

Vasa Lutheran Church

13th Sunday After Pentecost

Pastor Tim Seitz

Accompanist-Anne Anderson

Sunday, August 23, 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.

Verse 1

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

Verse 2

When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil.

*Refrain***Verse 3**

His oath, his covenant, his blood
sustain me in the raging flood;
when all supports are washed away,
he then is all my hope and stay.

*Refrain***Verse 4**

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone,
redeemed to stand before the throne!

Refrain

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. |Amen.

PSALM 138

1 I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

**2 I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because
of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

3 When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

**4 All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

5 They will sing of the ways of the Lord,
that great is the glory of the Lord.

**6 The Lord is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand
shall save me.

8 You will make good your purpose for me;

**O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of
your hands.**

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 16:13-20

13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" 14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." 20 Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

HYMN**ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME****ELW 623****Verse 1**

1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood,
from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure;
cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Verse 2

Not the labors of my hands
can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone;
thou must save, and thou alone.

SERMON**HYMN OF THE DAY****WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME****ELW 798****Verse 1**

"Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?"

Verse 2

"Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r
in you and you in me?"

Verse 3

"Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?"

Verse 3

Nothing in my hand I bring;
simply to thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to thee for dress;
helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.

Verse 4

While I draw this fleeting breath,
when mine eyelids close in death,
when I soar to worlds unknown,
see thee on thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.

Verse 4

"Will you love the you you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?"

Verse 5

Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

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

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.**

Verse 1

This is my Father's world,
and to my list'ning ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
his hand the wonders wrought.

Verse 2

This is my Father's world;
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world;
he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;
he speaks to me ev'rywhere.

Verse 3

This is my Father's world;
oh, let me not forget
that, though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world;
why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king, let heaven ring;
God reigns, let earth be glad!

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.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP AT THE
MUSEUM GAZEBO ON
SEPTEMBER 6! Please make
sure to bring extra chairs and
spots to sit down for Worship.

Parish Pulse:
August 16
Participating in Worship: **37**
+ **56** Live Streams
Total Offerings:
August 16
\$1,455



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

Worship Assistants Today
August 23

Musician: Anne Anderson

Usher: Duane Hanson

Lector: Mo Hauck

Hospitality: Marilyn Hanson

Worship Assistants Next Week
August 30

Musician: Anne Anderson

Usher: Rick Samuelson

Lector: Mo Hauck

Hospitality: Audrey Rosener

MUSIC FOR AUGUST 23, 2026

MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD

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ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME

Text: Augustus M Toplady, 1740-1778

Music: Thomas Hastings, 1784-1872

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME

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THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901

Music: Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852-1930, adapt.

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