12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2026

Pastor John Stiles ~ Reader: Carolyn T

PRELUDE *Prayer Works*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

Amen.

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 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.

GATHERING HYMN *'Blessed Be Your Name'* *Prayer Works*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING *Isaiah 56:1, 6-8*

Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. And 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— these 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. Thus 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.**

SECOND READING *Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32*

I 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. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the scripture says of Elijah, how he pleads with God against Israel? for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The Word of the Lord. ~ **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN *'Spread, Oh Spread, Almighty Word'* *ELW 663*

GOSPEL READING *Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28* ~ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Then he called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach,

and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."]
Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

MESSAGE *Pastor John Stiles*

OFFERING with SPECIAL MUSIC *'In Our Midst'* *Jim Koppen & Shelia Soma*

OFFERING PRAYER
Merciful father…
we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us: our selves, our time and our possessions: signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of the One who offered himself for us: Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Response: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

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.

BENEDICTION

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN Congregation Choice!

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

THIS WEEK AT ORLC

Website: www.orlcpc.com ~ Phone: 320-629-2985 ~ Office Email: orlcoffice@gmail.com

Sunday (16th)
8am Prayer
9am Worship
10am Coffee & Fellowship

Monday
Newsletter Items Due
9am Quilting
1pm Fall Rummage Sale Meeting
7:30pm A.A

Tuesday
9:30am Joy Circle
5pm AA Event

Wednesday
7:30am Men's Breakfast
9am Sewing Group

Thursday
8am Sonrisers
1pm Grief Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP: Join us after service for coffee and fellowship. All are welcome!

RAINY DAY COMMITTEE: We have had some interest in forming a new team to serve on the Rainy Day Committee at ORLC and are looking for one more person. If you are feeling called to serve your community through your church please connect with Pastor John or Becca in the office.

CHILDREN OF JOY PRESCHOOL: We are enrolling for the 2026/27 school year. Join us for an open house on August 20th from 5-7pm to meet the teachers, see the classroom and ask any questions you might have in regard to the program. Want to 'test' out the program? Sign-up for the final August summer camp is still available! August 18-20th. It is going to be an 'out of this world' experience!

SCHOOL SUPPLIES: We are gearing up for Lutheran World Relief School kits and with school supplies making their way to the store shelves we are looking for donations. If it so moves you to help supply kids around the world with basic school supplies see the list below. Items can be dropped off with Becca in the office. Thank you!
*70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled
*30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other

*pencil sharpener, *blunt scissors, *unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers;
*black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); *box of 16 or 24 crayons, *2 ½" eraser

LET'S CELEBRATE! Helen Clarke, a longtime member, is turning 90! Friends are invited to a celebration on **Saturday, August 29th from 12-2pm**. Location of the party is at St. Andrews Village: 220 East Ave, Mahtomedi, MN in the Shoreline Room. A carpool will leave the church at 10:30am for those interested in riding down together. Can't go but would like to send well wishes? Please reach out to Becca in the office for Helen's personal address. Any other questions please reach out to Carolyn Tuckner.

RITE OF INSTALLATION: Bishop Taryn K. Montgomery of the NEMN Synod
Saturday, Sept 12th at 2pm at First Lutheran in Duluth. Invitation information is on the door of the main office if interested. RSVPs request by QR code but not required.

BACKPACK PROGRAM: ***August Needs:*** Individual oatmeal packets, Pudding cups and/or individual snack packs such as teddy grahams, animal crackers etc.

ALTAR FLOWERS Altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Greg & Kathlyn Lea
Note: When taking your flowers please do so by taking the vase around to the back side of the altar space. Remove the flowers from the plastic insert & place them in the bags we have there for your convenience.

RADIO SPONSORSHIP John & Helen Sickler

CREATION CARE: August 16
If you have school-age kids or pack your own lunch for work, make a change this school year that moves you away from single-use plastic baggies or disposable wraps. Make an investment in some high-quality, re-usable containers or cloth snack bags. If you don't pack lunches for anyone in your family, is there a family you know to whom you can gift such containers?

HEALING PRAYER TEAM
"Do not worry. Tell God what you need with a thankful heart. His peace will guard your mind." Philippines 4:6-7. Martin Luther viewed prayer as an essential, daily conversation with God rather than a chore. He advised engaging with scripture, starting each day with prayer.
Gracious Father, I confess to You that I have not always been disciplined. I Thank You for the grace and mercy You give to me, even when I fall short. Help me today to make

better decisions, help me to say "no" in my weak moments. Stir up in me a passion for Your word. Help me to grow deeper in my relationship with You. Give me the desire to pursue You more than things that only satisfy me temporarily. I love You. I ask this in Jesus name. Amen.

ORLC PRAYER LIST: Prayer is powerful & a way to support those seeking comfort and guidance. The list below are those who need your prayers.

TO PRAY FOR:

Heesook K (friend of Larry G), Carolyn M, Ray W, Nancy W (daughter of Judy B), Kinsley K, Eric J (son of Sherwood & Marietta J), Bill M (son of Ron & Donna P)