THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 20th, 2020



St. Peter's Lutheran Church

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A NOTE TO OUR VISITORS

We're glad you're here! If you've never been to a liturgical Lutheran service it may look and sound different, but please bear with us! We worship the way we do for a reason. We gather together to receive the gifts of salvation that our Triune God eagerly comes to give to us through His Word and Sacrament. In these gifts we receive faith, forgiveness, and life everlasting. Our worship is the unwrapping of these gifts: the liturgy, hymns, and preaching proclaim His Word to us, remind us of the promise of our baptism, and prepare us to receive the Lord's Supper. Through these means of grace God comes to serve us so our worship is organized and centered around receiving these gifts through faith.

A STATEMENT ABOUT CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

And they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

Luke 18:15-17; Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16

We eagerly bring our children before the Lord in worship. All are conceived in sin and all need the forgiveness He gives in Word and Sacrament, no matter the age. Therefore, we ask that your children remain in worship with us, unless it becomes absolutely necessary to remove them for a time. There is no better way to train up our children than by them watching and absorbing, and as they learn about God and what all He has done for us, may we learn from them simple faith so that we too receive the kingdom of God as they do.

***Early service responses are spoken. Late service responses are sung. ***

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +



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

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- **Q** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Sit

♣ SERVICE OF THE WORD ♣



783 Take My Life and Let It Be



- 2 Take my hands and let them move At the im-pulse of Thy love;
- 3 Take my voice and let me sing Al-ways, on ly for my King;
- 4 Take my sil ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with hold;



Take my mo-ments and my days, Let them flow in cease-less praise. Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee. Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from Thee. Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

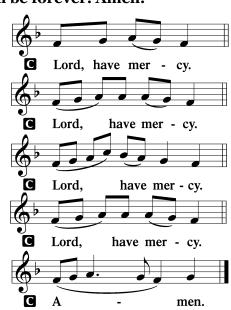
- 5 Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine; Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store; Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.

INTROIT

- I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD.
- What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me?
- I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.
- **©** Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.
- P O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.
- **G** 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.

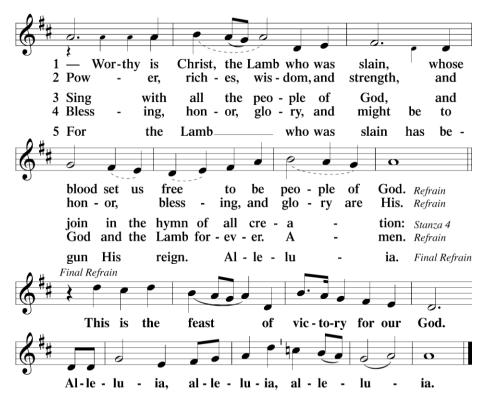
KYRIE

- **P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- P 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.
- P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

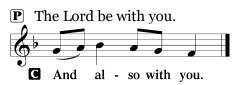


LATE SERVICE—THIS IS THE FEAST





SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY



Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:6–9

"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For

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

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 27:1-9

- P The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
- The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- **P** When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh,
- my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.
- P Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
- though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.
- P One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:
- that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
- **P** to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.
- G For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;
- P he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.
- And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
- **P** I will sing and make melody to the LORD.
- Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!
- P You have said, "Seek my face."
- My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek." Hide not your face from me.
- P Turn not your servant away in anger, O you who have been my help.
- Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation!

EPISTLE

Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

EARLY SERVICE—ALLELUIA AND VERSE

- P Alleluia. By grace you have been saved through faith.
- **Q** And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. Alleluia.

LATE SERVICE—ALLELUIA



HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 20:1–16

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



[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' So the last will be first, and the first last."



NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \pm of the world to come. Amen.

