



*With the birth of Jesus in our hearts
We carry light and love to the world.*

*Sunday, August 3, 2025
8th Sunday after Pentecost
A Healing & Reconciliation Service*

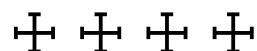


OUR VALUES STATEMENT: We recognize that we are not here by chance but are gathered together to be the church of God in Christ.

We recognize that God is making us, through grace, into a fellowship that embodies and expresses the spirit of Christ.

In this fellowship there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female, for all of us are one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:28). Therefore, we welcome all people, regardless of religious office, position, possessions, education, race, age, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, mental ability, physical ability or other distinctions; and work to promote anti-racism. (Adopted 4/6/25)

VISION STATEMENT: *Working as a supportive family of faith to extend God's gracious welcome through worship, community service, and spiritual growth opportunities.*



The Liturgy is from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

Are you hearing impaired? If you are having difficulty hearing our worship service, try using our Assisted Hearing System, which is available from an usher.

Today's worship service is being live-streamed beginning at 9:25am and will be replayed next Sunday at 6pm on FM radio station 102.9. The service is available to view anytime on the home page of our website: www.nlcww.org.

In-person attendance for last Sunday: 96

PLEASE MAKE SURE CELL PHONES ARE SILENCED.

CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Runyan/Shackley



THE GATHERING
The Holy Spirit calls us
together as the people of God.

Please stand as you are able and turn toward the baptismal font.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rise up, O Judge of the earth;

give to the proud what they deserve!

O Lord, how long shall the wicked exult?

They crush your people, O Lord, and afflict your heritage.

They kill the widow and the stranger; they murder the orphan,
and they say, “The Lord does not see; the God of Jacob does not perceive.”

But the Lord will not forsake nor abandon God’s creation;

for justice will return to the righteous, and all the upright in heart will follow it.

Can wicked rulers be allied with You, those who contrive mischief by statute?

They band together against the life of the righteous and condemn the innocent to death.

But the Lord is our stronghold and refuge.

God will repay and restore justice. (Psalm 94)

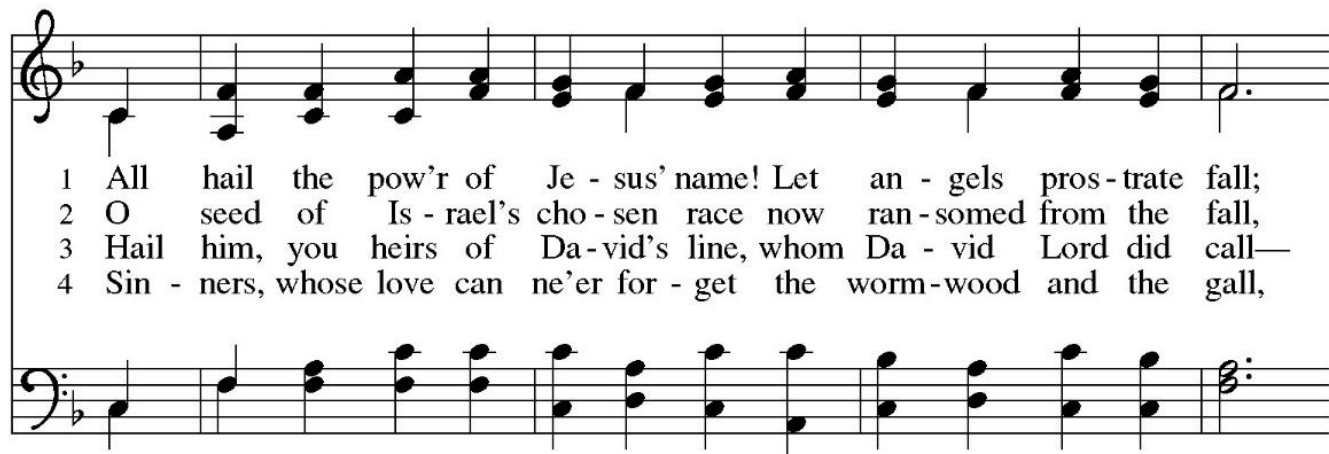
Please look toward the cross as it processes toward the altar.

