

# **Lamb Of God Lutheran Church**

**July 16, 2023**



**For as the heavens are  
higher than the earth, so  
are my ways higher than  
your ways, and my  
thoughts than your  
thoughts.**

**—Isaiah 55:9**



## *Communion Statement*

### **We will be celebrating Holy Communion at this service**

We consider this to be a family meal partaken in and with the Real Presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The term “Communion” describes the relationship between the participants, certainly between each person and our Savior whose meal it is, but also with all who come together to consume Christ’s body and blood in and with the bread and wine. To properly celebrate Communion all participants should be in communion; sharing the same confession of faith as is taught by the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS). **We welcome all those who regularly confess this faith as members or regular attenders of Lamb of God. Those who belong to another LCMS congregation and wish to join with us as fellow family members are asked to speak to an Elder prior to the beginning of service. Those who are visiting but not members of an LCMS congregation may approach the communion rail and receive a blessing with their arms folded in front of their chest, or remain seated.**

This has been the practice of the Church from the beginning, which according to earliest records would dismiss all those not baptized and confirmed before the Lord’s Supper was celebrated. We are celebrating this Sacrament in keeping with this tradition. If you are from outside the LCMS confession, please know that we are not judging you or your faith. We are not implying that you are not a Christian or worthy of the gifts Christ won for you on the cross. We are simply acknowledging that since you do not have the same confession as we do you are not “in communion” with us. If you still desire to participate in Holy Communion in the future at Lamb of God please speak with Pastor Mark after the service. Thank you for honoring our celebration of Holy Communion.

*\*\* Note: For those concerned about consuming alcohol-the individual cups in the center of each tray contain diluted wine. (1 drop of wine in water) There is gluten free wafers.*

# Lamb of God Lutheran Church

*Empowered by Christ's Sacraments to be His witness in  
Friendship/Fellowship/and Faith.*

2051 West Maple Ave.  
Flint, MI 48507  
810 234 2423

Pastor Mark Pretznaw  
248 736 8639



7th Sunday after  
Pentecost

July 16th, 2023

Divine Service IV

## Fellowship Register

Please sign the register that you will find in the pew and pass it on to the others sitting in your pew. Guests are invited to sign the register and please include your address. Thank you.

## Pre-Service Music

## Welcome and Announcements

### Salutation

- P** The Peace of the Lord be with you always
- C** And also with you.

*Please share the Peace of Christ with a wave of your hand from  
where you sit.*

## 901 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

sts. 1–2

### *A Lamb of God Favorite*

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me  
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so

en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty  
un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,

Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed  
There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O

is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!  
en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–80  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Please stand as you are able*

## Confession and Absolution

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

### Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### Exhortation

*LSB 203*

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**☒ who made heaven and earth.**

**☐** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**☒ But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**☐** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

### **Confession of Sins**

*LSB 203*

**☒ Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

### **Absolution**

*LSB 203*

**☐** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you, and has raised Him to everlasting life And for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**☒ Amen.**

# Service of the Word

## Introit

**P** The LORD is merciful and gracious,

**C** **slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

**P** As for man, his days are like grass;

**C** **he flourishes like a flower of the field;**

**P** for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,

**C** **and its place knows it no more.**

**P** But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him,

**C** **and his righteousness to children's children,**

**P** to those who keep his covenant

**C** **and remember to do his commandments.**

**P** The LORD has established his throne in the heavens,

**C** **and his kingdom rules over all.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**P** The LORD is merciful and gracious,

**C** slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

## Kyrie

LSB 204



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## 901 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

st. 3

*A Lamb of God Favorite*



Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–80  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our

Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Please be seated*

**Old Testament Lesson:**

**Isaiah 55:8-13**

<sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

<sup>10</sup>“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there but water the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

<sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

<sup>12</sup>“For you shall go out in joy  
and be led forth in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall break forth into singing,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

<sup>13</sup>Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall make a name for the LORD,  
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.



