

# *Divine Service*

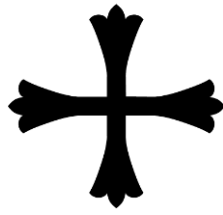
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF THE ASCENSION

SEPTEMBER 13, 2020 ✝ SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M.





## PRELUDE

*Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now*

Johann Walther

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*Please stand and face the processional cross.*

**Lutheran Service Book 851**

**“Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us”**



1 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your  
2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Glad - ly,  
3 Won - drous hon - or You have giv - en To our  
4 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your



life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the  
free - ly of Your own. With the sun - shine of Your  
hum - blest char - i - ty In Your own mys - te - rious  
life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the



lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice;  
good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone  
sen - tence, “You have done it all to Me.”  
lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.



And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings  
Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by  
Can it be, O gra - cious Mas - ter, That You  
Give us faith to trust You bold - ly, Hope, to



count - less as the sand To the un - thank - ful  
You, at length be - lieve That more hap - py  
deign for alms to sue, Say - ing by Your  
stay our souls on You; But, oh, best of



and the e - vil With Your own un - spar - ing hand.  
and more bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.  
poor and need - y, “Give as I have giv’n to you”?  
all Your grac - es, With Your love our love re - new.

# CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*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.

*Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*1 John 1:8-9*

*Kneeling or sitting forward*

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

## **The Seventh Commandment**

*You shall not steal.*

*What does this mean?*

*We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.*

### **Preparation for Confession and Absolution according to the Seventh Commandment:**

- *Have I gotten anything in a dishonest way?*
- *Have I made illegal copies of any printed material, audio or video formats, or computer software?*
- *Do I faithfully attend to the responsibilities of my vocation?*
- *Do I take care of what I have, pay what I owe, return what I borrow, and respect other people's property?*
- *Do I give generously, or am I selfish, stingy and greedy with my time and money?*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** 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.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

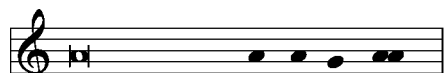
**C** Amen.

*[John 20:19-23]*

# SERVICE OF THE WORD

## KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

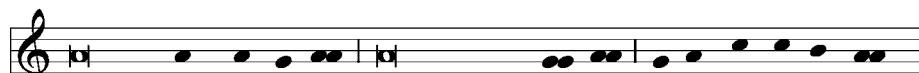
Mark 10:47



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



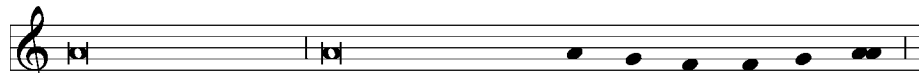
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



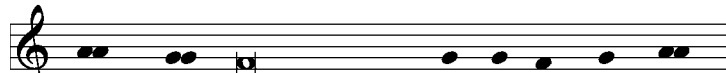
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



**C** A - men.

# GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ~ *Glory to God in the Highest*

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo and meter are not explicitly stated. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across measures. The score begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps, and a common time signature. The lyrics are: Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the Ho - ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

**A** Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.

**C** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and

Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we

praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You

take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on

us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the

Ho - ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a -

lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sitting*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

**Genesis 50:15-21**

**A** The Old Testament Reading for the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost is from Genesis, chapter 50.

<sup>15</sup> When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." <sup>16</sup> So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: <sup>17</sup> 'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.'" And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to

him. <sup>18</sup> His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." <sup>19</sup> But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup> As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. <sup>21</sup> So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

"The New Testament is hidden in the Old, and the Old Testament is manifested in the New."

St. Augustine (354 – 430 A.D.)

