



OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Southern Pines, North Carolina

ORDER FOR WORSHIP
18th Sunday after Pentecost – October 9, 2022

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, (+) one God,
the strength of our ancestors,
the host of our celebration,
and the builder of the city that is to come.

Amen.

If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ. Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful.

People: **We confess the many ways
we have failed to live as your disciples,
we have not finished what you began.
We have feasted with friends but ignored those unlike us.
We have been captivated by our possessions.
Lift our burdens, gracious God.
Revive our hearts for faith and forgive our sin.
Raise us to the new life you have chosen for us
that we might live by Kingdom values
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

Pastor: There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent.
Put your trust in these promises:
God will never leave you or forsake you
even when you fall.
You who were lost have been found
and the way home is open to you through Christ Jesus, Our Lord.
For the sake of (+) Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Rejoice with the angels at this good news!
Amen.

THE GATHERING SONG – Here I Am, Lord - ELW 574

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

THE HYMN OF PRAISE - ELW p. 139

Pastor: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

People: **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Almighty and most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING: Exodus 18:13-27

¹³ The next day Moses sat as judge for the people, while the people stood around him from morning until evening. ¹⁴ When Moses's father-in-law saw all that he was doing for the people, he said, "What is this that you are doing for the people? Why do you sit alone, while all the people stand around you from morning until evening?" ¹⁵ Moses said to his father-in-law, "Because the people come to me to inquire of God. ¹⁶ When they have a dispute, they come to me, and I decide between one person and another, and I make known to them the statutes and instructions of God." ¹⁷ Moses's father-in-law said to him, "What you are doing is not good. ¹⁸ You will surely wear yourself out, both you and these people with you, for the task is too heavy for you; you cannot do it alone. ¹⁹ Now listen to me. I will give you counsel, and God be with you! You should represent the people before God and bring their cases to God. ²⁰ Teach them the statutes and instructions and make known to them the way they are to go and the things they are to do. ²¹ You should also look for able men among all the people, men who fear God, are trustworthy, and hate dishonest gain; set them as officers over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens. ²² Let them sit as judges for the people at all times; let them bring every important case to you but decide every minor case themselves. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you. ²³ If you do this and God so commands you, then you will be able to endure, and all these people will go to their homes in peace."

²⁴ So Moses listened to his father-in-law and did all that he had said. ²⁵ Moses chose able men from all Israel and appointed them as heads over the people, as officers over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens. ²⁶ And they judged the people at all times; hard cases they brought to Moses, but any minor case they decided themselves. ²⁷ Then Moses let his father-in-law depart, and he went off to his own country.

Here ends the reading. Word of God, Word of Life...

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18 (*Read responsively by half verse.*)

¹ O LORD, **you have searched me and known me.**

² You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.

³ You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴ Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.

⁵ You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

¹³ For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you,
**when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.**

¹⁶ Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
**In your book were written all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed.**

¹⁷ How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!

¹⁸ I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with you.

THE SECOND READING: Ephesians 4:1-8, 11-16

¹ I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: ⁴ there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷ But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it is said,

"When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people."

¹¹ He himself granted that some are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the

Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴ We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming; ¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Here ends the reading. Word of God, Word of Life...

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON - Heather Lussier

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – *How Firm a Foundation, verse 1* – ELW 796

**How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled? Amen.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-23

¹⁴ "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵ to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once ¹⁶ the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. ¹⁷ In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸ But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹ After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²² And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God!**

THE SERMON: *Living Kingdom Values: Empowered Lay Leadership*

THE HYMN OF THE DAY – *Take My Life and That I May Be* – ELW 583

HOLY BAPTISM – Dakota Ramirez

Pastor: God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

The presiding minister addresses the parents:

Pastor: Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Dakota baptized into Christ?

Parents: I do.

Pastor: As you bring *your child* to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with *them* among God's faithful people, bring *them* to the word of God and the holy supper, teach *them* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in *their* hands the holy scriptures, and nurture *them* in faith and prayer, so that *your child* may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help *your child* grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: I do.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

Pastor: Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Dakota in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help them live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

Pastor: People of God, do you promise to support Dakota and pray for *them* in *their* new life in Christ?

People: **We do.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Pastor: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: **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.

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

People: **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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth. You are the fire of rebirth. You poured out your Spirit on your people Israel. You breathe life into our dry bones. Your Son Jesus promised to send the Spirit to us that the world may know your peace and truth. Pour out your Holy Spirit, and breathe new life into those who are here baptized. By your Spirit adopt us all as your children, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BAPTISM

Pastor: Dakota, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and the son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your children new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Dakota with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Dakota, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

People: **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

THE PEACE

THE OFFERING

THE OFFERING HYMN – *The Doxology*

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

God our provider,
we bring nothing into this world
and we can take nothing out of it.
Accept the gifts you have first given us,
which we bring to your table,
and with them the offering of our lives.
Nourish us now with the life that really is life,
revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - ELW p. 144

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THE PREFACE (*Sung by Pastor*)

THE SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Spoken)

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.
Come, take your place at the feast.

COMMUNION SONGS:

Lamb of God / Organ

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

God of blessing,
at this table we have seen you face to face,
and in the gift of Christ's body and blood,
our hearts have been refreshed.
Send us now to shine with your goodness
and bear witness to the one we have received:
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

Guard the good treasure entrusted to you,
With the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.
Almighty God (+) bless you with grace, mercy, and peace,
Now and forever.
Amen.

THE SENDING SONG – *We Are Called- ELW 720*

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE