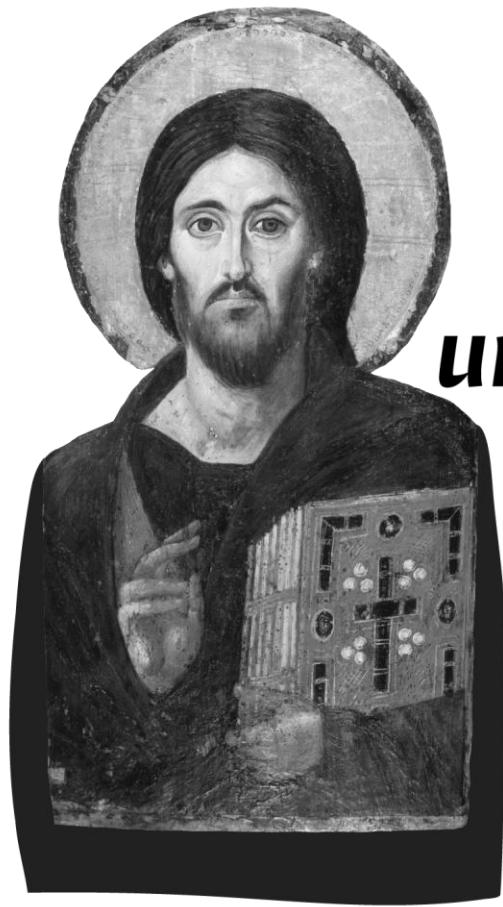




unexpected **TRUTHS**

GOD TEACHES US HOW TO HANDLE GUILT

September 27, 2026



SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
www.duluthern.org

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

Pastor Todd Engel: Cell (651) 309-7311 · Office (218) 722-4364 · Email pastor@dulutheran.org

WELCOME!

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 [M] are spoken by the minister, 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 Morning Prayer which begins on page 207 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

Today's Schedule:

- **Blueprint School Update:** In lieu of Adult Bible Study today, we will be having a congregation meeting to go over the results of the Blueprint Schools survey. Everyone is welcome to attend!
- **Children's Christmas Practice:** All PreK-8th grade Sunday School children and any Sunday School teachers who are available, are invited to gather in the sanctuary at 10:20, during the church meeting, for a brief introduction to the Children's Christmas service. Copies of the service will be shared with the teachers. If you are a teacher, and unable to attend, a copy of the service will be put in your mailbox. We look forward to seeing you!
- **Confirmation Class:** Students will meet with Pastor Engel in the Fellowship Hall at the regular time of 11:30-1:00.

Sunday School/Youth Tone Chimes: Anyone in grades 3rd through 12th who are interested in playing tone chimes this year, please meet up in the balcony immediately after the service for a brief meeting.

Junior Accompanists: If you have a child or teen who would be interested in playing the piano during the offering for upcoming services, please speak with Dawn Bird, in person or text 218-525-2408 or email birdhouse101993@gmail.com. We'd love to have them use their God-given musical talents in our services!

Adult Choir: Our new season of choir has started! We will be meeting on **Sunday mornings at 8:00am** up in the balcony. We're happy to welcome back those that have sung before as well as anyone new who would like to join in singing our Savior's praises. Any questions, please contact Becky Miller or Laura Metcalf.

Camp Croix 3rd Annual Fundraiser Event: Please join us on October 24th from 2-5pm at St. Croix Lutheran Academy to celebrate the completion of the new Ministry Center and hear about future plans! There will be food, fellowship, silent and live auctions, as well as other fun activities. Learn more and register at campcroix.org/launch.

Camp Croix Donation Items: Camp Croix is looking for silent auction and live auction donations! If you would like to put together a basket for the silent auction, or you have a larger donation item or "experience," please reach out to Jon or Kiersten Nash. Thank you for considering a donation to help support the ministry events at Camp Croix!