**C Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle Lesson:**

**Romans 8:12-17**

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. <sup>13</sup>For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup>The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able*

**Alleluia and Verse**

**Alleluia**

*LSB 205*



**Verse**

*LSB 205*





**Holy Gospel:**

**Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

**G** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. <sup>5</sup>Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, <sup>6</sup>but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>He who has ears, let him hear. . . .

<sup>18</sup>“Hear then the parable of the sower: <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup>yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution

arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. <sup>23</sup>As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### Apostles' Creed

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father  
Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living  
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## **Children's Message**



### **583 God Has Spoken by His Prophets**

*Sung to the tune from #803 "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"*

- 1    God has spoken by His prophets,  
      Spoken His unchanging Word;  
      Each from age to age proclaiming  
      God, the one, the righteous Lord.  
      In the world's despair and turmoil,  
      One firm anchor holds us fast:  
      God is king, His throne eternal;  
      God the first, and God the last.
- 2    God has spoken by Christ Jesus,  
      Christ, the everlasting Son,  
      Brightness of the Father's glory,  
      With the Father ever one;  
      Spoken by the Word Incarnate,  
      God of God, before time was;  
      Light of Light, to earth descending,  
      He reveals our God to us.
- 3    God is speaking by His Spirit,  
      Speaking to our hearts again,  
      In the ageless Word declaring  
      His own message, now as then.  
      Through the rise and fall of nations  
      One sure faith yet standing fast;

God abides, His Word unchanging;  
God the first, and God the last.

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## Sermon: Isaiah 55:8-11

# Offering and Prayers

## Offering Statement

**P** We do not pass the offering plate here at Lamb of God. If you are a visitor, we don't want you to feel obligated to give an offering, we are just glad that you have joined us for worship this day. Those who would like to give an offering may drop it off in the Offering Box in the Narthex, the box across from the Church Office, mail their Offering Envelope in, or use our online giving portal from our website.

## Offering Verse: Isaiah 55:11

<sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,



but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

*Please stand as you are able*

## Offertory: 893 Sing to the Lord of Harvest



1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest, Sing songs of love and praise;  
2 God makes the clouds rain good - ness, The des - erts bloom and spring,  
3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar The gifts His good - ness gave,



With joy - ful hearts and voic - es Your al - le - lu - ias raise.  
The hills leap up in glad - ness, The val - leys laugh and sing.  
The gold - en sheaves of har - vest, The souls Christ died to save.



By Him the roll - ing sea - sons In fruit - ful or - der move;  
God fills them with His full - ness, All things with large in - crease;  
Your hearts lay down be - fore Him When at His feet you fall,



Sing to the Lord of har - vest A joy - ous song of love.  
He crowns the year with bless - ing, With plen - ty and with peace.  
And with your lives a - dore Him Who gave His life for all.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–75, alt.  
Tune: Johann Steurlein, 1546–1613  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Please be seated*

## Prayer of the Church

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For repentance, that by every thorn and briar, God would warn us of sin and discipline us against temptation, so

that we would place all trust in His promise of everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** ... let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Almighty God, Your Spirit calls us by the Gospel to the new life of faith. We praise You and acknowledge You as our Lord. Deliver us from the devil's temptations, that we may live under You and serve You in righteousness, innocence and blessedness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

*Please stand as you are able*

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

*LSB 208*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

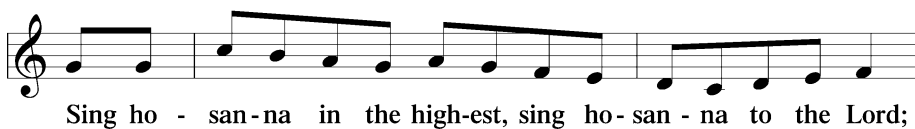
**C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**P**

*LSB 208*







Text: Stephen P. Starke

## Lord's Prayer

*LSB 241*

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

**C** **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.**

## The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

## Pax Domini

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

*LSB 210*

**C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

*Please be seated*

## Distribution

*The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:*

## Right Column

The true body of Christ, given for you.

