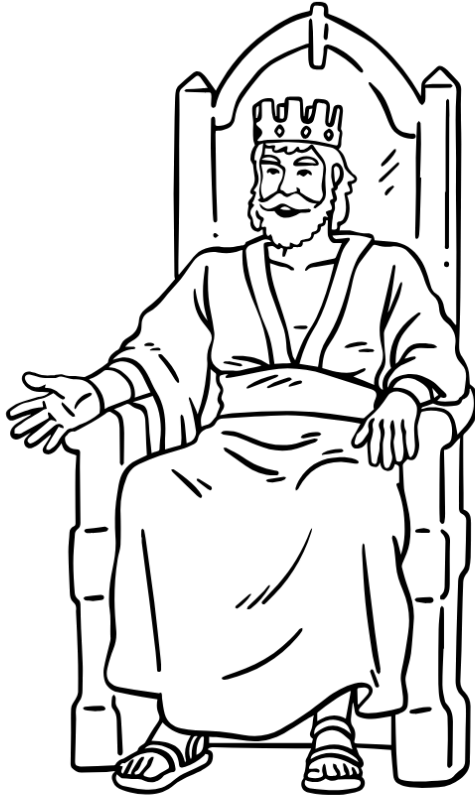




A Wise and Discerning Heart



SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
www.duluthernan.org

July 26, 2026

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

Office Phone (218) 722-4364 | Email contact@dulutheran.org | www.dulutheran.org

WELCOME

We are glad that you have chosen to spend time with us in worship. In our worship, we gather, before Jesus, our Good Shepherd, to offer him our love and praise. Our Lord builds us up in faith through his Word and equips us for living now and in eternity. Our prayer is that the good news of Christ's love touches your heart and transforms your life. Whether you're worshipping with us here today or watching online, we are happy you have joined us.

WORSHIP SERVICE

The goal of our worship is to praise God and enrich your faith through his Word. To make your experience today easier, the worship folder you're holding has the entire order of service. The pieces marked [P] are spoken by the pastor, and the parts marked [C] are to be spoken or sung by the congregation. If you prefer to use a physical hymnal or wish to see the songs in four-part harmony, there are hymnals available in the pew stands.

Today's order of service follows Setting Two which begins on page 172 in the hymnal.

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

Our congregation enjoys the "worshiping family." Each service includes a children's message which teaches God's truth to your kids. Parents with small children are an essential part of God's kingdom. That's why children are never considered an inconvenience to our worship. We also want your family to be comfortable. There is a cry room outside the main doors to the right if you need a moment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Guest Pastor: Thank you to Pastor Christian Marquardt for leading our worship this morning. Pastor Marquardt serves at Saint James Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, WI.

Altar Flowers: Today's bouquet is given to the glory of God by Paul and Amber Castillo in celebration of their wedding anniversary. Congratulations!

August 16th Service: With Pastor Engel's installation service being at **4:00pm on Sunday, August 16th**, we will not be having our regular 9:00am service that day.

Women's Book Group: Please join us as we read "The Body Teaches the Soul: Ten Essential Habits to Form a Healthy and Holy Life" by Justin Whitmel Earley. This book discusses the relationship between our physical and spiritual health and provides simple steps to improve both. We will start this book on **August 10th** and join together for dinner and a review on **Thursday, October 8th at 6:00pm** at the church. Please let Kely Dunsmoor know if you are interested.

VBS Registration: Our VBS is coming up quickly, on **August 3-5, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm**. Please register your child(ren) at dulutheran.org or by scanning the QR code. There is additional information available on the bulletin board across from the kitchen, as well as flyers by the mailboxes.



Summer Celebration Night: We will be having our Summer Celebration night on **Thursday, August 6th, starting at 6:00pm**. Please join us for an evening of family fun, including a VBS recap and dinner! Everyone is invited!

For more announcements and event information, visit the church website at www.dulutheran.org/events or sign up for our weekly email at www.dulutheran.org/subscribe. You can also view the church calendar at www.dulutheran.org/church-calendar.

