

PLATTVILLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

5475 Bell Road
Minooka, Illinois 60447

August 23, 2026
9:15 a.m.
13th 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
"Our Father, By Whose Name" #640

*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 51:1-6

The PSALM Psalm 138 *Celebrate insert*

The SECOND LESSON Romans 12:1-8

The ALLELUIA VERSE p. 102

*The HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 16:13-20
SERMON

*The HYMN OF THE DAY
"Built on a Rock" #652

*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
"Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good" #871

*The DISMISSAL/POSTLUDE

Depart to serve

Minister
Henrik Christopherson

Ministers
All Members

Lector
Annika Michlik

Head Ushers
Darrell Hansen
Bob Bols
Bruce Knudson

Church Office
475-7220



Celebrate

Sunday, August 23, 2026

13th Sunday after Pentecost

In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

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.**

First Reading

Isaiah 51:1-6

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

Listen to me, you who pursue
righteousness,
you who seek the LORD.

Look to the rock from which you were
hewn
and to the quarry from which you
were dug.

²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him
many.

³For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the
LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the
peoples.

⁵I will bring near my deliverance
swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a
garment,
and those who live on it will die like
gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be
ended.

In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ²Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment,

each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And 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. ¹⁸And 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. ¹⁹I 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." ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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.

God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built. Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You spoke and all creation came into being. Field and forest, wetland and wilderness—all reveal your glory. Sustain and nourish your creation (*local areas of ecological concern may be named*). Teach us to be wise stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster (*especially*). Guide the work of relief agencies and peacemaking organizations. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for all in need this day (*especially*). Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Your steadfast love endures forever. We give thanks for the faithful who died in the hope of this promise. Strengthen us in faith until the day we join them at your eternal banquet. 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 (Bartholomew, Apostle) John 1:43-51. **Tuesday** Psalm 18:1-3, 20-32. **Wednesday** Isaiah 28:14-22. **Thursday** Psalm 26:1-8. **Friday** (commemoration of Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, died 430; Moses the Black, monk, martyr, died around 400) 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12. **Saturday** Jeremiah 15:10-14. **Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost** Jeremiah 15:15-21; Psalm 26:1-8; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28.

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PARISH CALENDAR

"Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs"
– Psalm 100:2

Today 9:15 Worship. Fellowship in basement following service.

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 with dessert after the service.

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 16th offering: Current \$1,988.00 Mission \$370.00
Bldg Fund \$110.00

Thank you for your support!



Revealing God

Jesus came to earth as God *incarnate*, meaning “in or having bodily form.” This was no accident. The prophets of the past had used their bodies and their words so people could understand God. In Christ, God was revealed in flesh and blood, allowing us to know who God is and what God’s priorities are for creation.

Peter points this out to us, saying that Christ is “the Son of the living God” (Matthew 16:16). As a *living* God, moving among us as Jesus Christ, God reveals Godself directly. God reveals the divine nature and priorities through Jesus’ earthly life. Jesus lives without possessions, sharing in the suffering of people who are poor and oppressed. On the Galilean coast he feeds thousands of people before teaching them. He befriends outcasts like Zacchaeus the tax collector and the Canaanite woman. He calls out the greed and misplaced priorities of the wealthy by flipping tables. Instead of merely telling us, Christ incarnate shows us that God has a serious concern for all people on the margins of society.

As the church is formed into the body of Christ, we too now reveal to the world who God is and what God’s priorities are. How does our ministry show God’s concern for those who are poor and marginalized today? Do we seek out and walk alongside people cast out by dominant society? Do we not only preach the word but make sure people are fed as well?

By accompanying our neighbors in their struggles for dignity, justice, and the right to flourish, we do the good work of followers of Jesus, striving with God for the end of all oppression and death, for a world made whole.