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Pastoral Emergency? Call Pr Keith Kolstad (715) 587-7898 during August.

Summer Schedule STILL INCLUDES Lector, Commune, Counters, and Fellowship.

10a at Gethsemane	August 16	August 23	August 30
ALTAR			
USHERS			
LECTORS			
HOLY COMMUNE			
TECH			
COUNT			
FOOD			



Want to share the service with a friend?

Direct them to **youtube.com/@GSSMichigan** to find our YouTube Channel. Have them click on the **LIVE** tab, and then click on the **video** they'd like to watch.

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Twelfth Sunday of Pentecost

August 16, 2026

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.



In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

Welcome + Announcements + Confession and Forgiveness

Leader:

Righteous God,

ALL:

...we confess that we have sinned.
We have failed to be honest.
We have lacked the courage to speak.
We have spoken falsely.
In the name of Jesus,
forgive us and grant us your mercy.

F Bb F C G7 C

1 'Tis so sweet to trust in Je - sus, just to take him at his word,
 2 O how sweet to trust in Je - sus, just to trust his cleans-ing blood,
 4 I'm so glad I learned to trust you, pre-cious Je - sus, Sav - ior, Friend,

F Bb F Bb F C F

just to rest up - on his prom - ise, just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."
 just in sim - ple faith to plunge me 'neath the heal - ing, cleans-ing flood!
 and I know that you are with me, will be with me to the end.

Refrain C Dm F C F C G7 C

Je - sus, Je - sus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!

F Bb F Bb F C F

Je - sus, Je - sus, pre - cious Je - sus! O for grace to trust him more!

WORDS: Louisa M. R. Stead (1850-1917)
 MUSIC: William J. Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)

TRUST IN JESUS
 8.7.8.7.Ref.

Greeting + 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

¹Thus 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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

¹May 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 among 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 nations on earth.**

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.



Paul writes: ¹I 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 they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation + Gospel: Matthew 15:10-20 + Homily

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -

- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -

lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

- ¹⁰ **Jesus** called the crowd to him and said to them, *"Listen and understand: ¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles."*
- ¹² Then the **disciples** approached and said to him, *"Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?"*
- ¹³ **He** answered, *"Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit."*
- ¹⁵ But **Peter** said to him, *"Explain this parable to us."*
- ¹⁶ Then **He** said, *"Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."*

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

The Well-Loved Traditions

TUNE: *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

The well-loved traditions have gotten us through,
Yet, see your Disciples, the things that they do!
Some leaders told Jesus, *"They have no respect!*
The old ways we follow are what they reject!"

Forgive us, Lord Jesus, for caring too much
For rules and traditions and standards and such.
For while they are useful and good in their place,
In keeping them, sometimes, we overlook grace.

O Lord, may appearances match what's inside.
Take all our hypocrisy, hatred, and pride.
Lord, fill us with good things from heaven above,
'Til old ways and new ways are bursting with love!

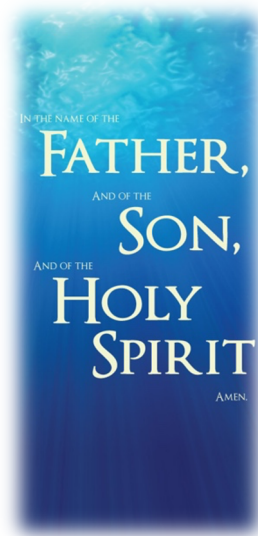
Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in **Jesus Christ**, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day, he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the
Father,
and he will come 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.



Offering + Peace + Prayers of the People The Great Thanksgiving + Holy Communion

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks...

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.



Leader: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...

*And so, with the Church on earth, and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name, and join their unending hymn:*

Holy, Holy, Holy

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

The 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.

Communion Hymn One Bread, One Body ELW 496

Post-Communion Prayer + Blessing

Sending Hymn Soli Deo Gloria ELW 878

Dismissal Go in peace! Share the harvest! Thanks be to God!

ANNOUNCEMENTS



REMINDER: Our Annual Time Change kicks in **ON September 6, 2026.** St. Stephen’s worships at 9a and Gethsemane worship moves to 10:30a.



August 16, 2026, Nineteen Comes Before Twenty
Exodus 19:1-6; 20:1-2
Use this resource at home to guide your household’s daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Mothering God, you have always borne us on your wings like a loving mother eagle cares for her brood. Continue to guide us as we grow in your word. Feed, protect, and strengthen us for the work of carrying your love into our families, communities, and the world. In Jesus’ holy name we pray. Amen.



Read: Read the key verse from Sunday’s reading.

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. (Exodus 20:2)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

When God lays out 10 commandments, God asks a lot of the people. But God gives people even more than God asks.