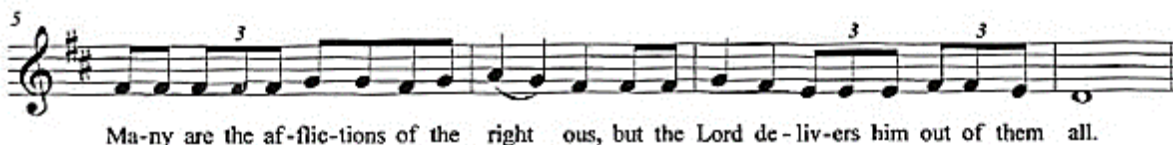
# GRADUAL

Psalm 103:1-13; antiphon: Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

## Antiphon

Debra Ramsey Dickensheets

Cantor introduces first time, then congregation repeats:



- L** Bless the LORD, | O my soul,\*  
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!
- C** Bless the LORD, | O my soul,\*  
and forget not all his | benefits,
- L** who forgives all your in- | iquity,\*  
who heals all your dis- | eases,
- C** who redeems your life | from the pit,\*  
who crowns you with steadfast love and | mercy,
- L** who satisfies | you with good\*  
so that your youth is renewed like the | eagle's.
- C** The LORD works | righteousness\*  
and justice for all who | are oppressed.
- L** He made known his ways to | Moses,\*  
his acts to the people of | Israel.





- C** The LORD is merciful and | gracious,\*  
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.
- L** He will not | always chide,\*  
nor will he keep his anger for- | ever.
- C** He does not deal with us according | to our sins,\*  
nor repay us according to our in- | iquities.
- L** For as high as the heavens are a- | bove the earth,\*  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who | fear him;
- C** as far as the east is | from the west,\*  
so far does he remove our transgres- | sions from us.
- L** As a father shows compassion to his | children,\*  
so the LORD shows compassion to those who | fear him.
- C** Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
- C** *Antiphon*



**A** The Epistle is from Romans, chapter fourteen.

<sup>1</sup> As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. <sup>2</sup> One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. <sup>3</sup> Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. <sup>4</sup> Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

<sup>5</sup> One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. <sup>6</sup> The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who

abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God.

<sup>7</sup> For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. <sup>8</sup> For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup> For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

<sup>10</sup> Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; <sup>11</sup> for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,  
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

<sup>12</sup> So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Standing*

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

*John 6:68*

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

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

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



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

**P** <sup>21</sup> Then Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup> "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup> And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup> So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup> And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup> But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a

hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' <sup>29</sup> So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup> He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup> Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup> And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup> And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup> So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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

## NICENE CREED

**P** God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

**C** **I believe in one God**, *Romans 10:10; Deuteronomy 6:4*  
**the Father Almighty**, *Matthew 6:9; Exodus 6:3*  
**maker of heaven and earth** *Genesis 1:1; John 1:1*  
**and of all things visible and invisible.** *Colossians 1:16*

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ**, *Romans 10:9*  
**the only-begotten Son of God**, *John 3:16; Matthew 16:16*  
**begotten of His Father before all worlds**, *John 1:2*  
**God of God, Light of Light**, *John 17:22; John 8:12; John 1:1*  
**very God of very God**, *Colossians 2:9*  
**begotten, not made**, *John 1:2*  
**being of one substance with the Father**, *John 10:30*  
**by Whom all things were made**; *Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3*  
**Who for us men and for our salvation** *1 Timothy 2:4; Romans 3:23*  
**came down from heaven** *John 6:41; Luke 15:20*  
**and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary** *Luke 1:34-35*  
**and was made man**; *John 1:14*  
**and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.** *Mark 15:25; John 19:16-18*  
**He suffered and was buried.** *John 19:1-3; Luke 23:53*  
**And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures** *1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:6*  
**and ascended into heaven** *Acts 1:9*  
**and sits at the right hand of the Father.** *Acts 7:55*  
**And He will come again with glory** *Matthew 26:64*  
**to judge both the living and the dead**, *Acts 10:42; Matthew 3:12*  
**Whose kingdom will have no end.** *2 Peter 1:11*

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit**, *John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38*  
**the Lord and giver of life**, *Genesis 1:2; John 3:6*  
**Who proceeds from the Father and the Son**, *John 15:26*  
**Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified**, *Matthew 3:16-17; Luke 2:14*  
**Who spoke by the prophets.** *Ezekiel 11:5*  
**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church**, *1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19-22*  
**I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins**, *Ephesians 4:5*  
**and I look for the resurrection of the dead** *1 Corinthians 15:35-49; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*  
**and the life of the world to come.** *Mark 10:29-30; Matthew 10:40-42*  
**Amen.** *Psalms 106:48*

**P** What is the Second Petition of the Lord's Prayer?

**C** They kingdom come.

**P** What does this mean?

**C** The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.

**P** How does God's kingdom come?


**C** God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.

*Sitting*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Lutheran Service Book 606*

*"I Lay My Sins on Jesus"*



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;  
 2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in Him;  
 3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;  
 He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.  
 He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul He does re - deem.  
 His right hand me em - brac - es; I on His breast re - cline.  
 I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains  
 I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;  
 I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;  
 Clean in His blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.  
 He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.  
 Like fra - grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

Public domain

## SERMON

"The message is clear: the forgiveness of sins has been won at a great price, abundantly more than any man could pay in a lifetime. Who is he that cannot forgive his fellow man, then?"