GATHERING HYMN

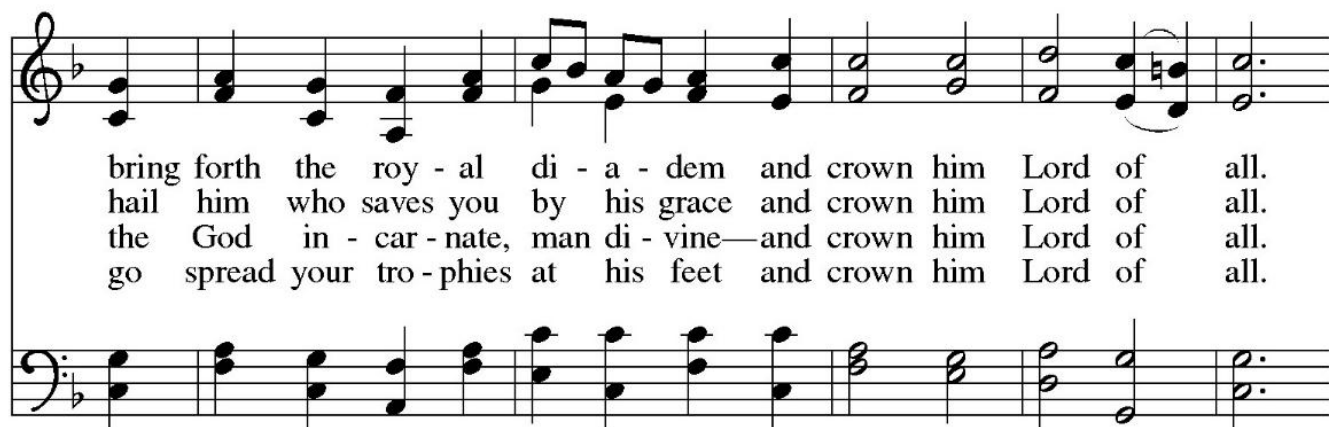
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

634

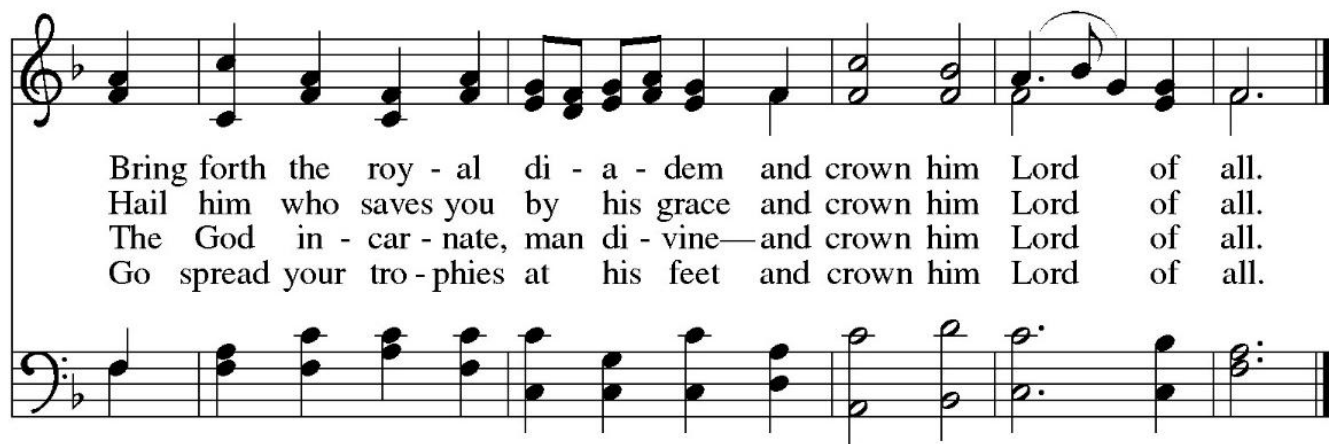
vv. 1-4



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,
3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—
4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm-wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

