

SUNDAY - AUGUST 17TH, 2025 - 9:00 AM



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

*A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love
with all people.*

WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!

*Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable.
In Christ's love, we welcome you.*

MINISTERS
GUEST PASTOR

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
BRUCE ENGBRETSON



ELC@MHTC.NET - 608-437-5012

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, August 17th, 2025 | 10th Sunday After Pentecost | 9:00 AM
(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / **C = Congregation**)

PRELUDE Diane Dangerfield

You are encouraged to use the time during the Prelude for quiet reflection and preparing for worship.

WELCOMING WORD

The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great “cloud of witnesses.” In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, “the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.”

+HYMN #705 *God of Grace and God of Glory*

+CONFESSIONS AND FORGIVENESS

L: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

L: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection & self-examination.

L: Merciful God,

C: You free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life.

Amen.

L: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God’s children through faith. In the cross of † Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

C: Amen.

GREETING

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

C: And also, with you.

+KYRIE pg. 138

+HYMN OF PRAISE pg. 140 *“This is the feast ...”*

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL SONGS *Do Justice* *Walk By Faith*

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:23-29

²³ Am I a God nearby, says the LORD, and not a God far off? ²⁴ Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. ²⁵ I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed! I have dreamed!" ²⁶ How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? ²⁷ They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. ²⁹ Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:29–12:2

²⁹ By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰ By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. ³² And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, ³³ who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵ Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground. ³⁹ Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰ since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

12:1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

+ACCLAMATION pg. 142

(sing) Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

L: The Gospel according to Luke, Chapter 12.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

+GOSPEL: Luke 12:49-56

[Jesus said:] ⁴⁹ "I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! ⁵⁰ I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹ Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵² From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³ they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

⁵⁴ He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain,' and so it happens. ⁵⁵ And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. ⁵⁶ You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Pastor Bruce Engebretson

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+HYMN #710 *Let Streams of Living Justice*

+NICENE CREED pg. 104

+THE PRAYERS pg. 143

The leader concludes each petition with the words:

“Lord in your mercy...”

The people respond: Hear our prayer.”

+SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING Praise Team Song – *Make a Difference*

+OFFERTORY #182 *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

+ OFFERING PRAYER

L: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

MEAL

+The Great Thanksgiving pg. 144

+Words of Institution

+The Lord’s Prayer pg. 145 (right hand column)

Hymn #629 *Abide with Me*

Prayer after Communion

L: Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus’ name.

C: Amen.

COMMUNITY WORD

+BLESSING

L: May the love of God abound in you, the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts, and the life of the Spirit bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

+HYMN #723 *Canticle of the Turning*

+DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**“I am God’s child, deserving of love and respect,
and God will use me to change the world.”**

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 17TH, 2025

SHARE: What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

READ: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding:

Monday, Luke 1:46-55, Mary's Song of Praise

Tuesday, Acts 7:44-53, A Stiff-Necked People

Wednesday, Jeremiah 25:30-39, The Lord's Judgement

Thursday, Psalm 103:1-8, Thanksgiving for God's Goodness

Friday, 2 Chronicles 8:12-15, Solomon Builds the Temple

Saturday, Nehemiah 13:15-22, Sabbath Reforms Begun

TALK: Consider some of these ideas:

**"I came to bring fire to the earth,
and how I wish it were already kindled!" -- Luke 12:39**

- In Heb 11 people "by faith" faced horrendous hardships. Who in today's news cycle keep the faith amid suffering?
- How can we help one another see Luke 12 not as judgment from Jesus, but as his desire for the world's well-being?
- Jeremiah says God is not distant or disinterested, but wants oppression systems uprooted. How is the church doing that?

PRAY: O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESS: The God of peace, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always. Amen.

*If you would like more information about ELC of Mount Horeb
please fill out the visitor cards in the pew pads
which are passed during offering.*