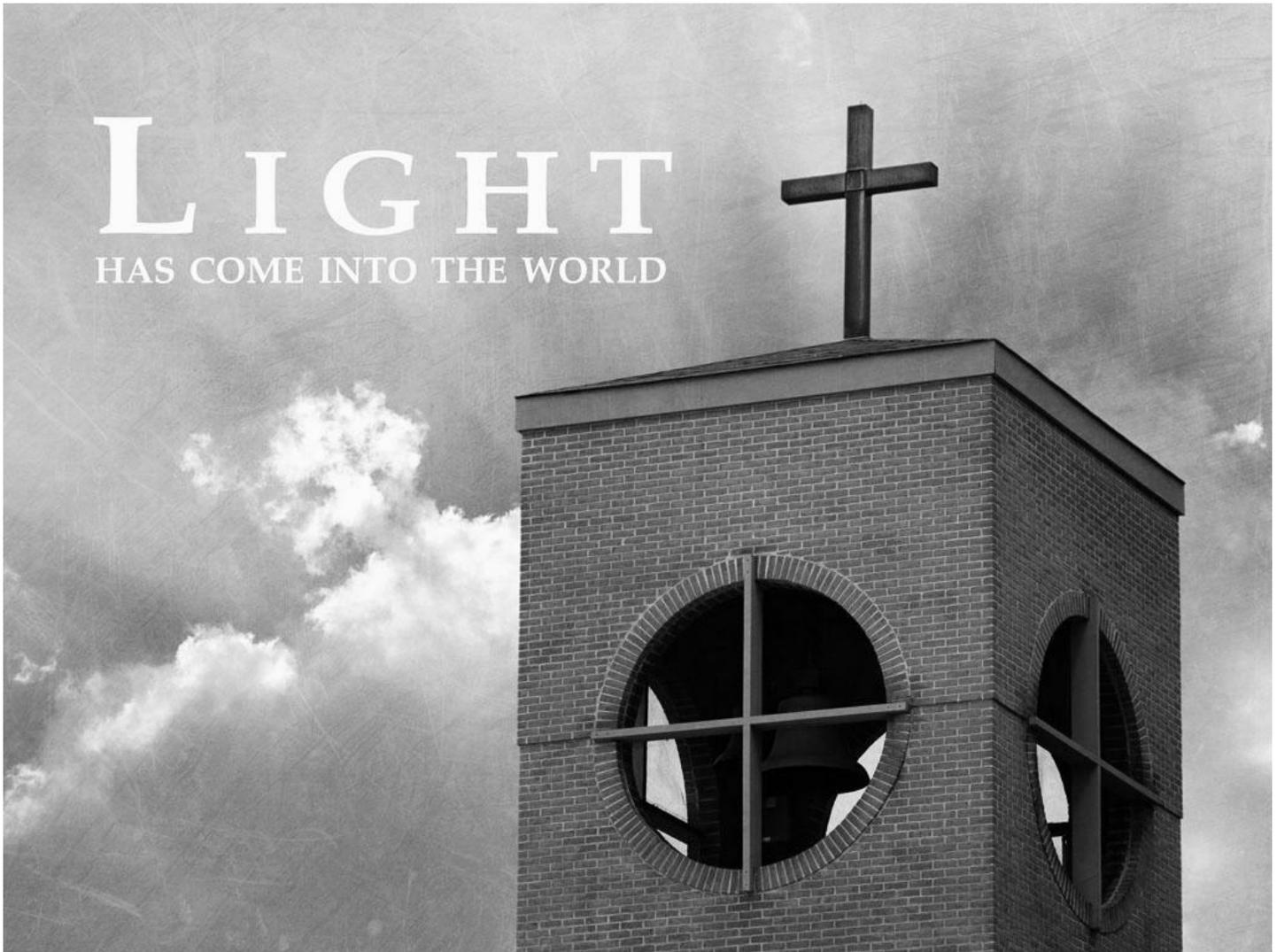


*An evening setting of Holy Communion*



St. David's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Saturday, August 19, 2017  
5:30 pm  
Holy Communion  
Interim Pastor: Rev. Larry Hoover  
Interim: Bishop Emeritus Gregory Pile  
Church: 479-4110; Fax: 479-2994  
[www.stdavidslutheran.org](http://www.stdavidslutheran.org)

# Welcome to St. David's Lutheran Church!

We are blessed by your presence and honored that you have chosen to worship with us today. Please take a moment to sign the friendship sheet that is located in the booklet at the end of each pew, near the center aisle. These sheets will be collected with the offering.