Burnell F. Eckardt, Jr.  
*Every Day I Will Bless Thee*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*Brief silence*

**P** Almighty God, as once You kept Joseph from evil and brought good from his suffering in Egypt, deliver us by Your grace so that we may learn patience in trials. Teach us to be slow to judge, quick to forgive, and steadfast in love for You and for one another. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Merciful Lord, You have shown great compassion to us; teach us to show such compassion to others, that we may welcome the stranger, love our neighbor in need, and be attentive to those new to the faith or vulnerable to temptation. Help us to serve the refugee seeking safety, and give us opportunity to share Your gifts with those who live in poverty and want. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Gracious God, bless those who preach and teach Your Word, and give the hearers willing ears to hear and willing hearts to learn the Scriptures well. Bless those now training to be pastors and church workers. Grant to all the baptized the aid of Your Holy Spirit so that, receiving Your Gospel with joy, we may share it freely with those outside the household of faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Mighty God, give wisdom and courage to our elected and appointed leaders, that they may pursue justice, seek peace and protect life from its natural beginning to its natural end. Bring an end to the threats of terror and violence among the peoples, and open all nations to the voice of Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Holy Lord, lead us to pursue reconciliation, that we may stand before You forgiven and united in faith. Give us unity of doctrine, and help us to walk together in harmony of life. Prepare us to receive Your own Son's body and blood with faith, and bring to fruition in our lives the precious gift of grace we receive in this communion. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Blessed Father, You know our weakness of body and soul. Give to the troubled in mind Your peace, to the suffering relief, to the sick healing, to the grieving comfort and deliver the dying into everlasting life. Hear us especially for \_\_\_\_\_ and also for those named in our hearts. *[Brief silence]* Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Giving Lord, all good things come from You. Open our hearts to be generous with the poor and to bring You the tithes and offerings You are due, that Your Church and all her agencies may serve Your gracious purpose and suffer no lack of people or resources to do the work of Your Kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Almighty and everlasting God, deliver us from temptation and the powers of evil, that we may be faithful unto death and receive from Your hand the crown of everlasting life. Whether we live or die, we belong to You, and we pray You to comfort us with this promise, that we may join the company of the saints on the day You have appointed and enter into the heavenly places to worship at Your throne on high; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore.

