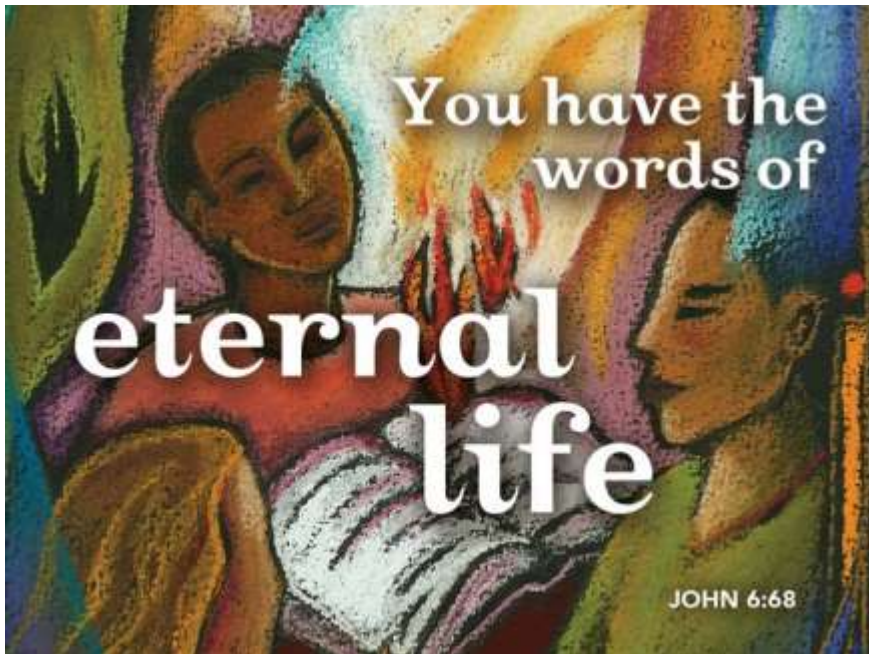


# *Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*



*August 22, 2021 | 10:30 a.m.*

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church  
308 North Third Street  
Milan, Minnesota*

# ORDER OF SERVICE

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*Welcome to Kviteseid Lutheran Church...* “We rejoice that you have joined us today!  
Let us worship God together: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING HYMN

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

ELW #408

### INTRODUCTION

*In today’s gospel many people take offense at Jesus’ invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood; even many of Jesus’ disciples peel off. This is the backdrop in John’s gospel for Peter’s confession of faith. “To whom can we go?” asks Peter, in words we sometimes sing just before the gospel is read. “You have the words of eternal life.” In order to take such a stand, as Peter and Joshua did, Paul tells us to arm ourselves with the word of God. We pray in the Spirit that we might be bold ambassadors of the gospel.*

### OPENING PRAYER

P In the beauty of this place, we have come to pray, to worship, to receive healing and hope. We come from the struggles and triumphs of the week, needing to feel the soothing presence of God. Lord, be with us this day. Calm and soothe our souls. Cause us to rejoice that you have provided a special time where we may gather to talk of your presence and love; to sing your praises; and to be empowered to go forth to serve you. Amen.

### \*\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Because God is near to the brokenhearted,  
let us consider how we have lived,  
confessing our sins and trusting in God’s mercy to save. *Ps. 34:18*

C **God of our redemption,  
we confess that we have not been faithful servants.  
We have not served you with sincere hearts  
nor trusted in your salvation. *Josh. 24:14–18*  
We have forsaken you, the living God,  
and have chosen to follow the lifeless idols of worldly power and wealth.  
Forgive us our sin, O God.  
Lead us to heartfelt repentance that we may honor you with our lips  
and serve you with our lives; through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P Hear the good news:  
Christ himself is the Word that offers eternal life  
to all who receive him. This proves his love for us. *John 6:68*

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**C Amen.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

ELW #689

**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**

**P** Let us pray.

**C Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**LESSON: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18**

*In the Near East, covenant means “agreement” or “alliance.” It describes relationships and is the primary word used to characterize the relationship between God and Israel. By delivering Israel, God has already begun the relationship. Joshua calls upon the people to respond.*

**PSALM 34:15-22**

**L** <sup>15</sup> The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and God’s ears are open to their cry.

**C** <sup>16</sup> **The face of the LORD is against those who do evil, to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.**

**L** <sup>17</sup> The righteous cry, and the LORD hears them and delivers them from all their troubles.

**C** <sup>18</sup> **The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves those whose spirits are crushed.**

**L** <sup>19</sup> Many are the troubles of the righteous, but the LORD delivers them from every one.

**C** <sup>20</sup> **God will keep safe all their bones; not one of them shall be broken.**

**L** <sup>21</sup> Evil will bring death to the wicked and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

**C** <sup>22</sup> **O LORD, you redeem the life of your servants, and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.**

## LESSON: Ephesians 6:10-20

*Like a general giving a rousing speech to troops before battle, this letter closes by calling on Christians to be equipped for spiritual warfare against evil. The full armor of God includes truth, righteousness, peace, faith, the gift of salvation, and the word of God inspired by the Spirit.*

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### GOSPEL: John 6:56-69

*The “hard saying” that offends Jesus’ disciples is his claim that his followers must eat his flesh and drink his blood. The followers who return to their old lives know something about how odd this sounds. Simon Peter, on the other hand, knows something about the scarcity of living, gracious words. He asks the most important question: “To whom shall we go?”*

P The Gospel of our Lord.

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

### SERMON

#### HYMN OF THE DAY

“O Jesus, I Have Promised”

ELW #810

(Alt. tune: ELW #820)

#### APOSTLES’ CREED

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C **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 Pilot,  
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 CHURCH

*Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:*

P Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

*The prayers are concluded with these words:*

P Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

#### **SHARING THE PEACE**

P The peace of Christ, be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

#### **OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE** "We Give Thee but Thine Own" (vs. 1-2) ELW #686

#### **\*\*OFFERING PRAYER**

P Almighty God, we dedicate ourselves to serve you,  
for you alone are our God.  
Receive, O God, the gifts we offer,  
and with these gifts accept the offering of our lives;  
through Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Josh. 24:18*

C **Amen.**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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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.**

#### **\*\*CHARGE**

P Sisters and brothers,  
you have chosen to serve God  
because God has chosen you in Jesus Christ.  
Go, therefore, to love and serve as God's people in the world.

C **We go in Jesus' name.**

**BLESSING**

P God is always with you. Even when times get difficult and the way is not clear,  
God is truly by your side. Rest in God's strength and love. Serve God with joy.  
Go in peace.

C **Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

“Blessed Assurance”

ELW #638

**DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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