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion** is offered to all who are baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit and who recognize the Sacrament as the true body and blood of our Lord. Baptized children are also welcome to the Lord's table at St. David's with the guidance and consent of their parents or guardians.

**Prayer Requests** may be made by placing the request in the small wooden box at the rear, near the doors through which you entered. The acolyte will collect the requests and they will be included during the prayers of the congregation.

**For your comfort** there is a restroom and a water fountain located upstairs. Simply exit through the double doors back into the narthex. The restroom is straight ahead in the parlor, beside the grandfather clock, and the water fountain is to the right at the beginning of the hallway.

**Devotional** –Copies of Scripture readings for the month of December, Gospel Messages for Advent, Christ in Our Home (large print) devotions and The Word in Season devotions are located on the table in the back, next to the prayer box.

**For your convenience** there is a cry room for infants, equipped with changing table and supplies, a crib, rocking chairs, blankets, and toys. Simply exit through the double doors back into the narthex, turn right down the hallway, and it is the last room on the left.

## INTRODUCTION

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

The assembly stands.

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Rejoicing in the abundant and steadfast love of God in Christ Jesus, emboldened and called by the power of the Holy Spirit, and trusting in the healing and forgiveness of the God who is Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit let us confess our sin.

*(Kneel or Stand) Silence is kept for reflection.*

Just and gracious God,

**you call us into the freedom of light and life in your presence,  
yet we choose the darkness and bondage of sin.**

**Our lives bear the wounds of that sin,**

**the sin of our own action,**

**unholy thoughts, unholy words, unholy deeds,**

**and the sin of our own inaction,**

**injustice ignored, kindness not done, humility not shown.**

**Heal the wounds of our sin, forgive us, renew us, free us.**

**Let the power of your Holy Spirit reign over us,**

**for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

People of God:

When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross. Therefore, as a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sin, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### **GREETING**

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.**

### **KYRIE**

In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy**

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

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 mercy.**

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

Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord. **Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. . . .

Almighty and ever-living God, you have given great and precious promises to those who believe. Grant us the perfect faith which overcomes all doubts, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

## **FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8**

A reading from Isaiah the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.

*{The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.}*

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come,  
and my deliverance be revealed.

<sup>6</sup>And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,  
and to be his servants,  
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,  
and hold fast my covenant—

<sup>7</sup>these I will bring to my holy mountain,  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;  
for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.

<sup>8</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD,  
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,  
I will gather others to them  
besides those already gathered.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND LESSON: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32**

A reading from Romans the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter.

*{God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable, so that while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.}*

[Paul writes:] <sup>1</sup>I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin.

<sup>2a</sup>God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

<sup>29</sup>For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup>Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup>For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly stands.*

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

### **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*{Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be pagan and unclean approaches him for help.}*

[<sup>10</sup>[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand:<sup>11</sup>it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” <sup>12</sup>Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” <sup>13</sup>He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. <sup>14</sup>Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” <sup>15</sup>But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” <sup>16</sup>Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? <sup>17</sup>Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? <sup>18</sup>But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. <sup>19</sup>For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. <sup>20</sup>These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”] <sup>21</sup>Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>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.” <sup>23</sup>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.” <sup>24</sup>He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” <sup>25</sup>But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” <sup>26</sup>He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>27</sup>She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” <sup>28</sup>Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**SERMON**

Silence for reflection may follow.

The assembly stands.