**C** Amen.

*Sitting*

## OFFERING

MUSIC

*Sonata in D Major*

Domenico Scarlotti

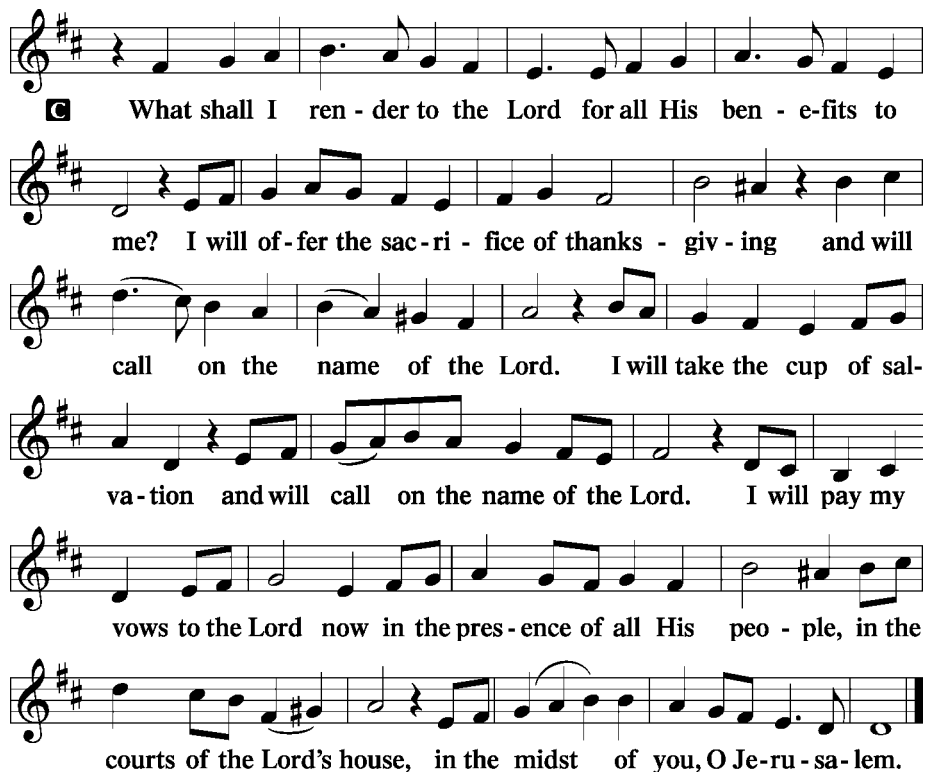
MEDITATION

*Romans 14:7 – “For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself.” We just don’t belong to ourselves. We belong first of all to God, and, through Him, we belong to our neighbors. We are here to serve God in our service to one another. God has called you to this service through your vocation. As a Christian, you serve others in the church; as a neighbor, you serve others in society; and as a son or daughter, husband or wife, father or mother, you serve your family.*

*Standing*

## OFFERTORY

*Psalms 116:12-13, 17-19*

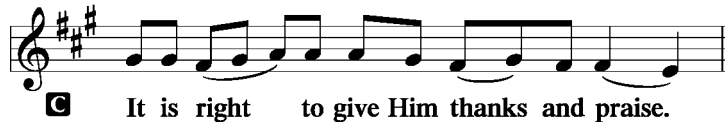
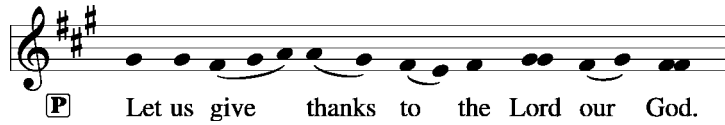
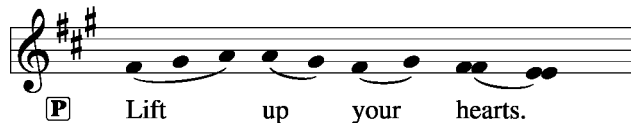


**C** What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to  
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo - ple, in the  
courts of the Lord’s house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru - sa - lem.

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## PREFACE

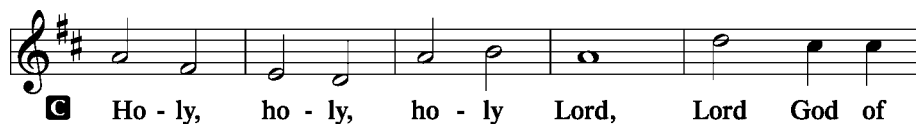
2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9





## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son 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.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

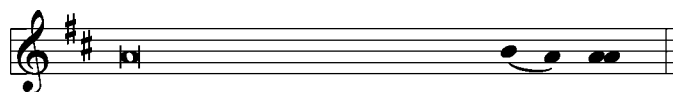
*Matthew 26; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

*John 20:19*



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

## AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

John 1:29

**C** 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.

*Sitting*

### *About participation in the Lord's Supper:*

*The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.*

*Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. [Those coming to the altar for a blessing rather than Holy Communion are asked to cross their arms over their chest.]*

*For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.*

*(Above is the "Model Communion Card Statement" from *Theology and Practice of the Lord's Supper*, a 1983 report by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.)*

"Fellow Christians and above all pastors would be foolish simply to confront [...] people with the demand for forgiveness in the stark form in which it appears [in Matthew 18:21-35]. The capacity to forgive is itself a grace. For many it will be a lifelong project, to be sought in prayer and supplication from God."