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



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is
 I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when I was sink-ing
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm



this that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse
 down be-neath God's right-eous frown, Christ laid a-side his crown
 Lamb, who is the great I AM, while mil-lions join the theme,
 free, I'll sing his love for me, and through e-ter-ni-ty



for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!
 for my soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side his crown for my soul.
 I will sing, I will sing, while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
 I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

Stand

OPENING SENTENCES



O Lord, o - pen my lips,



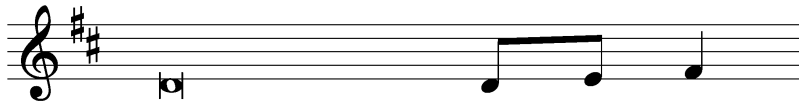
and my mouth shall de - clare your praise.



Has - ten to save me, O God;



O Lord, come quick - ly to help me.

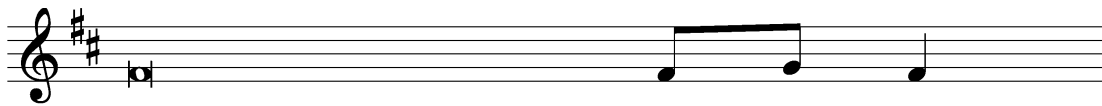


General Jesus Christ is Lord of all:

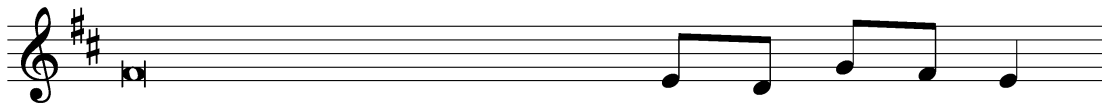


praise and thanks to God!

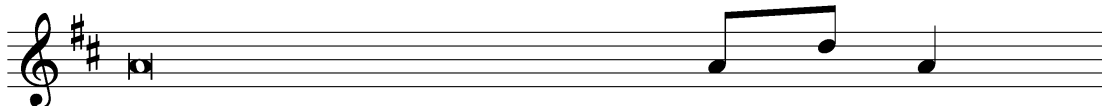
O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord



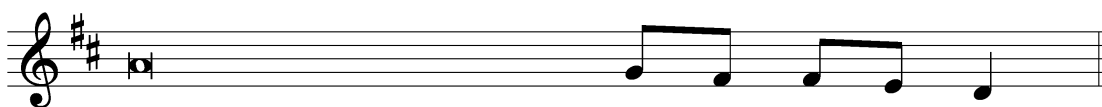
- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
- 2 For the Lord is a great _____ God
- 3 The sea is his, for he made _____ it,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
- 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
- 3 and his hand formed the dry _____ land.



- 1 Let us come into his presence with thanks - giv - ing,
- 2 The deep places of the earth are in his hand;
- 3 O come, let us worship and bow _____ down,
- 4 For he is our God,

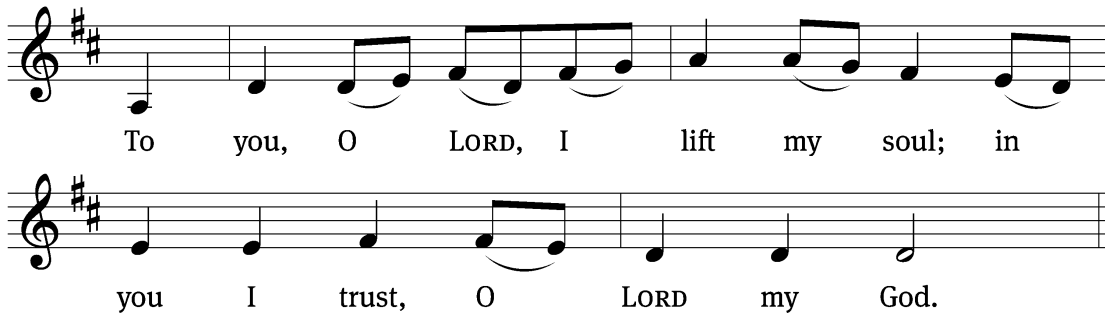


- 1 let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise.
- 2 the heights of the hills are al - so his.
- 3 let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er.
- 4 and we are the people of his
pasture and the sheep of his _____ hand.