Together we confess our faith:

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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 INTERCESSION

Generous, compassionate God, we gather before you to pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Unite us, O God, so that all who worship receive assurance and nourishment by faith. Rescue those who suffer from religious persecution. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Teach us, O God, so that the holy mountains and peaceful valleys of your good creation can be restored to the health you intend. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Empower us, O God, to advocate for those on the margins. Open the hearts of leaders in every nation to serve those who are most vulnerable. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Equip us, O God, with your love for our brothers and sisters. Heal the sick, comfort the grieving, feed the hungry, and calm those in distress (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Rouse us, O God, to praise you with gladness. We give thanks for musicians, worship leaders, intercessors, those who prepare the communion table, and all who make our worship express our joy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We give you thanks, O God, for the saints who have deepened our lives of prayer (*especially Bernard, abbot of Clairvaux*). Gather us with them in endless praise of you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands we place all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, trusting in the mercy of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The minister and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

Peace be with you.

**Peace be with you.**

## **OFFERING**

### **OFFERTORY HYMN**

The assembly stands.

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

Merciful Father,

**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **DIALOGUE**

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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 him thanks and praise.**

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

All glory to you, Almighty God, heavenly Father:

out of Your great love for us You gave Your only Son Jesus,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have  
eternal life.

It was your Son Jesus

who freely surrendered Himself to suffer death  
on the cross for us and for our salvation.

There, on that cross,

He willingly offered Himself up as a full,  
perfect, and sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

By that gift of love and grace

we are your people,  
born of water and word,  
served, fed, and forgiven at your Holy Table  
and called together by Your Holy Spirit.

Therefore we offer ourselves

as disciples who follow  
as witnesses to the world  
and as living memory of His gift of grace.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine,  
that they may be for us the body and blood of your Son our Lord.

**Amen, come Lord Jesus.**

On 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 many  
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.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us:

as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread,  
so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth,  
that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son our Lord.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,  
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,  
in your holy Church,  
both now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

## **LAMB OF GOD**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

*The assembly is seated.*

*The Holy Communion is distributed with these or similar words:*

The body of Christ, given for you

The blood of Christ, shed for you

## **COMMUNION HYMN**

*Following the Holy Communion the congregation stands:*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The assembly stands.*

## **BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **QUIET MEDITATION**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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### **The Persistent Advocate**

The Canaanite woman comes before Jesus with an urgent need. Her daughter is being tormented by a demon. She doesn't just ask for help; she shouts for it. Disconcertingly, despite her outcries, Jesus at first remains silent. Yet she doesn't give up. She kneels before him and pleads her case. Not even being likened to a dog shuts her up. "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table," she insists (Matt. 15:27). Finally, Jesus rewards her faith and persistence by healing her child.

We, too, may find ourselves the advocate for a desperate or unpopular cause in our workplace or community. We may find ourselves pleading on behalf of the disenfranchised. We may feel driven to relieve suffering or right an injustice. Urgently, we cry out to those we hope will help us. We shout and demand. We write letters, attend vigils, and carry placards. Perhaps at first, those in power will meet us with scorn or indifference. They might condemn us for who we are. Yet we must not give up. The Canaanite woman does not stop trying, nor should we.

Even though Jesus' disciples encourage him to send the Canaanite woman away, he stops to hear her. He speaks with this vulnerable outsider and allows her words to touch his heart. Compassionately, he reevaluates and reaches out. We never know how long it will take for our case to be heard. It may take weeks, months, or years. However, when we advocate for the good of another, we must not stop trying. God sees beyond social status, outward appearance, and group affiliation. This is good news for all of us. We can trust that someday we also will hear the words: "Great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

## *Daily Readings for the Week August 20-26*

Sunday:	Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 Psalm 67 Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28
Monday:	Psalm 87 2 Kings 5:1-14 Acts 15:1-21
Tuesday:	Psalm 87 Isaiah 43:8-13 Romans 11:13-29
Wednesday:	Psalm 87 Isaiah 66:18-23 Matthew 8:1-13
Thursday:	Psalm 138 Ezekiel 28:11-19 1 Corinthians 6:1-11
Friday:	Psalm 138 Ezekiel 31:15-18 2 Corinthians 10:12-18
Saturday:	Psalm 138 Ezekiel 36:33-38 Matthew 16:5-12