PASTORAL GREETING

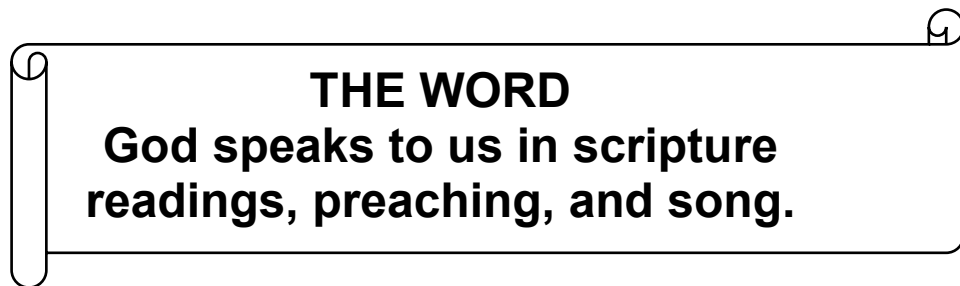
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Benevolent God, You are the Source, the Guide, and the Goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to You, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Please be seated.



SPECIAL MUSIC

Rescue

Lauren Daigle
Soloist: Gina Fell

A READING FROM JAMES

5:13-18

Reader: Janet Johnson

¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

² **Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—**

³ who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

⁴ **who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

⁵ who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

⁶ **The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷ He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.

⁸ **The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

⁹ He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever.

¹⁰ **He does not deal with us according to our sins nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

¹² **as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.**

¹³ As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.

¹⁴ **For he knows how we were made; he remembers that we are dust.**

¹⁵ As for mortals, their days are like grass; they flourish like a flower of the field;

- ¹⁶ **for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.**
- ¹⁷ But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children,
- ¹⁸ **to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments.**
- ¹⁹ The Lord has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.
- ²⁰ **Bless the Lord, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, obedient to his spoken word.**
- ²¹ Bless the Lord, all his hosts, his ministers who do his will.
- ²² **Bless the Lord, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION





THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 8:22-26

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to You, O Lord.

²² They came to Bethsaida. Some people brought a blind man to him and begged him to touch him. ²³ He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village, and when he had put saliva on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, "Can you see anything?" ²⁴ And the man looked up and said, "I can see people, but they look like trees, walking." ²⁵ Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again, and he looked intently, and his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. ²⁶ Then he sent him away to his home, saying, "Do not even go into the village."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Hope for Healing

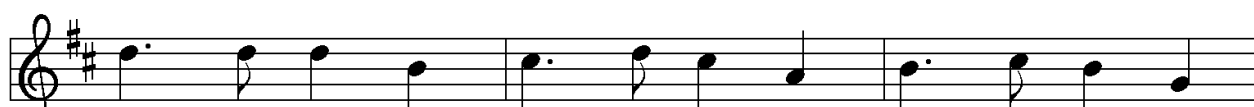
Rev. Dr. Carlan Helgeson

Please stand.

Refrain




Heal - er of our ev - 'ry ill, light of each to - mor - row,
give us peace be - yond our fear, and hope be - yond our sor - row.



1 You who know our fears and sad - ness, grace us with your
2 In the pain and joy be - hold - ing how your grace is
3 Give us strength to love each oth - er, ev - 'ry sis - ter,
4 You who know each thought and feel - ing, teach us all your

Refrain



peace and glad - ness; Spir - it of all com - fort, fill our hearts.
still un - fold - ing, give us all your vi - sion, God of love.
ev - 'ry broth - er; Spir - it of all kind - ness, be our guide.
way of heal - ing; Spir - it of com - pas - sion, fill each heart.

Please be seated.

HEALING SERVICE

Our Lord Jesus healed many as a sign of the reign of God come near and sent the disciples to continue this work of healing —with prayer and the laying on of hands.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

Sisters and brothers, I invite you to come at your own pace when you are ready, and receive a sign of healing and wholeness in the name of the triune God.

