

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church**  
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**St. Stephen's Lutheran Church**  
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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 30 | Sept 6: 9a at St. | Sept 13 |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|---------|
| ALTAR             |           |                   |         |
| USHERS            |           |                   |         |
| LECTORS           |           |                   |         |
| HOLY COMMUNE      |           |                   |         |
| TECH              |           |                   |         |
| COUNT             |           |                   |         |
| FOOD              |           |                   |         |



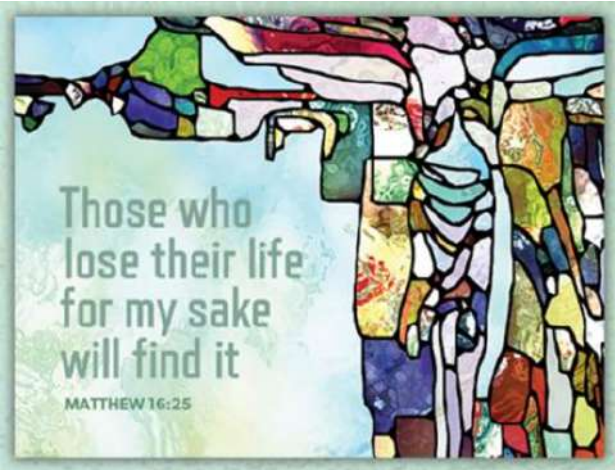
**Want to share the service with a friend?**

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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**Fourteenth Sunday  
of Pentecost  
August 30, 2026**

*The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.*



**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.**

|                                     |
|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Greeting + Prayer of the Day</b> |
|-------------------------------------|

**O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, Amen**

|                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>First Reading</b> | <b>Jeremiah 15:15-21</b> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, you know;  
remember me and visit me,  
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.  
In your forbearance do not take me away;  
know that on your account I suffer insult.

<sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them,  
and your words became to me a joy  
and the delight of my heart;  
for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.

<sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,  
nor did I rejoice;  
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,  
for you had filled me with indignation.

<sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable,  
refusing to be healed?  
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD:  
If you turn back, I will take you back,  
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,  
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,  
not you who will turn to them.

<sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people  
a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you,  
but they shall not prevail over you,  
for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD.

<sup>21</sup>I will deliver you  
out of the hand of the wicked,  
and redeem you  
from the grasp of the ruthless.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**



**I WILL DELIVER YOU FROM  
THE HAND OF THE WICKED  
AND REDEEM YOU FROM  
THE GRASP OF THE  
RUTHLESS.”  
– JEREMIAH 15:21**

<sup>1</sup>Give judgment for me, O LORD,  
for I have lived with integrity;  
I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

<sup>2</sup>**Test me, O LORD, and try me;  
examine my heart and my mind.**

<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is before my eyes;  
I have walked faithfully with you.

<sup>4</sup>**I have not sat with the worthless,  
nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

<sup>5</sup>I have hated the company of evildoers;  
I will not sit down with the wicked.

<sup>6</sup>**I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD,  
that I may go in procession round your altar,**

<sup>7</sup>singing aloud a song of thanksgiving  
and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

<sup>8</sup>**LORD, I love the house in which you dwell  
and the place where your glory abides.**

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.

<sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.

<sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

<sup>20</sup>No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads."

<sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.



**Gospel Acclamation + Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28 + Homily**



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

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, (after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah), Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.

<sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup>"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

*The Gospel of our Lord.*      **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Hymn of the Day**      *Will You Come and Follow Me?*      **ELW 798**

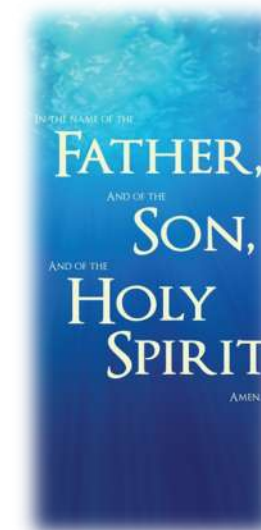
**Apostles' Creed**

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.*

**And also with you.**

*Lift up your hearts.*

**We lift them to the Lord.**

*Let us give thanks...*

**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

*Come, Follow Me*

**ELW 799**

***ALL are welcome to partake at Christ's Table.***

### Post-Communion Prayer + Blessing

### Sending Hymn

*Let Streams of Living Justice*

**ELW 710**

### Dismissal

*Go in peace! God is at work in YOU!*

**Thanks be to God!**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Congratulations to Rev. David Christenson's on his 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordained Ministry!*



**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 30, 2026, Tuned toward the Neighbor  
Exodus 20:12-16

*Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.*



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

Loving God, your commandments are gifts to all your beloved children. Make us to receive them with open-mindedness and openheartedness, that we might practice love, patience, encouragement, and honesty within this community and wherever we go. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



**Read:** Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

*Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. (Exodus 20:12)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

God laid down commandments that expect us to do better—to treat each other as the beloved, precious, irreplaceable human beings that God created us to be.