Brendan Byrne

*Lifting the Burden: Reading Matthew's Gospel in the Church Today*

# MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

*Lutheran Service Book 621*

**"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"**



1 Let all mor-tal flesh keep si-lence And with fear and  
2 King of kings yet born of Mar-y, As of old on  
3 Rank on rank the host of heav-en Spreads its van-guard  
4 At His feet the six-winged ser-aph, Cher-u-bim with  
trem-bling stand; Pon-der noth-ing earth-ly-mind-ed,  
earth He stood, Lord of lords in hu-man ves-ture,  
on the way As the Light of Light, de-scend-ing  
sleep-less eye, Veil their fac-es to the pres-ence  
For with bless-ing in His hand Christ our God to earth de-  
In the bod-y and the blood, He will give to all the  
From the realms of end-less day, Comes the pow'rs of hell to  
As with cease-less voice they cry: "Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-  
scend-ing Comes our hom-age to de-mand.  
faith-ful His own self for heav'n-ly food.  
van-quish As the dark-ness clears a-way.  
lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia, Lord Most High!"

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*Standing*

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE ~ *Thank the Lord*



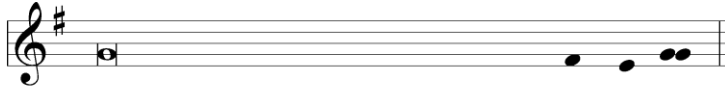
Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what  
He has done. Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-  
joice and proud-ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-  
es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks-  
giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** Let us pray.  
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.
- C** Amen.

## 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.



## RECESSIONAL HYMN

Please remain standing and face the processional cross.

### Lutheran Service Book 818

### "In Thee Is Gladness"

1 In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,  
2 Since He is ours, We fear no pow - ers, Not of  
sun - shine of my heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of  
earth nor sin nor death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -  
heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls Thou  
tress - es; He can change them with a breath. Where - fore the  
wak - est, Our bonds Thou break - est; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built se -  
sto - ry Tell of His glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -  
cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are  
joic - es In Him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for  
pin - ing To see Thy shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing  
glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er sad - ness, Love Him and praise Him  
To Thee are cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!  
And still shall raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

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## POSTLUDE

### Toccata in F Major

Dietrich Buxtehude

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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## SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

### **Presiding Minister**

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

### **Altar Assistant(s)**

Richard Drachenberg

Edie Durden, *Acolyte*

### **Organist**

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

### **Altar Guild**

Lucie Woolery/Jill Drachenberg

### **Usher(s)**

Grayson Beckman/Isaac Beckman

## SERVING NEXT WEEK

### **Presiding Minister**

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

### **Altar Assistant(s)**

Brian Beckman, *Congregational President*

Penny Durden, *Acolyte*

### **Organist**

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

### **Altar Guild**

Judy Russell/Anne Bigelow

### **Usher(s)**

Greg Ison/Richard Drachenberg

# Making Christ Known

| CALENDAR          |   |  |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Sunday<br>9/13    | <b>Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b><br>Nursery available<br>Children's Sunday School<br>Adult Bible Study: <i>The Epistles of Peter</i><br>Divine Service with Holy Communion<br>Fellowship Hour<br>Open Arms Board Meeting<br>Outdoor Divine Service with Holy Communion   | 8:30 – 11:30 AM<br>9:00 AM<br>9:00 AM<br>10:00 AM<br>Following worship<br>Following fellowship<br>Noon                                 |
| Monday<br>9/14    | Open Arms LCDC<br>Church Office   | 7:00 AM – 6:30 PM<br>Closed  |
| Tuesday<br>9/15   | Open Arms LCDC<br>Church Office   | 7:00 AM – 6:30 PM<br>9:30 AM – 2:30 PM   |
| Wednesday<br>9/16 | Open Arms LCDC<br>Church Office<br>Open Arms LCDC Chapel  | 7:00 AM – 6:30 PM<br>9:30 AM – 2:30 PM<br>10:00 AM   |
| Thursday<br>9/17  | Open Arms LCDC<br>Church Office   | 7:00 AM – 6:30 PM<br>9:30 AM – 2:30 PM   |
| Friday<br>9/18    | Open Arms LCDC<br>Church Office   | 7:00 AM – 6:30 PM<br>9:30 AM – 2:30 PM   |
| Saturday<br>9/19  | Open Arms LCDC<br>Church Office   | Closed<br>Closed   |
| Sunday<br>9/20    | <b>Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b><br>Nursery available<br>Children's Sunday School<br>Adult Bible Study: <i>The Epistles of Peter</i><br>Divine Service with Holy Communion<br>Fellowship Hour<br>Stepping Stone Mission Project<br>Church Board Meeting<br>Outdoor Divine Service with Holy Communion<br>Baby Shower for Bekah Beckman | 8:30 – 11:30 AM<br>9:00 AM<br>9:00 AM<br>10:00 AM<br>Following worship<br>Following worship<br>Following fellowship<br>Noon<br>2:00 PM |