**Amen.**

The true blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.**

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

## Table Dismissal

**[P]** Depart now in His joy and peace, knowing that all of your sins have been forgiven.

**595 O Blessed Spring** *Video Hymn:*


please sing along



1 O	bless-ed	spring,	where	Word and	sign	Em - brace	us
2 Through	sum-mer	heat	of	youth-ful	years,	Un - cer -	tain
3 When	au-tumn	cools	and	youth is	cold,	When limbs	their
4 As	win - ter	comes,	as	win - ters	must,	We breathe	our
5 Christ,	ho - ly	Vine,	Christ,	liv - ing	Tree,	Be	praised for



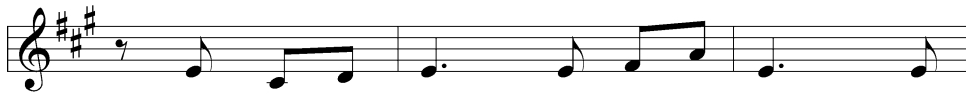
in -	to	Christ the	Vine:	Here	Christ en -	joins	each one	to
faith,	re -	bel -	lious	tears,	Sus -	tained	by	Christ's
heav -	y	har -	vest	hold,	Then	through	us,	warm,
last,	re -	turn	to	dust;	Still	held	in	Christ,
this	blest	mys -	ter -	y:	That	Word	and	wa -
								ter
								thus
								re -



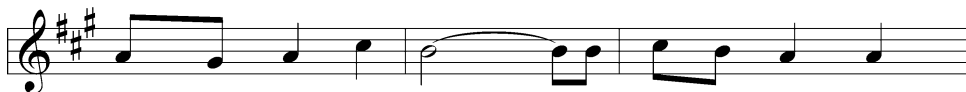
be                      A    branch   of   this                      life - giv - ing   Tree.  
 rain,                    The   boughs   will   shout                      for   joy   a - gain.  
 move                   With   gifts   of   beau -                      ty,   wis - dom,   love.  
 wing                    And   trust   the   prom -                      ise   of   the   spring.  
 vive                    And   join   us   to                      Your   Tree   of   Life.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, 1953  
 Tune: English  
 Text: © 1993 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002526  
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## 720 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight



1 We    walk   by   faith                      and   not   by   sight,                      No  
 2 We    may   not   touch                      His   hands   and   side,                      Nor  
 3 Help   then,   O   Lord,                      our   un - be - lief;                      And  
 4 For   You,   O   res -                      ur - rect - ed   Lord,                      Are  
 5 Lord,   when   our   life                      of   faith   is   done,                      In



gra - cious   words   we   hear                      From   Him   who   spoke   as  
 fol - low   where   He   trod;                      But   in   His   prom - ise  
 may   our   faith   a - bound                      To   call   on   You   when  
 found   in   means   di - vine:                      Be - neath   the   wa - ter  
 realms   of   clear - er   light                      We   may   be - hold   You





none e'er spoke, But we be - lieve Him near.  
 we re - joice And cry "My Lord and God!"  
 You are near And seek where You are found.  
 and the Word, Be - neath the bread and wine.  
 as You are, With full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-71, alt.  
 Tune: Marty Haugen, 1950  
 Text: Public domain

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## 578 Thy Strong Word

*A Lamb of God Favorite*



1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy  
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as  
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with  
 4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed  
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of  
 Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we  
 forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.  
 Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.  
 press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.  
 ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,  
 Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,  
 Throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
 Mouths to speak Thy holy name.  
 Alleluia, alleluia!  
 May the light which Thou dost send  
 Fill our songs with alleluias,  
 Alleluias without end!