OPENING HYMN: My Worth Is Not in What I Own

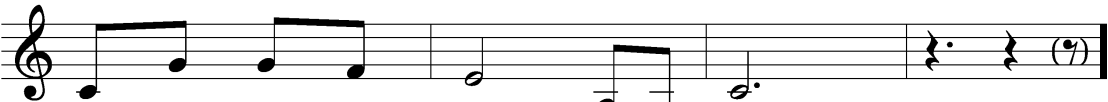
CW 753 sts. 1-2, Ref, 3-5



1 My worth is not in what I own, not
2 My worth is not in skill or name, in
3 As sum - mer flow'rs we fade and die; fame,



in the strength of flesh and bone, but in the
win or lose, in pride or shame, but in the
youth, and beau - ty hur - ry by. But life e -



cost - ly wounds of love at the cross. v. 2
blood of Christ that flowed at the cross. Refrain
ter - nal calls to us at the cross. v. 4

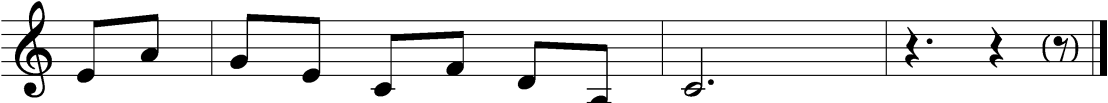
Refrain



I re-joice in my Re - deem - er— great - est trea - sure,



well-spring of my soul. I will trust in him, no oth - er; my



soul is sat - is - fied in him a - lone.

4 I will not boast in wealth or might,
or human wisdom's fleeting light.
But I will boast in knowing Christ
at the cross. (Refrain)

5 Two wonders here that I confess:
my worth and my unworthiness.
My value fixed—my ransom paid
at the cross. (Refrain)

Stand

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

CONFESSION

P: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

C: **Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: **Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

DECLARATION OF GRACE

P: God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

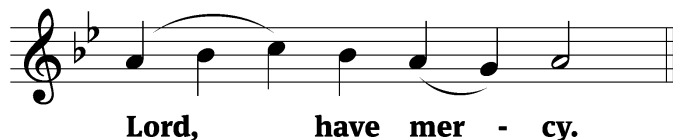
Lord, Have Mercy

CW 174

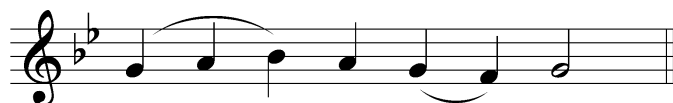
P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



P: 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.

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



Lord, have mer - cy.

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



A - men.

Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



peo - ple on earth. Lord God,



heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the

right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth. For you a -

lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,

with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

O God, you reveal your mighty power chiefly in showing mercy and kindness. Grant us the full measure of your grace that we may obtain your promises and become partakers of your heavenly glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated

✠ READINGS FROM GOD'S WORD ✠

FIRST READING

1 Kings 3:5–12

⁵The LORD appeared to Solomon in Gibeon in a dream at night.

God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you."

⁶Solomon said, "You have shown great mercy and faithfulness to your servant, my father David, just as he walked before you in truth, righteousness, and uprightness of heart toward you. You have shown this great mercy and faithfulness to him and have given him a son who is seated on his throne to this very day. ⁷O LORD my God, now you have made your servant king in the place of my father David, but I am a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And I, your servant, am among your people whom you have chosen, a great people, who cannot be counted or numbered because they are so many. ⁹Now give to your servant a perceptive heart to judge your people, to distinguish between good and evil, for who is able to judge this great people of yours?"

¹⁰In the eyes of the LORD, Solomon's request was good. ¹¹So God said to him, "Because you have asked for this, and you have not asked for a long life, nor have you asked for riches, nor have you asked for the lives of your enemies, but you have asked for discernment to reach just verdicts, ¹²therefore I will act according to your words. Yes, I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you before you, nor will anyone like you rise up after you.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 6:17–21

¹⁷Instruct those who are rich in this present age not to be arrogant or to put their hope in the uncertainty of riches, but rather in God, who richly supplies us with all things for our enjoyment. ¹⁸Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹In this way they are storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

²⁰O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, turning away from godless, empty talk and the contradictions of what is falsely called "knowledge." ²¹By professing it, some have veered away from the faith. Grace be with you. Amen.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

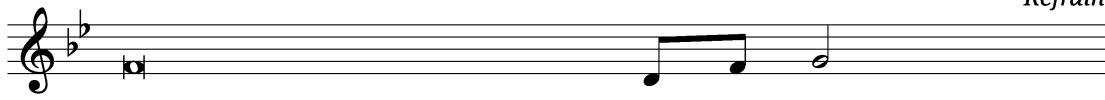
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Colossians 3:1,2*Refrain*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ,



set your minds on things above, not on earth - ly things.