SERMON HYMN 878 Abide with Me

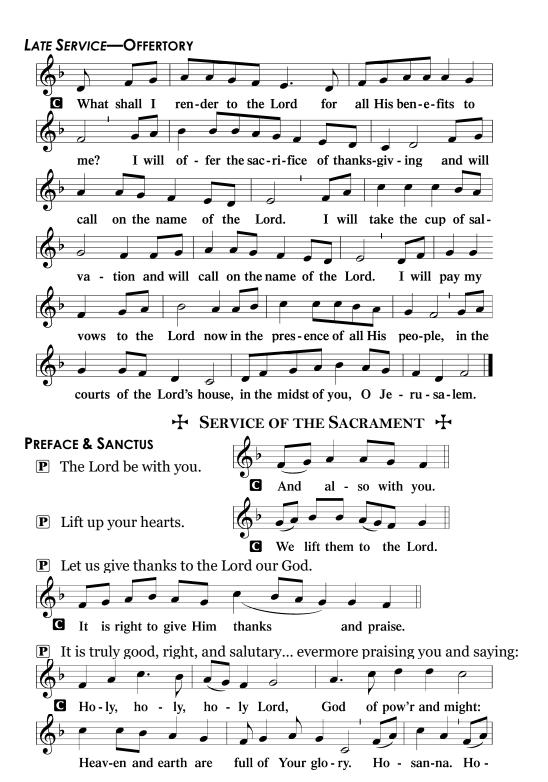


- 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless; Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness. Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory? I triumph still if Thou abide with me!
- 6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes; Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies. Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee; In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

SERMON, FELLOWSHIP PAD

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- **P** ... let us pray to the Lord: **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P ... through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **C** Amen.





PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P Blessed are You, ...with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD & PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.



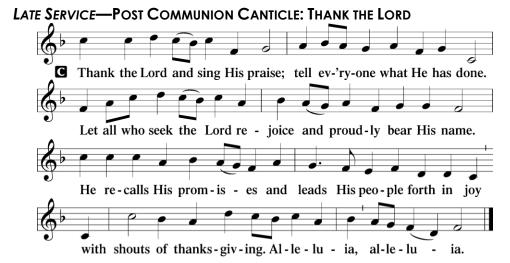
A NOTE TO OUR VISITORS

There are many notions and convictions about worship and the celebration of the Lord's Supper. It is our belief that Jesus Christ is really present in this holy meal — that in eating and drinking the bread and wine we receive Christ's true body and blood. Because it can be received in an unworthy manner for judgement rather than blessing (1 Corinthians 11:27) we make use of the practice of close(d) communion. If you are not a confirmed member in good standing of a sister congregation within our Synod, you may come forward to receive a blessing by crossing your hands over your chest. Even if you do not come forward, please join in our prayer for when all divisions cease, and God's elect will be together in joyous assembly in the banquet hall of heaven!

PRAYER FOR RIGHT RECEPTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

"O Lord, our God, in Holy Baptism You have called us to be Christians and granted us the remission of sins. Make us ready to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all our sins, and grant us grateful hearts that we may give thanks to You, O Father, to Your Son, and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

For Questions and Answers to help PREPARE for the Lord's Supper, turn to page 329 in hymnal.



Post-Communion Collect & Benediction

P We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

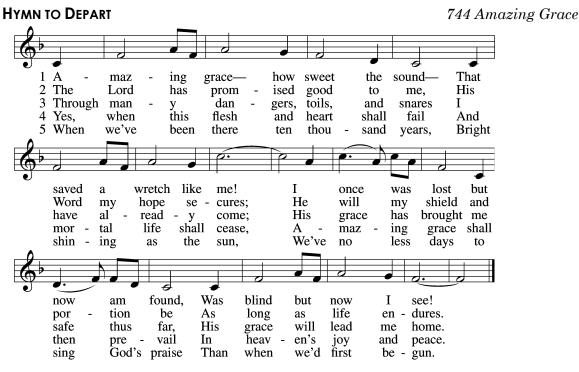


P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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





Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book.

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