# Truth ~ GROWING IN HIS WORD

## ✝ Adult Bible Study: *The Epistles of Peter*

Theme: It was to St. Peter that the Lord Jesus Christ called, "Follow Me." And it is through the two Petrine epistles that the Lord Jesus Christ still calls us today to be His disciples. Hear that calling like never before, and discover what it really means to follow Him with this nine-week Bible study.

Day & Time: Sundays at 9:00 A.M., from August 30 – October 25

Location: Church fellowship hall

## ✝ Adult Bible Study: *Lutheranism 101*

Theme: Has it been decades since you last opened Luther's *Small Catechism*? Have you been wondering lately why Lutherans do the funny things that we do? Are you brand spanking new to Lutheranism? Whatever the case, this class is for you! The basis of our study is the book *Lutheranism 101*. You may purchase a copy for \$25. Please contact Pastor Miller for details.

Day & Time: Sundays at 9:00 A.M., beginning November 1

Location: Church fellowship hall

## ✝ POSTPONED: Men's Group Bible Study: *The Calling: Live a Life of Significance*

Theme: How do I pay the bills? How do I find a job that motivates and inspires. What should I major in at college? Why is my family life in such shambles? How do I live a life of meaning and significance? Am I really living the life God has created uniquely for me?

Unlike Noah or Paul, most of us won't receive answers to these questions directly from God. This doesn't mean, however, that God does not guide us to those choices that will give our life significance.

The Holy Spirit enables us to live the life God created uniquely for us. As we use the resources God places at our disposal, rely on His forgiveness when we stumble, and walk hand in hand with God, He will show us what it means to live a life of significance.

The basis of this study is Kurt Senske's *The Calling: Living a Life of Significance*. Copies are available for just \$20. Please contact Pastor Miller to obtain yours.

Day & Time: To be determined

Location: Church overflow room



✝ **POSTPONED: Women's Group Bible Study: *Praise and Honor: Hymn-Inspired Devotions***

Theme: Come, delve into the great hymns of our church as they're informed by God's Word! The Ascension Women's Group is taking on a new hymn each month using the book *Praise and Honor: Hymn-Inspired Devotions* by Timothy Shoup. It's available for purchase on Amazon for \$13 or through Concordia Publishing House for \$18, and the book "features introductions to 14 hymns with devotions based on each stanza, helping readers learn the biblical basis of the words the authors chose."

If you've never joined this group for a book study before, now is a great time – since the ladies will be studying a different hymn each month, you're free to come when you can and not stress if you can't commit to every meeting. Childcare is provided!

Day & Time: Saturday, September 26 at 9:30 A.M.

Location: Church narthex

## *Beauty* ~ WORSHIPING OUR GOD

✝ **Outdoor Divine Service**

Theme: At Ascension, we're always on the lookout for how we might best serve our neighbor. Due to these unprecedented times, some of our brothers and sisters in Christ have been put in a difficult position. Based on the CDC guidelines, they feel it best to refrain from the regular assembly for the time being. Therefore, in an effort to still provide them the ability to participate in the fullness of the Divine Service, we invite them to worship outdoors in a low-risk environment. An altar, pulpit, and chairs that are appropriately spaced out will be set up outside to ensure that all those gathered may do so in health and safety. Please encourage those who might not otherwise be at ease indoors to please take advantage of this special opportunity just for them.

