

Welcome!

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, September 27, 2026 – 8:30am

To Our Guests: We are honored that you have chosen to worship with us today! Please stop by our Welcome Desk for more information about all our ministries. Please read below for more information about worshipping with us.

We love children at Christ Our Savior. Parents are encouraged to sit in the front pews so young children can see what is happening during worship. A nursery for children, infant to 3 yrs, and a family lounge off the Advent Lobby are available for those who prefer these areas. Ask an usher for directions.

Joyful Giving Opportunities: The offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary. You are welcome to place your offering there before and after the worship services. Or give online! Click on the QR code to the right. →



Please check in with the Friendship Pad or Online. Remove the Friendship pad from the hymn rack on the center aisle and fill out your information. Take note of the people sitting around you – welcome each other by name! Or check in online by clicking here: →

We welcome guests to Sunday School and Bible classes, from 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

Fall Sunday School	Lead by:	Where:
Pre K thru Kindergarten		Room 15
1 st thru 3 rd grade		Room 8
4 th thru 6 th grade		Room 10
7 th thru 8 th grade		Room 12
High School Youth		Youth Room
Adult Bible Studies		
Tech-Wise Family	Josh Kittleman	Gym
Joseph	Pastor Davenport and Pastor Werner	Rooms 1-4
Bethel: The Old Testament	Judy Mayle	Gethsemane Chapel

AS WE GATHER

From the beginning, God implanted His life-creating power into His creation with the command "Be fruitful and multiply" to animals (*Genesis 1:22*) and to humans (*1:28*), with one important difference. You are not an accident or only a product of biology. Every human being is a personal soul. So we confess, "I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them" (*Small Catechism, Creed, Explanation of the First Article*). Because of our inherited sin, however, "the soul who sins shall die" (*Ezekiel 18:4*). Nevertheless, God's design is for life—eternal life. He declares, "I have no pleasure in the death of anyone" (*18:32*). Because God so loves you, He sent His Son to take away your sin by the shedding of His blood on the cross. Therefore, "we preach Christ crucified, . . . the power of God and the wisdom of God"" (*1 Corinthians 1:23–24*). Christ died to sin for you. By Holy Baptism, you died with Christ and are raised to new life in Him. The love of God is yours today by faith in the cross of Jesus Christ. The Father's declaration of Jesus now becomes yours: "My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (*Matthew 3:17*).

Order of Worship

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Michele Ciscon

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we are introducing a new hymn to the congregation. "Glory to God, We Give You Thanks and Praise" (LSB 946) will be used as our Hymn of Praise, as a versification (written in verse form) of the Gloria in Excelsis. This robust hymn tune was written in 1916 by Anglican Choirmaster and organist Walter Greatorex. May God bless our learning and singing this hymn to His glory!

✠ Preparation ✠

OPENING HYMN

"Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices"

LSB 811

- 1. Oh, that I had a thousand voices To praise my God with thousand tongues!
My heart, which in the Lord rejoices, Would then proclaim in grateful songs
To all, wherever I might be, What great things God has done for me.**
- 2. O all you pow'rs that He implanted, Arise, keep silence now no more;
Put forth the strength that God has granted! Your noblest work is to adore.
O soul and body, join to raise With heartfelt joy our Maker's praise.**
- 3. You forest leaves so green and tender That dance for joy in summer air,
You meadow grasses, bright and slender, You flow'rs so fragrant and so fair,
You live to show God's praise alone. Join me to make His glory known.**
- 4. All creatures that have breath and motion, That throng the earth, the sea, the sky,
Come, share with me my heart's devotion, Help me to sing God's praises high.
My utmost pow'rs can never quite Declare the wonders of His might.**
- 5. Creator, humbly I implore You To listen to my earthly song
Until that day when I adore You, Together with the angel throng
And learn with choirs of heav'n to sing Eternal anthems to my King.**

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INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 43:4; 124:8; Isaiah 25:9

