

Service of Worship

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 19, 2018

10:30 am



Ebenezer
LUTHERAN CHURCH

+ GATHERING +
We gather to learn love for one another.

Welcome to Ebenezer!

We hope you are blessed by your time in worship today. Please complete the "Welcome" insert and place it in the offering plate as it is passed.

Restrooms are located in the Education Building.

Devices for the hearing impaired are located on designated pews. For assistance, please see an usher.

A nursery for children three-years old and younger is available, beginning 9:15 am, for Sunday school and worship. The nursery is located across from the library in the Education Building. Our attendants are trained and willing to help. Parents are welcome to use the nursery for part or all of the worship service.

As you enter the worship space, please be sure to silence your cell phones.

Preservice Music "Rhosymedre" Ralph Vaughan Williams

We stand as able.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God,

to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

We kneel as able or remain standing. Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. **We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do.

Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

All stand and face the processional cross.

Gathering Hymn "Earth and All Stars!"

Hymn 731

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

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Welcome and Announcements

We welcome one another to worship and then we sit.

+ WORD +

God speaks to us in Bible readings.

Children's Message/Blessing of Teachers and Students

(All those involved with education are invited forward for a special blessing as we begin another school year.)

Hymn

“Open Our Eyes, Lord”

Bob Cull

Open our eyes, Lord; we want to see Jesus,
to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him.
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen.
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

First Reading

Proverbs 9:1-6
(Pew Bible page 580)

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

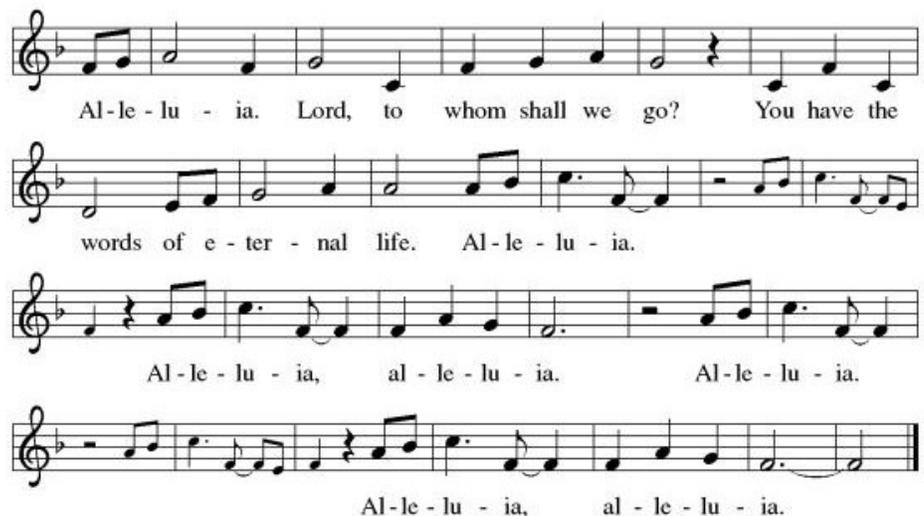
Second Reading

Ephesians 5:15-20
(Pew Bible page 1069)

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

We stand.

Gospel Acclamation



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel

John 6:51-58
(Pew Bible page 975)

The holy gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading:
The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.
We sit.

Sermon

Pastor Donges

Silence is kept for reflection.

We stand.

Hymn of the Day “We Eat the Bread of Teaching” Hymn 518

Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.

Prayers of the People

After the assisting minister introduces the prayers, we stand or kneel as able, for the petitions.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
The presiding minister concludes the prayers.

We stand.

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

We sit.

The exchange of the peace is a ministry, an announcement of grace we make to each other, a summary of the gift given to us in the liturgy of the Word. This ministry we do to each other is far greater than a sociable handshake or a ritual of friendship or a moment of informality. You may exchange the peace with those around you by responding with “God’s peace be with you.” or “The peace of the Lord be with you.”

An offering is collected to support the mission of the church.

+ MEAL +

Jesus said, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven."

Reception of the Offering

Musical Offering "Manna From Heaven" Jeremy Johnson
We stand.

Offertory Song "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"
Hymn 884

Offering Prayer

After the gifts have been presented, the prayer is said:
Let us pray...**Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day or season;
We respond:

What is Holy Communion?
Holy Communion is our participation in the meal that Jesus celebrated with his disciples on the night before he was crucified. As Jesus' disciples now this meal is a participation in our Lord's life: he feeds us, forgives us, and unites us.
This meal, sometimes called "Eucharist" (meaning "thanksgiving"), connects us to our Lord and to all his people across time and space.

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Jesus' Words About Communion

Lord's Prayer

Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-low-ed be your
name, your king-dom come, your will be done on
earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our
dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as
we for-give those who sin a-gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial and de-
liv-er us from e-vil, for the king-dom, the pow'r and the
glo-ry are yours, now and for ev-er.

How we Commune

Welcome to the table of the Risen Christ!

All baptized worshipers are invited to partake of the Eucharist, regardless of denominational affiliation. Come down the center aisle and either kneel or stand at the rail in front of the altar.

Take the bread and dip it into the cup of wine.

If you require gluten-free wafers or grape juice, please let the ministers know.

Return to your seat by way of the side aisles.

If you are unable to come forward please come down the side aisles on either side after the "Invitation" and communion will be brought to you. If you need to remain in your seat please notify an usher.

Any who do not wish to receive communion may fold their arms across their chest to receive a blessing at the altar.

Invitation to Communion

Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

Thanks be to God.

We sit.

Communion

Distribution Music

"Lamb of God..."

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

(Distribution Music continues)

“Eat This Bread, Drink This Cup” Hymn 492

“Lord, Be Glorified” Hymn 744

When all have returned to their places, we stand or kneel.

Communion Blessing

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray...Amen.

All stand.

+ SENDING +

We are blessed to go and serve God in the world.

All turn and face the processional cross.

Sending Song “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

Hymn 865

Blessing

Dismissal

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

“In Thee is Joy”

J.S. Bach



Serving in Worship Today

The Rev. David A. Donges

Judy Woolly

Joyce Lybrand

Linda Davis

Ron Banister, Marcia Lucius

David E. Turner

Presiding/Preaching

Assisting

Lector

Element Bearer

Communion Assistants

Director of Music and Worship

“Reaching out to draw others to Christ.”

- We place Jesus first in all that we do ·
- We share Christ wherever we are ·
- We welcome a diversity of believers and skeptics to experience Christ with us ·
- We seek to deepen our faith and discipleship ·
- We embrace the gifts of each and all ·

Strategic Directions

- We will offer worship opportunities with Biblically based, doctrinally sound preaching and inspiring music, energizing ourselves to do God’s work.
- We will welcome our neighbors and invite them to participate in all church programs.
- We will respond to the needs of all God’s people, seeking justice and peace, locally and globally.
- We will commit our time and resources to support God’s work through the South Carolina Synod and the ecumenical community.
- We will provide dynamic Christian education, immersing ourselves in God’s word.
- We will foster a sense of congregational community and genuine concern for the well-being of our members.



Ebenezer Lutheran Church

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Website: <http://www.ebenezerlutheran.org>

The Rev. Paul Aebischer, Senior Pastor

David E. Turner, Director of Music and Worship

Diane M. Oliver, Administrative Associate

Wendy Isgett, Accountant