

# Vasa Lutheran Church

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Pastor Tim Seitz

Accompanist-Anne Anderson

Sunday, August 16, 2026

## ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: 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.**

L: 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.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

**THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY**

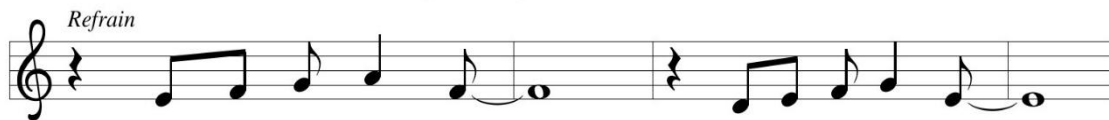
**ELW 588**

**GREETING:** 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.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

### Change My Heart, O God



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953

Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa

Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

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**PRAYER OF THE DAY:** God of all peoples, **your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **PSALM 67**

1 May God be merciful to us and bless us;  
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

**2 Let your way be known upon earth,  
your saving health among all nations.**

3 Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

**4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

5 Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

**6 The earth has brought forth its increase;  
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

7 May God give us blessing,  
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

## **SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 15:21-28**

21 Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 22 Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." 23 But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." 24 He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." 25 But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." 26 He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." 27 She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." 28 Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

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

## **CHILDREN'S SERMON**

**HYMN**

**MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE**

**ELW 759**

**SERMON**

**HYMN**

**HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL**

**ELW 612**

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

**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 CONGREGATION :** Each petition will end with the words: God of Grace. Please respond with: **hear our prayer.**

## **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

L: Let us share God's peace with one another.

## **GENEROSITY MOMENT**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting

and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.

Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.

Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness  
to the land of milk and honey.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.

Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

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.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast.  
Grace our table with your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.  
Breathe new life into us.  
Send us forth,  
burning with justice, peace, and love.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

With the earth and all its creatures,  
with sun and moon and stars,  
we praise you, O God,  
blessed and holy Trinity,  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Give us the courage to follow in the footsteps of Christ,  
who taught us to pray, saying...

**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.**

## **DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

*We will receive communion by intinction. All are welcome at the Lord's table. You don't need to be a member of Vasa, nor do you need to be a Lutheran to receive the body and blood of Christ today. Gluten free portions and non-alcoholic wine are available for those who have dietary restrictions. Children are welcome to come forward and will receive a blessing.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** Compassionate God, **through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.**  
**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**

**I'M SO GLAD, JESUS LIFTED ME**

**ELW 860**

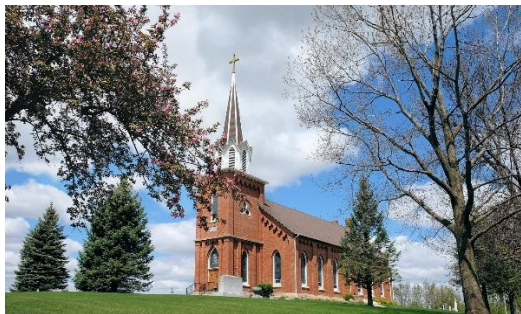
## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BLESSING**

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

### **DISMISSAL**

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



Wendy Anderson, Jay  
Mikaelsen, Scott  
Sorenson, Lorrie  
Samuelson, Lynda  
Rosener, Connor  
Michalicek (Rosann  
Pearson's grandson),  
Jake Jacobson, Rachel  
Harper (Barry Skog's  
Niece)

Parish Pulse:

**August 9**

Participating in Worship: 74

+ 61 Live Streams

**Total Offerings:**

**August 9**

\$14,231

### **Worship Assistants Today**

**August 16**

**Musician:** Anne Anderson

**Usher:** Marvin Fredrickson

**Lector:** Stuart Samuelson

**Hospitality:** B-J Norman

**Communion Asst.:** Susan Samuelson

### **Worship Assistants Next Week**

**August 23**

**Musician:** Anne Anderson

**Usher:** Kevin Eckblad

**Lector:** *Volunteer Needed*

**Hospitality:** *Volunteer Needed*

## **MUSIC FOR AUGUST 16, 2026**

### **THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY**

Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

### **CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD**

Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing (ASCAP), admin. Music Services

### **MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE**

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887

Music: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

### **HEALER OF OUR EVERY ILL**

Text and music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

### **I'M SO GLAD, JESUS LIFTED ME**

Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

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