

August 16, 2026

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



Christ's Lutheran Church

700 East Pennsylvania Avenue
Oreland, Pennsylvania

*Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church
connects individuals to God, each other, and the community.*

Welcome to Worship at Christ's Lutheran Church!

In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

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.

Today's Music: *Our Gathering Song* this morning was written by contemporary composer Marty Haugen back in the 90's. He is an American Lutheran composer and pastoral musician. Haugen wanted to write a hymn that expressed the idea of building a welcoming place, symbolizing the church as a place where everyone is accepted. The verses promote a message of unity and love, encouraging congregations to embrace diversity and foster a sense of belonging. Haugen initially wrote the song for the opening of a church building, but the hymn was quickly accepted and now is used more generally.

Gathering Song

**All Are Welcome
ELW # 641**

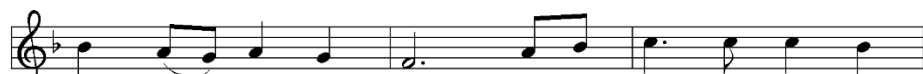
Please see the next page for the hymn.



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Refrain
 Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
 Music: TWO OAKS, Marty Haugen
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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.**

Kyrie

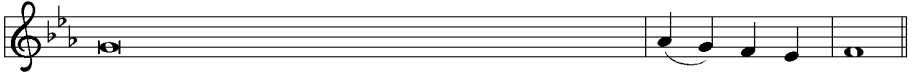
ELW Setting One



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



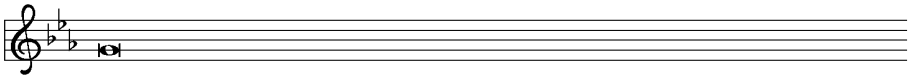
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



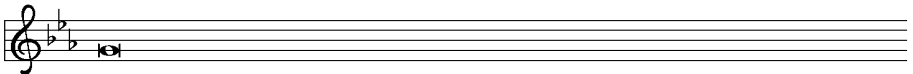
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



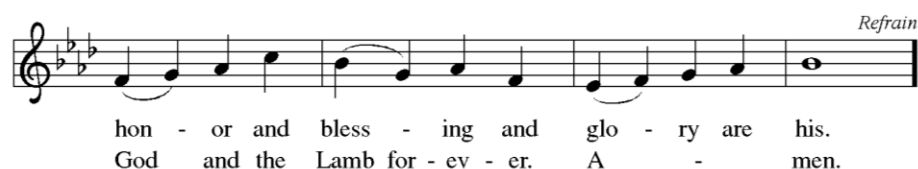
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

This is the Feast

ELW Setting One



Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

A reading from Isaiah, chapter 56.

¹ Thus says the LORD:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come
and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶ And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the Sabbath and do not profane it
and hold fast my covenant—

⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar,
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.

⁸ Thus says the Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel:
I will gather others to them
besides those already gathered.

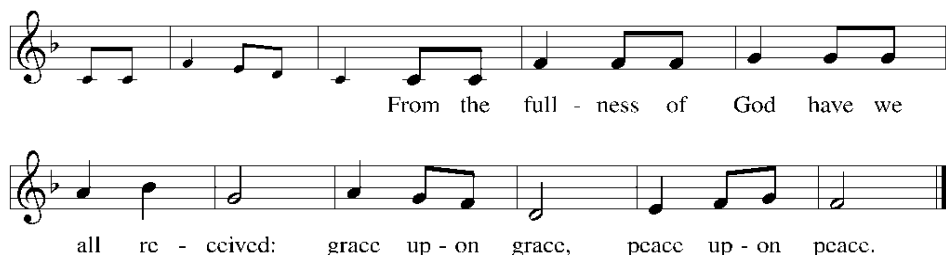
Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 67

DATH # 18 | From the Fullness of God

The congregation will sing the following response:



¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

² Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on
earth.

Response

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.

⁷ May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

Response

Second Reading

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

A reading from Romans, chapter 11.

Paul writes:¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a} God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so also they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they also may now receive

mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Word of God. Word of Life.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand in body or spirit.