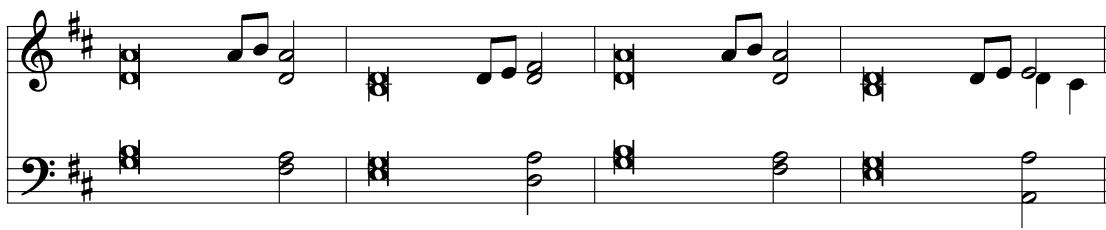
PSALM

Psalm 25A

Refrain



Tone



In you, LORD my God, I / put my trust.

I trust in you; do not let me be / put to shame.

Show me your ways, LORD, teach me / your paths.

Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my / Savior.

Remember, LORD, your great mer- / cy and love,
for they are / from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth and my re- / bellious ways;
according to your love remember me, for you, LORD, / are good. *Refrain*

LORD, forgive my iniquity, though / it is great.

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and af- / flicted.

Look on my affliction and / my distress
and take away / all my sins.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

¹The word of the LORD came to me:

²What do you mean, you who keep repeating this proverb concerning the soil of Israel, “Fathers eat sour grapes, and their sons’ teeth are set on edge”? ³As surely as I live, declares the LORD God, you will never again use this proverb in Israel. ⁴Indeed, all souls are mine. The soul of the father is mine just like the soul of the son. The soul who sins is the one who will die.

²⁵But you say, “The Lord’s way is not fair.” Listen now, house of Israel. Is it my way that is not fair? Is it not your ways that are not fair? ²⁶If a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and practices unrighteousness, he will die because of it. Because of the unrighteousness that he has practiced, he will die.

²⁷But if a wicked man turns from his wickedness that he has done and practices justice and righteousness, he will preserve his life. ²⁸Because he has seen and turned away from all the rebellious acts that he had committed, he will surely live, and he will not die. ²⁹But the house of Israel says, “The Lord’s way is not fair.” Is it really my ways that are not fair, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are not fair?

³⁰Therefore, I will judge each one of you according to his ways, O house of Israel, declares the LORD God. Repent and turn away from all your rebellious acts, so that you will not set out a stumbling block that makes you guilty. ³¹Throw off from yourselves all your rebellious actions by which you have rebelled, and obtain a new heart and a new spirit for yourselves. Why should you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies, declares the LORD God. So repent and live!

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1–11

¹So if there is any encouragement in Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, ²then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being united in spirit, and having one mind. ³Do nothing out of selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility consider one another better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look carefully not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

⁵Indeed, let this attitude be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. ⁶Though he was by nature God, he did not consider equality with God as a prize to be displayed, ⁷but he emptied himself by taking the nature of a servant. When he was born in human likeness, and his appearance was like that of any other man, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

²³When Jesus went into the temple courts, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him while he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things?” and “Who gave you this authority?”

²⁴Jesus answered them, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer it, I will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, where was it from? From heaven or from men?”

They discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Then why did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘From men,’ we are afraid of the crowd, since they all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.”

He said to them, “Then I will not tell you by what authority I do these things.”

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go work today in my vineyard.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰He came to the second and said the same thing. The second son answered, ‘I will go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?”

They said to him, “The first.”

Jesus said to them, “Amen I tell you: The tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, but you did not believe him. However, the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him. Even when you saw this, you did not change your mind and believe him.

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

ADULT & YOUTH CHOIRS: Beautiful Savior

CW 522

- 1 Beautiful Savior, King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee,
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
- 2 Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
he makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.
- 3 Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels in the sky.
- 4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration
now and forevermore be thine!

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 Engel. This service segment is intended to engage the children and help them understand today's message. They will return to their seats afterward.

HYMN: Jesus Sinners Does Receive

CW 654



1 Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive; oh, may all this
2 We de - serve but grief and shame, yet his words, rich
3 Sheep that from the fold did stray are not by the
4 I, a sin - ner, come to you with a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der who in sin's de - lu - sions live
grace re - veal - ing, par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
Lord for - sak - en; wea - ry souls who lost their way
tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, show me mer - cy, too;



and from God and heav - en wan - der. Here is hope for
here their ills have per - fect heal - ing who with hum - ble
are by Christ, the Shep - herd, tak - en in his arms that
grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my



all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
hearts be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
they may live: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.
soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners does re - ceive.