Those who wish to receive laying on of hands approach the communion rail and kneel if able.

When all have been prayed over, the group stands for a blessing.

After the blessing, those at the communion rail may return to their seats.

When the last group has been prayed over, the whole congregation stands.

BLESSING FOR THE WHOLE CONGREGATION

Almighty God, who is a strong Tower to all, to whom all things in heaven and on earth bow and obey, be now and evermore your sure defense, and help you to know that the name given to us for health and salvation is the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In the name of Christ, the great Healer and Reconciler of the world, we now entrust to God all who are in need of healing.

After each petition: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in You, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

You may offer your neighbor a sign of peace.

OFFERTORY

You may place your offering in the offering basket by the baptismal font, or bring/mail to the office during the week. You may also donate on-line at <https://www.nlcww.org>, or on our Facebook page. You may also contribute using Venmo or Zelle if you have an account or use the QR code below. For more information about these methods see today's Weekly Announcement Sheet.



OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to You that You illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to You; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with You and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. Amen.

Let us pray the prayer Christ himself taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Please stand as you are able.

THE SENDING

God blesses us and sends us
in mission to the world.

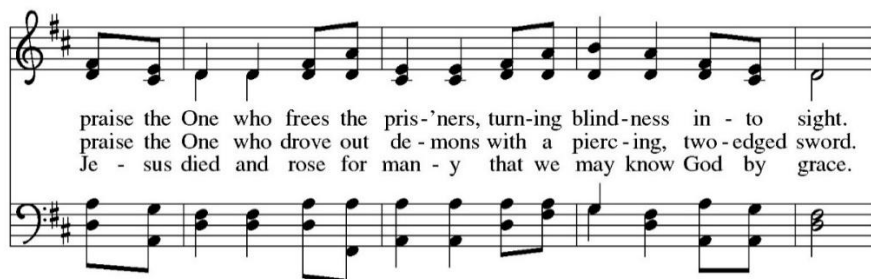
BLESSING

God, the Source of glory, God, the Word of life, God, the Spirit of truth bless us all, now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness* 843



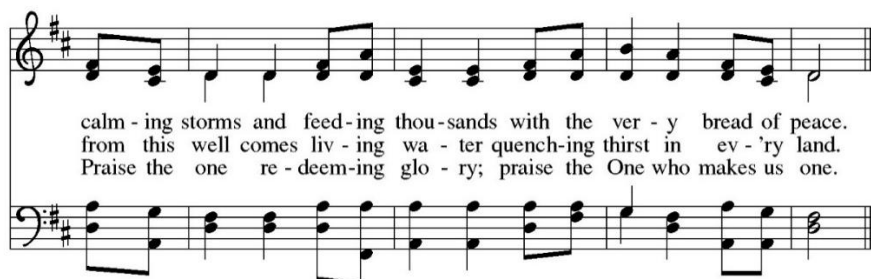
1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at-ing light;
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil-dren with a strong yet gen-tle word;
3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf-fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris-'ners, turn-ing blind-ness in - to sight.
praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc-ing, two-edged sword.
Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal-ing ev - 'ry dread dis-ease,
Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des-ert's burn-ing sand;
Let us sing for joy and glad-ness, see-ing what our God has done.



calm-ing storms and feed-ing thou-sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench-ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
Praise the one re - deem-ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.

SENDING

People of Nativity, what is our mission?

With the birth of Jesus in our hearts we carry light and love to the world.

DISMISSAL

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God

Lani Smith

✙ ✙ ✙ ✙

NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 15:1-6	Psalm: 33:12-22
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	Luke 12:32-40

COFFEE HOUR – Please join us for fellowship in Winemiller Hall after today's worship service.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

New this week: Killian Ash

Continue to pray for: Brian Albright, Anne B, Carlos B, Eric Vincent Baez, Tracy Baker, Frani Barnes, Betty Barnhart, Jimmy Barrett, Baynon family, Herb Baynon, Windy Binns, Robert Bonesteel, Ruth Brellenthin, Paul Todd Brown, Denise Brown, Iris