- P** I will go to the altar of God,
C **to God my exceeding joy.**
P Our help is in the name of the LORD,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
P Behold, this is our God; we have waited for Him, that He might save us.
C **This is the LORD; we have waited for Him; let us be glad and rejoice in His salvation.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** God invites His whole creation to the great feast of His salvation. That we may boldly enter into His gates of mercy, let us lift up our prayer of repentance and faith.
- C** **Lord God, heavenly Father, with thanksgiving for Your great love and promise of new life and hope for living, we confess to You all our sins, our waywardness, our neglect of Your call, as well as our failure to be of help to our neighbor and one another. We humbly pray, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew and cleanse our hearts and minds, and give us true faith in Your promised grace and deliverance.**
- P** The feast of God's salvation has already begun for you by your Baptism into Christ. Now receive the Lord's abiding forgiveness, faith, strength, and help to live in the certain hope of eternal life in fellowship with Him: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

✠ Service of the Word ✠

KYRIE

Lord, Have Mercy

LSB 168

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



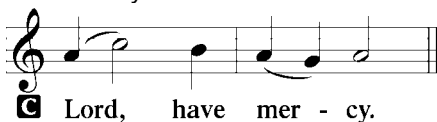
C Lord, have mer - cy.

- 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.

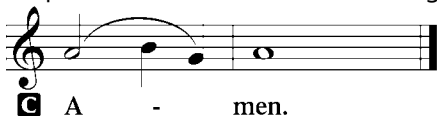


C Lord, have mer - cy.

- 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.



HYMN OF PRAISE

"Glory to God, We Give You Thanks and Praise"

LSB 946



Choir: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;

Choir: 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,

All: 3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and earth - ly peace we sing.

You bore for us the load of this world's sin.

At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,

O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,

Who with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.

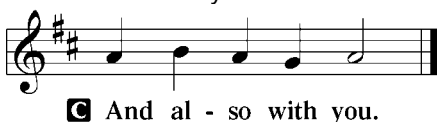
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.

With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

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SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.



continued

P Let us pray. Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING (*"I have no pleasure in the death of anyone."*) Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²"What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? ³As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . . ²⁵Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

"With a Voice of Singing"

Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing declare ye this and let it be heard, Alleluia. Declare ye this and let it be heard, Alleluia. Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered His people, Alleluia. The Lord hath delivered His people, Alleluia. Alleluia. O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O sing praises to the honor of His name, make His praise to be glorious. With a voice of singing declare ye this and let it be heard, Alleluia. Declare ye this and let it be heard, Alleluia.

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EPISTLE

(*Christ's example of humility*)

Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

¹If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . . ¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless

and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 173



C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

(The authority of Jesus is challenged.)

Matthew 21:23–32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁸What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. ³⁰And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into

the kingdom of God before you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



SERMON HYMN

"Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service"

LSB 848

- 1. Lord, whose love through humble service Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken, Offered mercy's perfect deed,
We, Your servants, bring the worship Not of voice alone, but heart,
Consecrating to Your purpose Ev'ry gift that You impart.**
- 2. Still Your children wander homeless; Still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom; Still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, Your deep compassion Healed the sick and freed the soul,
Use the love Your Spirit kindles Still to save and make us whole.**
- 3. As we worship, grant us vision, Till Your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness, Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to tireless striving, Your abundant life to share.**
- 4. Called by worship to Your service, Forth in Your dear name we go,
To the child, the youth, the aged, Love in living deeds to show;
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort, Counsel, aid, and peace we give,
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom May Your mercy know and live.**

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SERMON

"Shine like Lights in the World"

Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

Sermon Notes:

1. Remember What Christ Has _____ You

Paul reminds us that in Christ we have:

- _____ in Christ
- Comfort from His _____
- Fellowship through the _____
- God's _____ and sympathy

Christian living doesn't begin with "Try harder."

"Look at what _____ has already done for you."

2. Put _____ Ahead of Yourself

"Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in _____ count others more significant than yourselves."

Christian humility doesn't mean thinking: "I'm worthless."

It means: "I don't have to be _____."