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:44-52

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid again. In his joy, he goes away and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls. ⁴⁶When he found one very valuable pearl, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When the net was filled, they pulled it onto the shore. They sat down and gathered the good fish into containers, but threw the bad ones away. ⁴⁹That is how it will be at the end of the world. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous who are among them. ⁵⁰And they will throw the wicked into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." ⁵¹Jesus said to them, "Did you understand all these things?"

They answered him, "Yes."

⁵²He said to them, "Therefore every expert in the law who has been trained as a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his treasure both new things and old things."

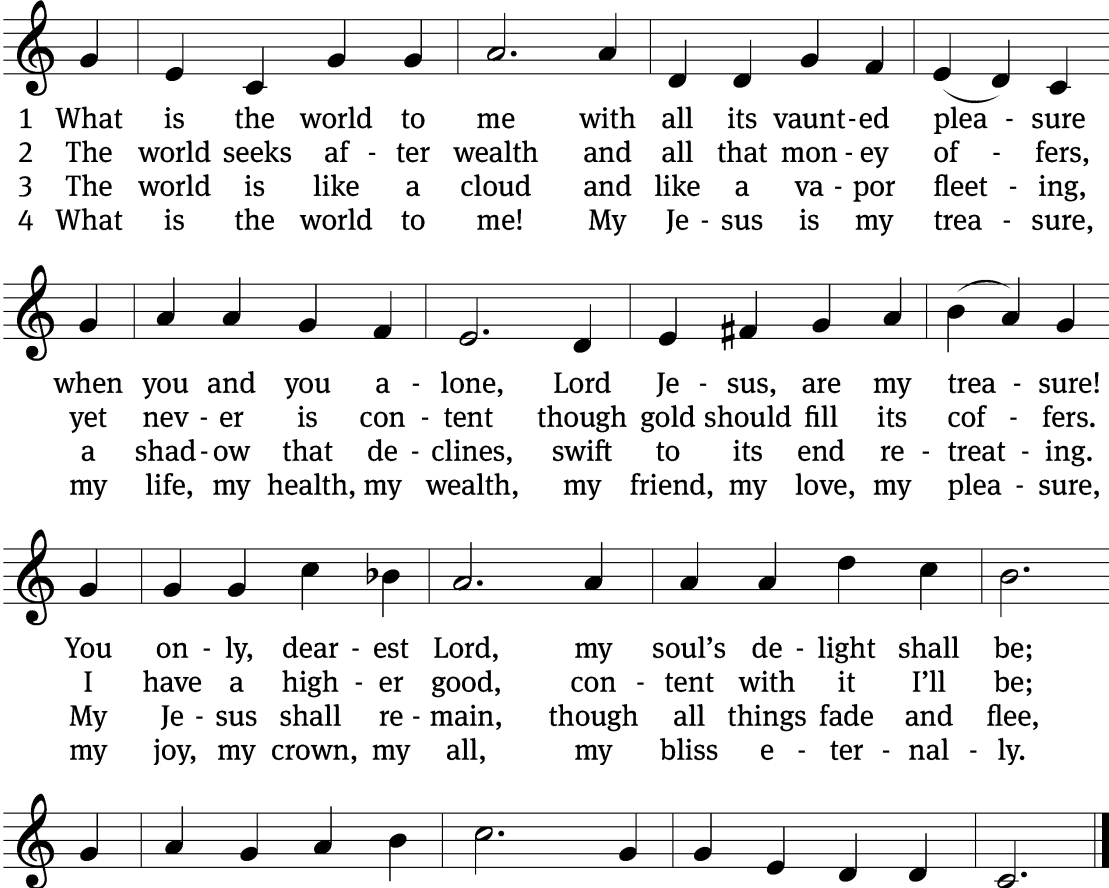
P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children up through 5th grade are invited to come up to the altar steps and sit for a special devotion with Pastor Marquardt. This service segment is intended to engage the children to help them understand today's message. They will return to their seats afterward.



