

Hope Lutheran Church

Ladysmith, Wisconsin



*JESUS CHRIST IS THE SAME
YESTERDAY AND TODAY
AND FOREVER.*

HEBREWS 13:8

12th Sunday after Pentecost
August 31, 2025

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

P: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

C: Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles.

P: As we struggle against sin, God calls us to repentance.

(silence for reflection)

Almighty and all-merciful God,

C: we confess before You that we are sinners, sinful from birth. We have sinned in the way we have thought, spoken, and acted. We have not loved You with all our passion and prayer, intelligence and energy, nor have we loved others as brothers and sister, but we have loved only ourselves. We have not always been content with what we have. Forgive us for the sake of Jesus. Amen.

P: Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He will never leave us nor forsake us. He is our helper and He is our Savior. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of the Word I announce the grace of God to all of you, forgiving your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN: "Amigo De Cristo"

#47

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "How Majestic Is Your Name" (2x)

#13

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Lord of all power and might, author and giver of all good things, our constant consolation and guide, creator of ministering angels—implant within our hearts the love of

Your holy name, increase in us true faith, nourish in us all goodness, and by Your Holy Spirit enable us to bear the fruits of Your righteousness. We pray through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN: "Thy Word" (2x)

#3

FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:2-10

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 131

L: O LORD, I am not proud; I have no haughty looks.

C: I do not occupy myself with great matters, or with things that are too hard for me.

L: But I still my soul and make it quiet, like a child upon its mother's breast; my soul is quieted within me.

C: O Israel, wait upon the LORD, from this time forth forevermore.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-17

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL VERSE: "Alleluia! Where Shall We Go"

#18

GOSPEL READING: Luke 14:1-14

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 13th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Tom Reiff

HYMN OF THE DAY: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

#2

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

THE PRAYERS

P: ...Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

♪ PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING: "Doxology"

#51

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Merciful Father,

C: 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 him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW p. 144

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 our thanks and praise.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in 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.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION:

Hymns: "They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love" - #53
"Seek Ye First" - #24

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN: "To Be Alive"

#46

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Karen Tappan

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Holy Communion: We are celebrating the sacrament of Holy Communion during our service today. As a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC), all are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with, and under the forms of bread and wine in this sacrament for the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

Prayer Concerns: Health Concerns – Merrilee Anhalt, John Bohun, Darlene Brunk, Wayne Crozier, Fred Hemm, Brian Michaelson, Colby Overhagen, Ken Parejko, Justin Robinson, Grant Rydlund, Michael Sanderson, Homebound Members and Nursing Home Residents; those affected by recent storms; our church and other congregations currently in the call process; Grieving: Bonnie Billings & family in the death of her aunt, Marge Keho.

Walk for Life: Choices Health Network (formerly the CareNet Pregnancy Resource Center) will hold their annual “Walk for Life” Fundraiser on Saturday, September 20 from 9:00-11:00am at Memorial Park. If you would like to walk or sponsor a member of Hope’s Walk team, please contact Rosemary Johnson.

Flood Buckets: We continue to collect items for making flood buckets for NALC Disaster Response. Items needed are 5-gallon bucket with lid, ½ gallon or smaller bottle of bleach, Comet or other scouring cleanser, Pine Sol or liquid cleaner, size large rubber gloves (Platex or other), and one pair size large leather or cotton work gloves. Monetary donations to purchase items are also being accepted. Items for the flood buckets can be placed in the narthex. Monetary donations can be placed in the offering box or dropped off in the church office. Questions? Contact Rosemary Johnson

Health Kits: The Hope Lutheran Church Women (HLCW) continue to collect items for NALC Disaster Response health kits. Items needed are bath towels, wash cloths, shampoo, toothpaste, combs, deodorant, and 2-gallon size Ziploc bags. Items can be dropped off at the church during office hours or placed in the bins in the narthex. Monetary donations are also being accepted to help purchase items. If you have questions about this project, please contact Kathy Peterson.

Volunteers Needed: The Worship & Music Committee is seeking volunteers to serve as worship assistants. If you are willing and able to help, please contact Dave Borman or Lisa Borman. Training can be provided if needed.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is an educational ministry of Hope Lutheran Church, designed to help students understand and affirm the Christian faith, and participate more fully in the life and mission of the church.

Confirmation classes for 9th grade students who will be completing confirmation instruction and affirming the faith of their baptism this fall will begin on Wednesday, September 3 at 7:30pm. Jana Nyhagen will be teaching these classes. If you have questions, please contact her or the church office.

Confirmation classes for students in 7th & 8th grade will begin on Wednesday, September 24 at 6:00pm. Pastor Hailey Halmstad will be teaching this class. If you have a student who would like to participate and have not been contacted, please contact the church office.

Rally Day: Rally Day this year will be held on **Sunday, September 14**. Weather permitting, we'll be having an outdoor worship service. Following the worship service there will be games on the lawn. We'll also be roasting hotdogs and making s'mores. Members are asked to bring a chair, if possible (some will be available) and a dish to share, if you're able. And if weather doesn't permit us to do these things outside, we'll still be celebrating, just doing so inside!

Wednesday School: Wednesday School will resume on Wednesday, September 17 from 3:00-4:30pm. Wednesday school is for children PK thru 6th grade. All children are welcome! Children can ride the bus from LES and will learn Bible stories, sing songs, play games, and have a snack. Registration forms can be found on the church website (hlcladysmith.org/education) or by contacting the church office. If you have questions about Wednesday School, please contact Laura Johnson.

Food Pantry: The Hope Lutheran Food Pantry will be closed on Monday, September 1 in observance of the Labor Day holiday. The Pantry will instead be open on Tuesday, September 2 from 1:00-3:00pm.

Church Office: The church office will be closed on Monday, September 1.



The next cycle of GriefShare will begin on Wednesday, September 3. GriefShare meets on Wednesday from 6:00-7:30 at Hope Lutheran Church.

GriefShare is a 13-week non-denominational, faith-based, grief support groups to help people deal with all the complex feelings after the death of a loved one. The lay people leading the classes have experienced grief themselves and have gone through special training.

Each 90-minute session consists of a 10–15 minute check-in time to discuss the previous week and/or workbook topics, a 30-40 minute DVD presentation by experts in the field of grief, and 25-30 minutes to discuss the DVD topics.

If you, or someone you know, would like to register for the program, please call the Hope Lutheran Church office at 715-532-7739 and leave your contact information. A GriefShare leader will call you back. You can also register online at griefshare.org.

Feed My People Delivery: Volunteers are needed on TUESDAY, September 2 at 9:15am to help unload the Feed My People delivery and stock food pantry shelves.

A Week of Hope

Tuesday	9:15am Feed My People Delivery 1:00-3:00pm Food Pantry
Wednesday	12:00noon Feed My People Meeting 6:00pm GriefShare 7:30pm 9 th Grade Confirmation
Sunday	8:30am Fellowship 9:00am Worship 10:00am Fellowship