

# Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church

E.L.C.A.



Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ.

Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Bulletin Donated By: Nancy Wrage, "Happy Birthday Adam!"

**Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church—E.L.C.A.**

**13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Ministers:

*You, All Members of G.A.*

Pastor:

**Jaime Decker**

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Prelude Music

Welcome/Announcements

**Gathering**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful and loving God,

**we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.**

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

You who were lost have been found. In the name of † Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn**

*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*

*ELW #759*

**\*Greeting**

P: 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.**

**\*Prayer of the Day**

**C: Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Word**

**Psalm**

**(Please Read Responsively)**

**Psalm 1**

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.**

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

**It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

**For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

R: Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

## **Reading**

**Deuteronomy 30:15-20**

<sup>15</sup> "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. <sup>16</sup> If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. <sup>17</sup> But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup> I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, <sup>20</sup> loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

## **Gospel Acclamation**

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## **Gospel Reading**

**Luke 14:25-33**

P: The Holy Gospel according to \_\_\_\_\_ **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup> Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup> "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup> For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup> Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup> saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' <sup>31</sup> Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. <sup>33</sup> So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

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

## **Message**

### **Hymn of the Day**

*Will You Come and Follow Me*

ELW #798

### **\*The 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 Intercession**

Response: **Receive our Prayer.**

### **Sharing the Peace**

**Offering**

**Ways To Give Offering: In Person, Venmo and Online [www.galutheranchurch.org](http://www.galutheranchurch.org)**



*Because you give...  
we worship, fellowship, learn, serve and grow.  
**Thank you for your generosity!***

**\*Offering Song**

*Take My Life, That I May Be*

ELW #583 v.1&2

**\* Offering Prayer**

**C: Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**\*Lord’s Prayer**

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**Sending**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Sending Hymn**

*Lead Me, Guide Me*

ELW #768

**\*Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

**C: To Share the Good News of God’s Word and to serve the community and the world.  
Thanks be to God.**

**\*Postlude**

Mission Statement of Gustaf Adolf Lutheran Church (Adopted in 2022)  
**To share the Good News of God’s Word and to serve the community and the world.**  
*Matthew 22:39* ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’  
*Matthew 28:19* Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

\*\*\*\*\*  
We celebrate weekly Holy Communion. We welcome all who believe in the Risen Christ and who find in the sacrament our Lord’s real presence for the forgiveness of sins and the renewal of life. If you receive communion in your home congregation, you are invited to receive it here at G.A. Red wine and white grape juice will be offered to you in Christ’s name. You may choose your preference. If you are unable to receive wheat bread, or wine, be sure that in a single element you receive the Presence and all the gifts of the sacrament.

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