5 Oh, how blest it is to know,
were as scarlet my transgression,
it shall be as white as snow
by your blood and bitter passion,
for these words I do believe:
Jesus sinners does receive.

6 Now my conscience is at peace,
from the law I stand acquitted.
Christ has purchased my release

and my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve:
Jesus sinners does receive.

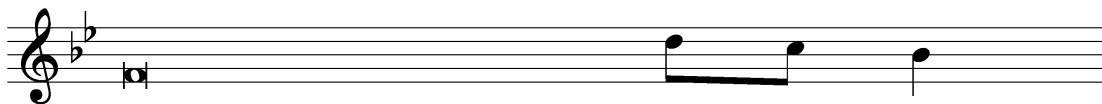
7 Jesus sinners does receive,
even I have been forgiven.
And when I this earth must leave,
I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to him I cleave:
Jesus sinners does receive.

SERMON: God Teaches Us How to Handle Guilt

Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

Stand

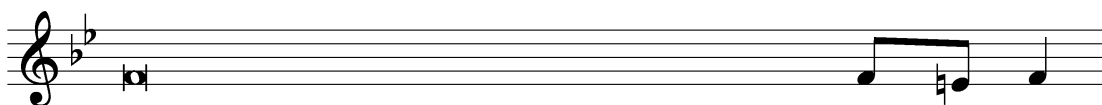
We Praise You, O God



- 1 We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord;
2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of heav'n - ly hosts,
3 The white-robed army of martyrs praise ____ you.



- 1 all creation worships you, Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing.
2 heaven and earth are full ____ of your glo - ry.
3 Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



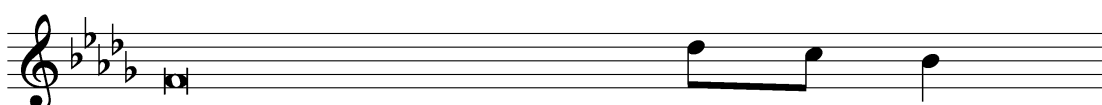
- 1 To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,
2 The glorious company of apostles praise ____ you.
3 Father of majesty unbounded; your glorious, true, and on - ly Son;



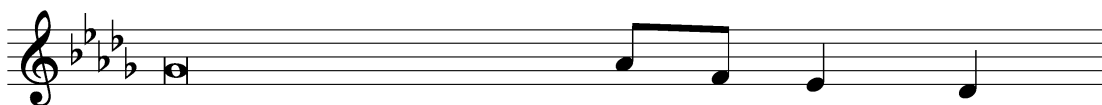
- 1 cherubim and seraphim, sing in end - less praise:
2 The noble fellowship of proph - ets praise ____ you.
3 and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide.



- 4 You, Christ, are the King of glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther.



- 5 When you became man to set us free,
6 You sit at the right hand of God



- 5 you humbled yourself to be born of a vir - gin.
6 in the glory of the Fa - ther.

5 You overcame the sting of death
 6 We believe that you will come

5 and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - ers.
 6 to be ____ our ____ judge.

7 Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple,
 7 bought with the price of your own blood,
 7 and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

Be seated

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

Lord, Have Mercy

Hear my voice when I call, O Lord; be merciful and an - swer me.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER

M: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger. And in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

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.

BENEDICAMUS



Let us praise the Lord.



Thanks be to God.

BLESSING



The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God

and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.

A - men.

HYMN: Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

CW 927

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; fill our hearts with
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for the gos - pel's
 3 So when - e'er the sig - nal's giv - en us from earth to

joy and peace. Let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound; may the fruits of your sal - va - tion
 call a - way, borne on an - gels' wings to heav - en,

tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,
 in our hearts and lives a - bound! Ev - er faith - ful,
 glad the sum - mons to o - bey, may we ev - er,

O re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
 may we ev - er reign with Christ in end - less day.

Acknowledgments

Morning Prayer from Christian Worship

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