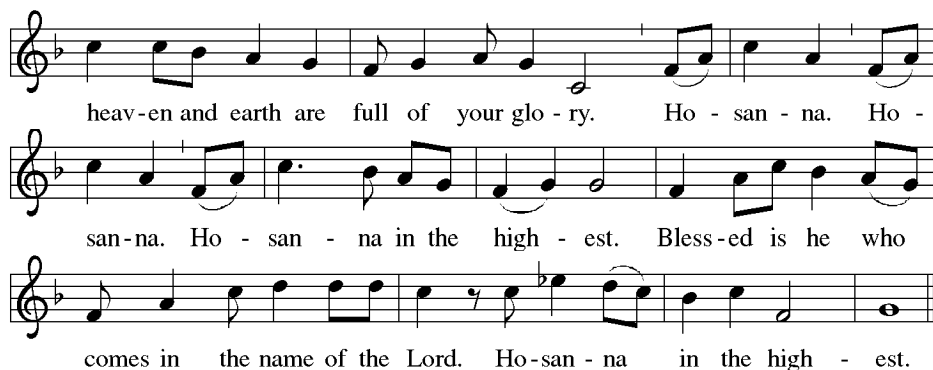
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

* PREFACE FOR PENTECOST SEASON

* HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took break, 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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:

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.
Come and eat at God's table.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please bring your offering with you as you come forward to receive Holy Communion. Communion distribution is by intinction. The communion bread or gluten-free rice cracker will be placed in your hand. Take the bread or cracker and dip it into the chalice of wine. Do not have your fingers touch the wine.

LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

Let us break bread together on our knees,
Let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun.

O Lord, have mercy on me.
Let us drink wine together on our knees,
Let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees,
Let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

*** POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Shepherding God,
you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love.
Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

SENDING

*** BLESSING**

The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy,
and the Spirit of Easter hope ☩ bless you now and always. **Amen.**

*** HYMN 660**

LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

*** DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Lift High the Cross

Setting by Gordon Young

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IN OUR PRAYERS

Prayer Request books can be found at each entryway. Requests written in the Prayer books will be included in today's prayers; someone is added to the Prayer List by a note to Pastor or the church office, and will run for **four consecutive Sundays**. Requests may be renewed.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING are offered for all those celebrating birthdays this week including Philip Evenson (September 8) Harv Weitzel (September 8) Sandy Peter (September 9) and Michael White (September 13).

CARE AND HEALING: Heather Bakios, Stephanie Barrella, Ken Bielemeier, Joe Boehm, Shari Bruner, Robert Carpenter, Angela Castillo, Althea Ericsson, Eric Ericsson, Jill Ferenc, April Gurciullo, Rita Hausdorff, Jack Koch, Mark Kramm, Liam Ledbetter-Dunn, Pam Lowell, Baylor (Boomer) Manchuck, Claire Miethke, Richard Miller Jr., Judy Mirczak, Ann Moores, Jim Moores, Benton Morse, Doris Ann Peter, Joey Peter, Toni Rohde, Jan and Harv Weitzel, Charles Yost.

MISSION PARTNERS: in the Gulf States, Martin Luther Church, (ELCA) Mobile, Alabama, and our NEW ENGLAND SYNOD PARTNERS, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Palestine and the Holy Land, and the Lutheran church in Honduras

A message from Dr. Alla A. Borzova, Music Director:

I hope you had an enjoyable summer. Our choir will resume singing in a few weeks. Our first choir rehearsal will take place on Sunday, September 7, at 9 am. Our choir rehearses on Sundays from 9 till 9:40 AM and after the coffee hour: from 11:15 till noon. The choir will continue singing on Sundays as per availability of the choir members. We need your voices; both women's and men's voices. At this time we have only three members: Deb Evenson in soprano, Elizabeth Tobey in alto, Roger Heine in tenor, and no bass. I often sing as well while playing. Luke Scully agreed to try and we hope he will stay. We sing all styles of music: from easy classical to contemporary, gospel, spirituals and even jazz. Once again, if you think your voice is good only for the shower, please, reconsider! My selections depend on the availability of choir members. I will be happy to select beautiful anthems for the choir, but we really need choir members to make singing happen. Teens are always welcome and I would provide a wonderful college recommendation. Please, join our vocal group! Also, if you play instrument and would like to share your talent with the congregation, please, let me know. Peace.