Brunner, Agnes Burkart, Canea family, C.J. & Colleen, Karen Chipko, Denise Crawford, Dominik Desormeaux, Judy Dietz, Charlotte Downing, JoAnn Faulkner, Gavin, Jenna, & Ben Felder, Flower family, Geiser family, Vicki Goers, Donald Haig, Irma Haig, Terry Halgren, Candy Hall, D. Hambaugh, June Heinecke, Gary and Mary Heinecke, Glenn Heinecke, Kay Hill, Sandra Hill, Barbara Hofving, Dawn Houdek, Roman Jensen, Brian Johnson, June Johnston, Sue Kardasz, Willy K, Karen family, Finn Katona and family, Judy Kortier, Stephanie Krepshaw, Debra Leinenger, Kim Maccloud, Bob Maday, Mallory, Elaine Malone, Antonio Mattei, Raina McDannold, Darlene McDevitt, Mary McDowall, Bradford Allen McWilliams, Jackie Meyer, Mark and Wayne Musarra, Eva Mydland, Brian Napoli, Kelly Oliver, Oliver family, Michele Oliver, Lou Prettyman, Barbara Prochilo, Mary Reber, Rinehart family, Rocco family, Dennis Rogers, John Sannuto, Sean, Sirmenis family, Eileen Smith, Alice Totten, Nancy Vangilder, Antonio Vaznelis, Lauren West, West family, Ginger Wielk, Art Worden, Christopher Younger, Eileen and Carol and Jason

PRAYERS FOR OUR LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY

Nic Baker, Brandi Culpepper, Private Tony D'Angelo, Areil Dietz, Maj. Matthew Henry, Colton Hill, Brandon Holt-Chief Warrant Officer 3, Andria T. Hook, Jonathan Hudson, Perry Langbein, Maj. USAF Will Lawlor, Cullen McDannold, Zachary McGuire, US Navy CTT2 William Pause, Brandon Pierce, Clinton Pierce, Isaac Redmond, Andrea Roache, Joel Roberts, Cpl. Timothy Spruytte, Cameron James Thompson-Airman 3rd Class, LCpl. Erich Timm, Airman Bob Totten, Kesley Underwood, Kyle Underwood, Maj. Chad Waldorf - Airforce.

PRAYERS: The list will be cleared every four weeks. If you wish to remain on the list for longer than four weeks, please call the office and request a long-term prayer. In case of emergency, contact the office at 352-597-1456 and leave a detailed message. Messages are checked daily.



Altar Flowers: If you would like to order flowers in honor or in memory of someone, there is a sign-up sheet in the narthex, or you can call the office at 352-597-1456. Donation is \$25.00. Flowers can be picked up after the 9:30AM Sunday service, or you can schedule a pick-up time with the office if you are not attending service.

Worship Leaders

Leader	Rev. Dr. Carlan Helgeson
Assisting Minister	Pat Squires
Scripture Reader	Janet Johnson
Ushers	Gwen Mahon & Wayne Morris
Acolyte/Crucifer	Robert Rios
Greeter(s)	Evelyn Galli
Music Director	Donna Olsen
Altar Guild	Connie Chase & Linda Russo
Sanctuary	Connie Chase & Beryl Clements
AV Director	Art Alt
Audio	Pat Squires
Cameras	Tim Cotter & Mark Major
Graphics	Diane Alt, Francesca Bugini, Ed Lewis & Linda Rizzo
Video Production	Vicki Page
Head counter this week	Ernie Horeis
Data Entry	Gwen Mahon

**NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WEEKI WACHEE
A CONGREGATION OF THE FLORIDA-BAHAMAS SYNOD OF
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

6363 Commercial Way, Weeki Wachee, FL 34613

Phone (352) 597-1456

Email: Nativitylutheran63@gmail.com, Website: nlcww.org

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

Deacon Charlotte Downing

Music Director: Donna Olsen

Audio/Visual Director: Art Alt

Sunday Service at 9:30 a.m.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



RECONCILING IN CHRIST