1 What is the world to me with all its vaunt-ed plea - sure
 2 The world seeks af - ter wealth and all that mon - ey of - fers,
 3 The world is like a cloud and like a va - por fleet - ing,
 4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,

when you and you a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!
 yet nev - er is con - tent though gold should fill its cof - fers.
 a shad - ow that de - clines, swift to its end re - treat - ing.
 my life, my health, my wealth, my friend, my love, my plea - sure,

You on - ly, dear - est Lord, my soul's de - light shall be;
 I have a high - er good, con - tent with it I'll be;
 My Je - sus shall re - main, though all things fade and flee,
 my joy, my crown, my all, my bliss e - ter - nal - ly.

you are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
 my Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!
 my ev - er - last - ing rock. What is the world to me!
 Once more then I de - clare: What is the world to me!

✠ THE MESSAGE ✠

A Wise and Discerning Heart

1 Kings 3:5-12

Stand

CONFESSION OF CHRISTIAN FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven
 and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge
 the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

WORSHIPING THE LORD WITH OUR OFFERINGS



Members of Shepherd of the Hills respond to their Savior's love with offerings that are given joyfully and freely according to how the Lord has blessed them. If you are a guest today, please know that there are no expectations for you to make a donation. If you wish to support us by making an online offering, scan the QR code here or visit our website: www.duluthlutheran.org and click on the "GIVE" tab.

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P: Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us.
- C: **Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.**
- P: Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours as they proclaim your grace to us and all people.
- C: **Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.**
- P: Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.
- C: **Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.**
- P: Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.
- C: **Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.**
- P: Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief, and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.
- C: **Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.**
- P: Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying.
- C: **Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.**
- P: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

- P: Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.
- C: **In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er,
 5 For thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our



glo - ry of the skies, for the love which
 day and of the night; hill and vale, and
 heart and mind's de - light, for the mys - tic
 sis - ter, par - ent, child, friends on earth, and
 world so free - ly giv'n; for that great, great



from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
 tree and flow'r, sun and moon, and stars of light:
 har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n:



Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.
 Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.
 Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.
 Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.
 Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

Stand

PRAYER

P: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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.

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

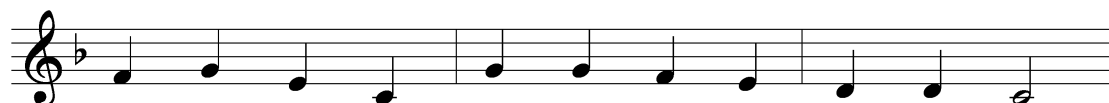
C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: All Depends on Our Possessing

CW 807



1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's a - bun - dant
2 He who to this day has fed me and to man - y
3 Man - y spend their lives in fret - ting o - ver tri - fles
4 When with sor - row I am strick - en, hope a - new my



grace and bless - ing, though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
joys has led me is and ev - er shall be mine.
and in get - ting things that have no sol - id ground.
heart will quick - en; all my long - ing shall be stilled.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en in their God are
He who ev - er gent - ly schools me, he who dai - ly
I shall strive to win a trea - sure that will bring me
To his lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der soul and bod - y



not for - sak - en and will keep a daunt - less heart.
guides and rules me, will re - main my help di - vine.
last - ing plea - sure and that now is sel - dom found.
I sur - ren - der, for on God a - lone I build.

5 Well he knows what best to grant me;
all the longing hopes that haunt me,
joy and sorrow, have their day.
I shall doubt his wisdom never;
as God wills, so be it ever;
I commit to him my way.

6 If my days on earth he lengthen,
he my weary soul will strengthen;
all my trust in him I place.
Earthly wealth is not abiding,
like a stream away is gliding;
safe I anchor in his grace.

Acknowledgments

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