

Williams Bay Lutheran Church Worship

August 23, 2026

Service of the Word & Holy Communion

9:30 AM



In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.

Please silence your cell phone. Thank you.

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Confession and Forgiveness

The assembly stands. 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, 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.**

Gathering Hymn

Born-ing Cry

ELW 732

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.**

Let us pray: O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Baptism of Brooks McCoy Crecchio

Hymnal page 227

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the Lord.

Look to the rock from which you were hewn
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah, who bore you,
for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the Lord will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places
and will make her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation,
for a teaching will go out from me
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens
and look at the earth beneath,
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats,
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 138

¹ I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with ¹ my whole heart;
before the gods I will ¹ sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your steadfast ¹ love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word a- ¹ bove all things.**

³ When I called, you ¹ answered me;
you increased my ¹ strength within me.

⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise ¹ you, O Lord,
when they have heard the words ¹ of your mouth.**

⁵ They will sing of the ways ¹ of the Lord,
that great is the glory ¹ of the Lord.

⁶ **The Lord is high, yet cares ¹ for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty ¹ from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you ¹ keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right ¹ hand shall save me.

⁸ **You will make good your pur- ¹ pose for me;
O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever;
do not abandon the works ¹ of your hands.**

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. ² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, ⁵ so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶ We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸ the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

Music © 1985 Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker, admin. OCP Publications, Inc. 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Gospel

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon

Pastor Tom

Silence for Reflection

Hymn of the Day

The Church's One Foundation (vs. 1-4)

ELW 654

Prayers of Intercession

Petitions conclude with: Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you all. **And also with you.**

Offering

MEAL

Offering Hymn

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

ELW 184



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

Words of Institution for Holy Communion

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.

All are Welcome to receive the Lord's Meal at His table.

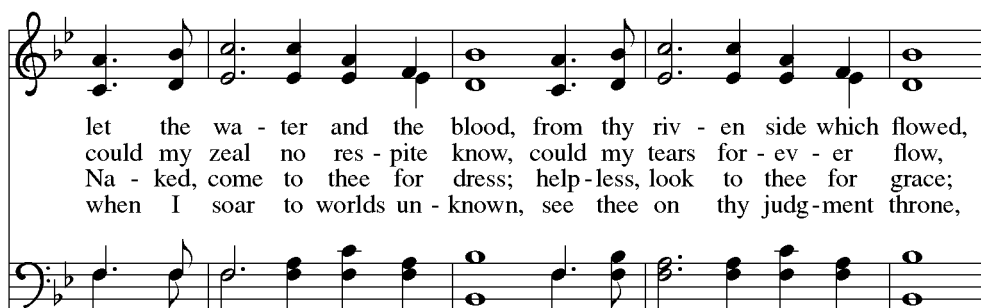
Hymns during Communion

"Lamb of God"

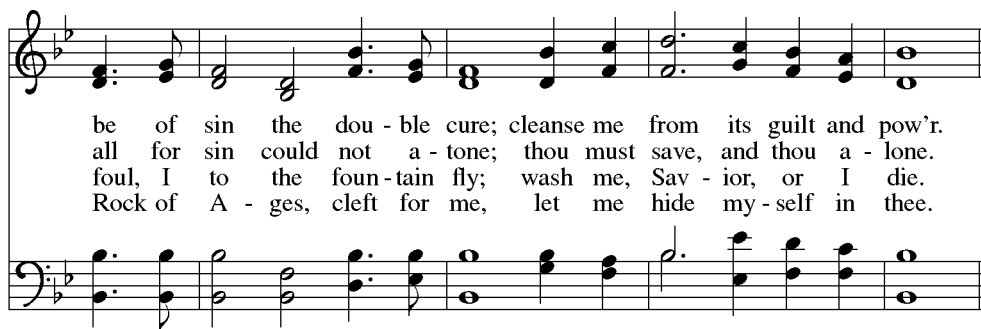
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.



- 1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and righ-teous-ness;
- 2 When dark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un - chang-ing grace;
- 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus - tain me in the rag - ing flood;
- 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,



no mer-it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
in ev-'ry high and storm - y gale my an - chor holds with-in the veil.
when all sup-ports are washed a-way, he then is all my hope and stay.
clothed in his righ-teous-ness a-lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.

Music: THE SOLID ROCK, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

Table Blessing

SENDING

Sending Prayer and Blessing

Sending Hymn

How Firm a Foundation

ELW 796

Dismissal

Thanks be to God!



Altar flowers: Today's altar flowers are given by Mark and Natalie Reno in celebration of my father George Holmes' 98th birthday and our son Steve Reno's 39th birthday!

Grace Notes

August 23 Simplified Service, 8 AM
 Traditional Service, 9:30 AM
 Baptism: Brooks Crecchio
August 24 Office Closed
 Pastor Tom on vacation through 8/31
August 26 Coffee Club, 9:30 AM

Baptism - We welcome Brooks McCoy Crecchio to the waters of baptism this morning. His parents are Chris and Kelsey Crecchio. His baptismal sponsors are Lauren VanDyke and Maddison Crecchio.

Picture Directory - We are making plans for a new pictorial church directory. We are in need of members to help Elise Corcoran on picture days. Please let Pastor Tom know if you are available to help. Please check your email for a letter with information.

Worship Servers

Service		August 23	August 30
Usher	9:30 AM	Chad Beth	OPEN
Lector	8:00 AM	Dori Freundt	Natalie Reno
	9:30 AM	Mary Mock	OPEN
Cantor	9:30 AM	Mary Mock	OPEN
Communion Assistants	9:30 AM	Mary Mock	OPEN
		OPEN	OPEN
Refreshments		Fran Flucke	OPEN
Altar Flowers		The Reno Family	The Frame family
Altar Guild		Dori Freundt	Jorine Granberg
Offering Counters		Stu & Allen	Stu & Allen

Life Together as God's People

Ministers	Williams Bay Lutheran Church Members
Pastor	Rev. Thomas Dowling
Council President	Allen Filloon
Council Vice President	Mike Reno
Treasurer	Bruce Hildner
9:30 Organist	Marianne Peterson
8:00 Pianist	Susan Gali, Chris Groth, and Aaron Johnson
Custodian	Mary Mock
Landscaping	Gunnar Olsen
Secretary	Sandra Johnson