Because Christ has already given me everything I _____.

3. Don't Grumble—_____!

"Do all things without _____ or disputing."

Paul says that Christians are to "Shine as _____ in the world."

We don't shine because we're _____.

We shine because _____ is at work in us.

When everyone else is complaining, Christians can show _____.

When everyone else is fighting, Christians can seek _____.

When everyone else is tearing people down, Christians can build them _____.

4. Hold Fast to the _____ and Rejoice

"Holding fast to the _____ of life..."

Christian joy isn't the absence of _____.

Christian joy is knowing that _____ is with us in the trouble.

Our joy isn't ultimately based on how well _____ is going.

Our joy is found in _____.

A person I can encourage, serve, forgive, or bless:

THIS IS WHAT WE BELIEVE

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

*The ushers bring forward our gifts as a response to His blessings in our lives.
Offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary both before and after services.
Or give online using the QR code in the front of the bulletin.*

PRAYER AT OFFERING

- P** Heavenly Father, in following Your example, we offer these gifts to you today. As you have blessed us without measure, we bring these tithes to you and pray that You would bless them for the continuance and growth of Your kingdom. A kingdom that waits joyfully for Jesus' return. Bless us as we offer ourselves to You in our vocations, so that we manage and use all the gifts you have bestowed on us to Your glory.
- C** **All that I have is Yours, Lord Jesus. All that I have is You.**
- P** Use then all of our gifts for works of love, mercy, witness, and unto the increase of Your glory.
- C** **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Almighty God, we give You thanks for all Your goodness and loving kindness that You have bestowed on us as Your own creation. For Your whole creation and the blessings of this life, we give You praise and thanks. Continue Your gift of life and grant that all look to You as their Creator and Giver of life through the gift of Your redemption in Christ Jesus, the Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Grant Your blessing and guidance on Your holy church in this world to be the beacon of the light of Your salvation for all who look to You for the salvation of their souls and for every help in need. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Send upon the ministers of Your church and the congregations committed to their care the healthful spirit of Your grace, making all pastors diligent to preach Your Holy Word, and send Your people faithful obedience that they be comforted and strengthened in faith and do all things that are well pleasing to You. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Guide and direct the governments of all nations to seek the ways of Your will in peace and justice, especially in the face of any and all adversity. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Help all who call upon You in any need, that they have patience in times of sorrow or suffering and be released from their afflictions. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We remember before You all those who have loved and served You and who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray,

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.**

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

"Christ the Eternal Lord"

LSB 829

1. **Christ the eternal Lord, Whose promise here we claim,
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured On all who name Your name;
With thankfulness and praise We stand before Your throne,
Intent to serve You all our days And make Your glory known.**
4. **Christ the unfading Light Of everlasting day,
Our Morning Star in splendor bright, The Life, the Truth, the Way;
That light of truth You give To servants as to friends,
Your way to walk, Your life to live, Till earth's brief journey ends.**
5. **Christ the ascended King Exalted high above,
Whose praise unending ages sing, Whom yet unseen we love;
When mortal life is past Your voice from heaven's throne
Shall call Your children home at last To know as we are known.**

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE



ALTAR FLOWERS ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

By Roger & Chris Heath, in honor of their 34th wedding anniversary.

By Connie Freeman, in honor of Alice Geletzke's birthday on 9/26.

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS –

Preaching: Pastor Davenport
Liturgist: Vicar Fritz Quitmeyer
Director of Music: Tom Schroeder
Musicians: COS Festival Choir
Elder: Dennis Puishes
Acolyte: Isaiah Greiner
Lector: Chris Milz
Altar Guild: Jenny Krauss, Amy Milz, Susan Morrison
Greeters: Jim and Amy Maloney
Media Team: Diane Christianson, Liesl Young, Joe Young
Ushers: Team 6; Roger Heath, Captain
Christina Heath, Tim Kostelnik, David Miller, Dale Moser,
Susan Thomson, Spencer Troike, Mark Wludyka
Welcome Desk: Pam Bishop

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