Gospel Acclamation
(sing twice)

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah
ELW # 172

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 15:10-28

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁰ Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, “Listen and understand:¹¹ it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles.” ¹² Then the disciples approached and said to him, “Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?” ¹³ He answered, “Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. ¹⁴ Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit.” ¹⁵ But Peter said to him, “Explain this parable to us.” ¹⁶ Then he said, “Are you also still without understanding? ¹⁷ Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach and goes out into the sewer? ¹⁸ But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what

defiles. ¹⁹ For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander. ²⁰ These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile.”

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed from that moment.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

The Children’s Message

Becca Shelor

A Moment of Prayer

Holy, Holy, Holy
ELW # 473



San - to, san - to, san - to, mi co - ra-zón te_a - do - ra.
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you.



Mi co - ra-zón te sa - be de-cir: San - to_e-res Se - ñor.
 My heart is glad to say the words: You are ho - ly, God.

Text: Argentine traditional
 Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional

The Message

Reverend Dr. Nelson Rivera

Please stand in body or spirit.

Hymn of the Day

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

ELW # 588



1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy, like the wide-ness of the sea;
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
4 'Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there's a kind-ness in God's jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,



There is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n.
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.

Music: LORD, REVIVE US, North American, 19th cent.

Apostles' Creed

Together let us confess our common faith in the words of the Apostles' 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.**

Please kneel or sit as you are able for the prayers.

Prayers of Intercession

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

For believers around the world who stream to your holy mountain, that all be united in faith and harmony in the body of Christ. Let your church on earth be a witness to the beloved community of your heavenly kingdom. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For your wondrous creation, that it thrives and flourishes as you intend. Raise up wise stewards to defend the natural world against carelessness and destruction. Safeguard endangered species and their habitats. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For the nations of the world and all in authority, that they heed the cry of the outcast and ensure care for the most vulnerable. Give wisdom to leaders of countries, congregations, and communities, that they lead and serve justly. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

For all who are lonely, grieving, or struggling with chronic pain, that they find comfort, community, and hope. Send relief to all who struggle with illness of any kind. We pray especially for Samira, Ziad, Mother Maria, the Bach family, the Piantieri family, and the Curtis and Davenport families. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

receive our prayer.

receive our prayer.

Amen.

Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

and to greet those who are worshipping online.

Please be seated.

Musical Offering **“You Are My All in All”** **Jernigan, arr. Ulreich**

Women's Chorus

Please stand.

Offertory Hymn
(sing twice)

Jesus, Lamb of God
W & P # 76

Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name;

Je - sus, Lamb of God, wor - thy is your name.

Text: Dennis Jernigan, refrain of "You are my all in all"
Music: ALL IN ALL, Dennis Jernigan

Offering Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Gracious God, you have been faithful to our ancestors, bringing us throughout time to this very day

Beyond our divisions, you remind us that we are all kindred in your eyes

We are better together.

You have given us all we need to trust in your abundance, to live generous lives, and recognize that your good work is done best in communion with you and one another

We are better together.

And so in service to our neighbor, in love for all creation, and in proclamation of your good news for all:

We are better together.

Bless these gifts we've gathered, help us to remember all you have done, give us vision for all we can do, honest commitment to the call you've placed before us, and sincere trust that we can rely on your grace and sufficiency Let us be your people, and serve the world in love as you first loved us.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

ELW Setting One

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

ELW Setting One

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting
life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

ELW Setting One

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Thanksgiving at the Table

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new testament in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!

Please be seated.

Welcome to Holy Communion!

We confess in the real presence of Jesus Christ in the holy meal. If you need Jesus - we won't keep you from Him. You are invited to share in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus through the sacraments.

Following the usher's instructions, you're welcome to come down the center aisle. You'll be offered a small cup. Empty ones will be filled with wine, pre-filled ones contain juice. After getting a cup, please step forward to receive the bread. Gluten-free bread is available beside the cups. Once you have received the bread, step toward the wine chalice on the same side as your pew to receive wine in your empty cup or a blessing on your pre-filled juice cup. Used cups should be deposited in the basket. Please return to your pew by the side aisle.

