

PLATTVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

5475 Bell Road

Minooka, Illinois 60447

August 16, 2026

9:15 a.m.

Twelfth Sunday after

Pentecost

O, COME LET US WORSHIP THE LORD!

* Indicates that the congregation will stand.

PREPARATION Enter to worship

THE PRELUDE/BELL RINGING

Announcements

*The CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS p. 94

*The OPENING HYMN

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" #858

*The APOSTOLIC GREETING p. 98

*The KYRIE p. 98

PRAYER AND PRAISE

* The HYMN OF PRAISE p. 99

*The PRAYER OF THE DAY *Celebrate insert*

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The FIRST LESSON Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

The PSALM Psalm 67 *Celebrate insert*

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

The ALLELUIA VERSE p. 102

*The HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 15:10-23, 21-28

SERMON

*The HYMN OF THE DAY

"In Christ there is no East or West" #650

*The APOSTLES' CREED p. 105

*The PRAYERS

*The SHARING OF THE PEACE

The OFFERING

*The OFFERTORY "Create in Me" *Insert in pew*

*The OFFERTORY PRAYER p. 107

*The LORD'S PRAYER p. 112

BACK INTO THE MAINSTREAM OF LIFE

*The BENEDICTION

*The CLOSING HYMN

"Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" #886

*The DISMISSAL/POSTLUDE

Depart to serve

Minister

Henrik Christopherson

Ministers

All Members

Lector

Kim Kurtz

Head Ushers

Darrell Hansen

Bob Bols

Bruce Knudson

Church Office

475-7220



Celebrate

Sunday, August 16, 2026
12th Sunday after Pentecost

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.

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.**

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

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.

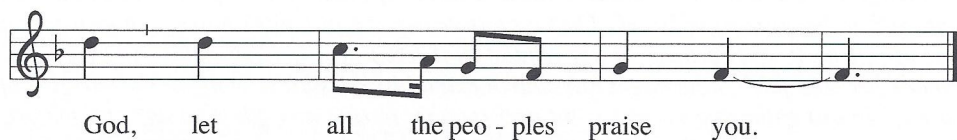
Thus says the LORD:

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

⁶And 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—

⁷these 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.

⁸Thus says the Lord God,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.



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 a- | mong all nations.**

³Let 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 na- | tions on earth. R**

⁵Let 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.**

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

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:] 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. ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you

were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Gospel

Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

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 a religious outsider approaches him for help.

[¹⁰[Jesus] called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand:

¹¹it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles."

¹²Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they

heard what you said?" ¹³He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.

¹⁴Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit."

¹⁵But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us."

¹⁶Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding?"

¹⁷Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer?

¹⁸But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles.

¹⁹For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft,

false witness, slander. ²⁰These are

what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."]

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon.

²²Just 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." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away,

for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me."

²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs."

²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

²⁸Then 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.

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

With bold trust in God’s unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation.

A brief silence.

For believers around the world who stream to your holy mountain, that all be united in faith and harmony in the body of Christ. Let your church on earth be a witness to the beloved community of your heavenly kingdom. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For your wondrous creation, that it thrives and flourishes as you intend. Raise up wise stewards to defend the natural world against carelessness and destruction. Safeguard endangered species and their habitats (*especially*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For the nations of the world and all in authority, that they heed the cry of the outcast and ensure care for the most vulnerable. Give wisdom to leaders of countries, congregations, and communities, that they lead and serve justly. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For all who are lonely, grieving, or struggling with chronic pain, that they find comfort, community, and hope. Send relief to all who struggle with illness of any kind (*especially*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For this congregation, for visitors and those new to this faith community, that all may recognize the presence of Christ in each new face. Draw this community together in love and strengthen it in unwavering faith. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

For the saints before us whose work is done, that their faithful example continues to direct your church. May their witness remind us that your gifts and calling are irrevocable, whether in life or death. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Preparing for Next Week

Monday Psalm 87. **Tuesday** Romans 11:13-29. **Wednesday** Matthew 8:1-13. **Thursday** (commemoration of Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, died 1153) Psalm 138. **Friday** Ezekiel 31:15-18. **Saturday** Ezekiel 36:33-38. **Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost** Isaiah 51:1-6; Psalm 138; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20.

CELEBRATE August 16, 2026 (Lectionary 20) Volume 57, Number 3

CELEBRATE (ISSN 1083-3242, USPS 783-460) is published quarterly by Augsburg Fortress, 411 Washington Avenue North, Third Floor, Minneapolis, MN, 55401. Periodicals postage paid in St. Paul, MN and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Celebrate, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, P.O. Box 1553, Minneapolis, MN 55440-1553. Printed in U.S.A. Price per weekly part \$5.79 per 100 copies; price in Canada subject to exchange rates. Minimum order 50 copies of each issue; all orders must be in multiples of 50. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Readings from the New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Prayer of the day, psalm, and readings during the week from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Refrain music by Ray Makeever. Refrain accompaniment is in *Psalter for Worship, Year A* (Augsburg Fortress, 2007). Please visit our website at augsburgfortress.org. Lectionary year A.

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PARISH CALENDAR

Worship the Lord with gladness – Psalm 100:2

Today 9:15 Worship.

Tuesday, August 18th 9:30 am Grace Circle Bible study at church

Sunday, September 13th – Worship with communion and celebration: Organ dedication, Commissioning of Henrik Christopherson and Mike Bjerum as our Ministers, Celebration of our 145th Anniversary, Sunday School Rally Day. We will have a professional organist and a catered lunch after the service. Potluck desserts.

School kits: .Back to school supplies are on sale! For our LWR school kits, we only need notebooks (4-70 sheet spiral notebooks - wide or college ruled), pens (5 black or blue ballpoint, no gel ink) and pencils (5 unsharpened #2 with erasers). Walmart has spiral notebooks on sale for 35 cents each. Thank you!

Want to hear and sing your favorite hymn? There is a box in the entryway – fill out a sheet with what you want to hear.

August 9th offering: Current \$427.00 Mission \$20.00

Thank you for your support!

Back to school prayer:

*Dear Lord, use my eyes to see new friends
Open my ears to hear my teacher
Open my mind to see new things
Let my heart remember you are near when I am afraid
Help me to love others like you do
I want to shine your light so bright in my school. Amen*



Breaking Boundaries

Jesus did not stay within the boundaries of his time, much to the frustration of authorities. He broke through not just geographic boundaries but religious, ethnic, and social boundaries as well.

Jesus intentionally broke geographic and ethnic boundaries in visiting the Canaanite communities of Tyre and Sidon. Canaanites and Jews had often been in conflict, so it was not that surprising when the disciples attempted to prevent a Canaanite woman from seeing Jesus. She was breaking boundaries herself in asking that Jesus heal her child. Jesus' first response seems harsh, but as the woman persisted and acknowledged him as "Lord" (something the disciples had been slow to grasp), he healed her child.

In this encounter, Jesus demonstrated that God's love cannot be held back by boundaries created by humans based on who we are, where we are from, what we have done, our background, our position in society, and more. God's grace and restoration are available to all, with no exceptions.

And yet, history is filled with accounts of bias, discrimination, oppression, segregation, persecution, and genocide. Tragically, this continues today in a multitude of ways and a multitude of places.

As present-day disciples, we are called to follow Christ in breaking boundaries, challenging biases, and welcoming all to celebrate God's love at the font and the table. So, what boundaries do we need to break to work for peace and proclaim the good news? How are we and our congregations fighting bias, discrimination, oppression, and persecution wherever we can? How are we persistently asking Christ to heal and restore fractured communities and nations around the world?