SERVING TODAY

Greeter
Assisting Minister
Reader
Altar Guild
Cookies & Conversations
Counters
Interim Pastor
Organist

Ken Fitter
Elizabeth Tobey
Luke Scully
Agneta Aspinwall
Norma Gerwig
Roger Heine, Melba Grieshaber
Pastor Mark Grorud
Dr. Alla Borzova

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Greeter
Assisting Minister
Reader
Altar Guild
Cookies & Conversations
Counters
Interim Pastor
Organist

Nancy Perez
Roger Heine
Nancy Perez
Diana VanDam
Melba Grieshaber, Ingrid Hollinger
Pastor Mark Grorud
Dr. Alla Borzova

Indoor Worship Protocol

We are still careful of one another's health in the post Covid time and encourage you to keep following safe protocols.

Pastor Mark Grorud, Interim Pastor
Church Office (203) 966-3913
Nancy Rowe, Admin (203) 966-3913
Alla Borzova, Director of Music
Ken D'Arinzo, Council President
Website (Stephen Galyas; webmaster)

mgrorud@gmail.com
saintmichaelsoffice@gmail.com
saintmichaelsoffice@gmail.com
music@StMichaelsLutheran.org
president@StMichaelsLutheran.org

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH WEEKLY NEWS
September 8 – September 13

ONLINE? KEEP THE CONVERSATION GOING...

Please use **#stmichaelsnewcanaan** as your hashtag on social media during the week.
“Like” our Facebook Page: St. Michael's Lutheran Church, New Canaan, CT.

CHECK OUT THE ANNOUNCEMENTS ONLINE!

The weekly announcements can be found on the St. Michael's website
(<http://www.stmichaelslutheran.org/ChurchNews/index.html>) under the “News and Resources” tab; then click on “Parishioner Area.” Please contact the church office at 203-966-3913 if you do not have the username and password.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please use the offering envelopes in the pew rack if you make a cash donation, and write your name on the front of the envelope. This allows us to ensure we are keeping track of members' cash contributions placed in the offering plate without their numbered envelope.

COMMUNION CARDS

Just a reminder, to remain on the active member voting list you must submit at least one communion card per year and one financial contribution per year. If you have not filled out a communion card yet this year please do so soon. They are located in the pew card holder and you can just drop it in the offering plate on your way up to communion.

****DEADLINE FOR WEDNESDAY'S CONSTANT CONTACT EMAIL****

The deadline for submissions for the weekly constant contact email is **Tuesday at 9:00 AM**. Any submissions received after the deadline will appear the following week.

FLOWER AND ETERNAL LIGHT CHARTS

Thank you for helping to beautify the church for worship! The next available dates to sign up are: Flowers: September 28 Eternal Light: September Every Sunday

19 IN ATTENDANCE ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

This Week: September 8 - 13

9:00 am & 11:15 am	Choir Practice
Today 11:00 am	Cookies & Conversation

Next Sunday - September 14

9:00 am & 11:15 am	Choir Practice
10:00 am	Holy Communion
11:00 am	Cookies & Conversation

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

For pastoral services, Pastor Grorud can be reached at (402) 620-8032 or via his **new** email address **mgorud@gmail.com**. He is in the church office Tuesday and Thursdays afternoon.

Need access to the church? Please plan on coming during office hours: Tuesday and Thursday 12:30 - 4:30pm.

New Canaan Historical Society: They will be closed on Tuesday, September 2. Normal hours of operation are Tuesday-Saturday 10 am - 4 pm. They are closed on Sundays and Mondays. If you need access to the sanctuary on Saturdays, please let Nancy know and she will confirm with the historical society to ensure someone will be available to let you in.

Summary of Receipts & Expenses: July 2025

	July 31, 2025	Total 2025 YTD
	Actual	Actual
Receipts	14,115	84,553
Expenses	20,779	128,210
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(6,664)	(43,658)
Proceeds from Sale		1,795,207