Anyone who doesn't wish to receive communion, but does wish to be included is welcome to receive a blessing instead. Please indicate this by crossing your arms over your shoulders. If you're coming up with children, please tell the pastor whether they will commune, or receive a blessing. If mobility requires communion to be brought to you, please wave to an usher so we can bring you communion.

Lamb of God

ELW Setting One

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.

Communion Hymn

My Faith Looks Up to Thee ELW # 759



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -



guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re-move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887

Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Please stand.

Post Communion Blessing

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

Amen.

Post Communion Song

Cares Chorus

I cast all my cares up-on you; I lay all of my
bur-dens down at your feet. And an-y-time that I don't know
what to do, I will cast all my cares up-on you.

Prayer after Communion

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.

Blessing

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✠ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.

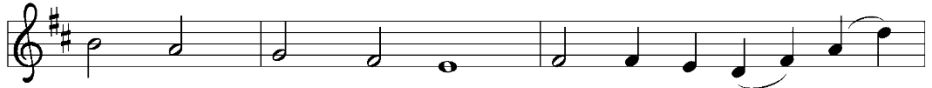
A - men, a - men, a - - - men.

The Sending Song

Jesus Shall Reign ELW # 434



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

Dismissal

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

Your Prayers Are Invited

We hope you will add the following people to your personal prayers. Those who are listed for longer than 6 weeks can be found on the long-term prayer list through the link in the weekly e-news or the monthly Link newsletters. To add a name to the prayer list or provide an update, please contact the office.

Samira Awad (friend of Melody Maurer)

Ziad Awad (friend of Melody Maurer)

Bach Family

Mother Maria Nugent, OSB (Stephanie Staerk's aunt)

**The flowers on the altar today have been shared with
us from the garden of Marda Craig!**

**The bread and wine we share today have been
sponsored by Betsy Selinger in celebration of
Ken Selinger's birthday!**

Online Giving

To make an offering to support the work of Christ's Lutheran Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, you may use this QR code to access our site for secure online giving.



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Ministers	The People of Christ's Lutheran Church
Senior Pastor	Reverend Axel Kaegler
Director of Spiritual Formation	Becca Shelor
Director of Music	Ken Selinger
Piano Accompaniment	Betsy Selinger
Administrative Assistant	Lorraine Pfeiffer
Preschool Director	Sally Mead
Sexton	Pete Carr

Assisting Minister	Adele Kelly
Communion Assistant	Jen Melnick, Adele Kelly
Soundboard	Diane Polis, Jon Rasmussen, John Frantz
Livestream	Rick Daniels, John Melnick, Paul Zieger
Counter(s)	Lori Stevens
Altar Guild	Linda Daniels
Closer	Danny Melnick
Assisting Minister next Sunday	Paul Zieger

Upcoming Altar Flowers: August 23	The Uehlings
Upcoming Altar Guild: September 6	Marlene Foody

This Week at CLC!

Sunday	9:30 am	Worship at CLC and online
Monday	9:30 am 10:00 am – 6:00 pm	Monday Morning Men PBJ Collection (chapel)
Tuesday	9:00 am – 10:45 am	PBJ Collection (chapel)
Friday	8:00 pm	AA (200)



SUMMER

August events



23

SUN. AUG.

12 PM – 1 PM

Poppin' Playground Party (baby-K)



26

WED. AUG.

5:30 PM-7:30 PM

Middle and High School Boardgames



30

SUN. AUG.

9:30 AM

Family Choir Sings in Worship

NEW TIME!

10:30 AM – 12 PM

Lower Elementary Craft Corner (K-3rd)

12:30 PM – 2 PM

All Elementary Youth Group (K-5th)

Questions? Contact Becca at:
director-spiritualform@christs-oreland.org

Reconciling in Christ

Summer Educational Series



June
Sunday the 28th
10:30 am

July
Sunday 19th
1 pm

August
Sunday the 23rd
10:30 am

LGBTQ+ History
with Kathryn Steen

LGBTQ+ Representation and the Bible
with Rev. Daniel Eisenberg

LGBTQ+ Awkward Questions with Becca Shelor