△ 6 God the Father, light-creator,  
 To Thee laud and honor be.  
 To Thee, Light of Light begotten,  
 Praise be sung eternally.  
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,

Glory, glory be to Thee.  
Mortals, angels, now and ever  
Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76  
Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869-1944  
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Tune: Public domain

## The Dismissal

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen  
and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting.

Depart ✠ in peace.

**C** Amen.

*Please stand as you are able*

## Post-Communion Collect

**P**



Let  
us pray.  
Gracious  
God, our  
heavenly  
Father, You  
have given  
us a fore-  
taste of the  
feast to

come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **Benedicamus**

*LSB 212*

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **Benediction**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C Amen.**



# 901 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

sts. 4-5

## *A Lamb of God Favorite*



4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy  
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be  
gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;  
done in - deed. May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee  
May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing  
While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the  
star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.  
foun - tain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672-1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.  
Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650-80  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Sharing of the Peace

**P** The Peace of the Lord be with you always

**C** And also with you

**P** The love and the Peace of Christ Jesus, Your Savior, has been poured out upon you richly and abundantly this day. In the same manner as He has shared these with you, pour out these gifts upon those around you who need to hear the Gospel from your lips and by the work of your hands. In doing so we serve in the world as His Church.

## **Closing Peace**

**P** Go in peace, serve the Lord

**Join us for Bible Study at  
10:00 am  
Followed by Lunch with  
our Thrivent  
Representative  
On Wednesday  
July 26, 2023**



**THRIVENT  
FINANCIAL®**

**C Thanks be to God**

**LAMB OF GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH  
INVITES YOU TO OUR  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 10<sup>TH</sup>**

**4:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

Children of all  
Ages.

Stories  
Games  
Food  
Crafts  
Surprises



**Lamb of God Lutheran Church**

2051 W. Maple Ave.

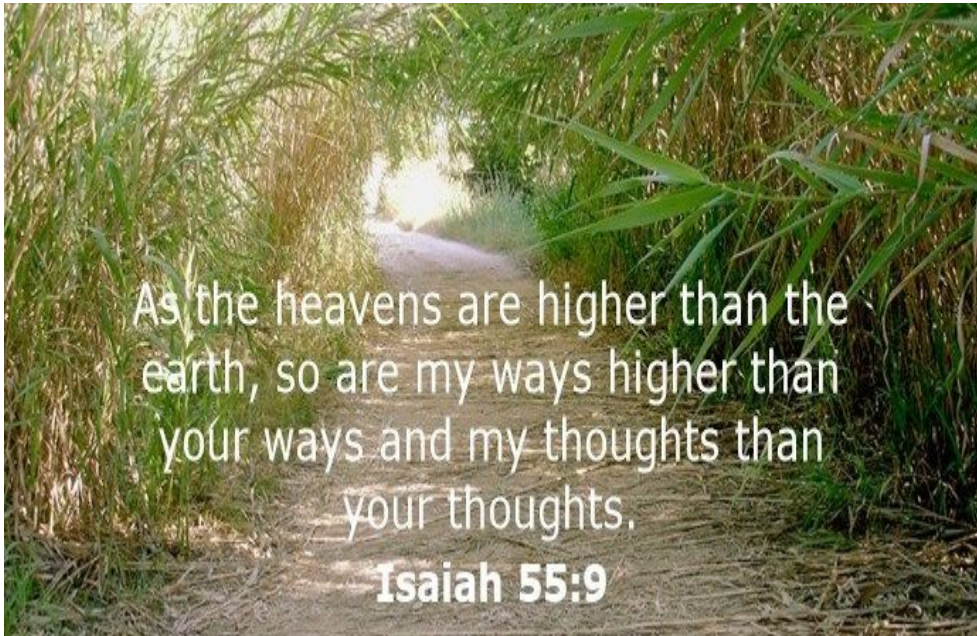
Flint, MI 48507

810 234 2423



## *Sermon Notes*

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