Day & Time: Sundays in September and October at noon

Location: Front drive of the church

# *Goodness* ~ SERVING IN HIS NAME

## ✝ 1-1-1 Mission Campaign

**Theme:** 1-1-1 is a campaign of the English District to raise \$1/per person/per week. That means that by giving \$4 each month, just \$52 a year, everyone can give toward the district's mission efforts. Just think what could happen if every person in the English District did this! Right now, those missions include Concordia Lutheran Mission in Myerstown, PA, and eight other startup congregations, including two Spanish-speaking churches and several college ministries. Please consider playing a part in this special mission! Dollars may be contributed in the designated 1-1-1 Mission box located in the narthex.

## ✝ UPDATE: 1-1-1 Mission Campaign

From the English District:

Our third season of 1-1-1!

On September 1<sup>st</sup> we began a new year of 1-1-1. This is exciting because 1-1-1 is based on the concept that many doing little can accomplish much. Much has been accomplished indeed. In the first two years of God's people participating in 1-1-1, over \$100,000 was gathered and disbursed to the identified missions. That is the provision of God through his people joyfully placing "one dollar-per member-per week" into their congregation's 1-1-1 collection container.

We have over sixty "1-1-1" participating congregations, which is a very good number! Truly, the 1-1-1 saying has proven true, "There is power and strength in many giving a little!" Thanks be to God!

Bishop Hardy and the District Missions Council have identified English District Campus Ministry as the next mission focus for our 1-1-1 gifts from September 1, 2020 until August 31, 2021.

## ✝ Baby Shower for Bekah Beckman

**Theme:** All are invited to a special baby shower in honor of Bekah Beckman. Men are also encouraged to attend. It will be a fun time of games and activities. Light snacks and cake will be provided. Please RSVP to Darlene Beckman at [office@ascension-lcms.com](mailto:office@ascension-lcms.com).

**Day & Time:** Sunday, September 20 at 2:00 P.M.

**Location:** Church fellowship hall

## ✝ Donations for Stepping Stone Mission

Theme: The Lord blesses us so that we may be a blessing to others. Let us share the many gifts we've graciously received with those most in need. Now through September 20, you are invited to donate specific items to our local LCMS outreach to the homeless, Stepping Stone Mission. All donations may be dropped off by the marked box in the narthex. On September 20, you are also invited to stay after service and help put the donated items into "mercy bags." In addition, children are welcome to draw pictures for the recipients or write notes of encouragement to them.

Here's a list of the items requested for donation:

- Non-perishable food items, excluding cans without flip-top lid (since the homeless probably don't have a can opener). Examples include granola bars, protein bars, dried fruit, nuts, etc.
- Water bottles
- Personal hygiene products, including hand sanitizer and masks
- Toiletry items, such as toothpaste, combs, moisturizer, soap, etc.

### ✦ Third Quarter Financial Update

#### Income

|              |                       |                  |                   |                   |
|--------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|              | 01-Plate Offerings    | 309.00           | 2,158.00          | 3,064.00          |
| 70.43        | %                     |                  |                   |                   |
|              | 02-Envelope Offerings | 12,265.00        | 123,392.65        | 109,000.00        |
| 113.20       | %                     |                  |                   |                   |
|              | 03-Open Arms          | 25,000.00        | 175,000.00        | 200,000.00        |
| 87.50        | %                     |                  |                   |                   |
|              | 04-Other Income       | 85.00            | 1,227.43          | 1,789.00          |
| 68.61        | %                     |                  |                   |                   |
|              | <b>Total Income</b>   | <b>37,659.00</b> | <b>301,778.08</b> | <b>313,853.00</b> |
| <b>96.15</b> | %                     |                  |                   |                   |

#### Expense

|               |                             |                  |                   |                   |
|---------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|               | 00-Group 00                 | 0.00             | 0.00              | 0.00              |
| 0.00          | %                           |                  |                   |                   |
|               | 01-Missions                 | 0.00             | 4,350.00          | 4,650.00          |
| 93.55         | %                           |                  |                   |                   |
|               | 02-Worship                  | 2,017.22         | 18,850.71         | 20,952.00         |
| 89.97         | %                           |                  |                   |                   |
|               | 03-Evangelism               | 2.00             | 3,007.32          | 2,707.00          |
| 111.09        | %                           |                  |                   |                   |
|               | 04-Stewardship              | 0.00             | 0.00              | 0.00              |
| 0.00          | %                           |                  |                   |                   |
|               | 05-Fellowship               | -54.43           | 531.70            | 1,895.00          |
| 28.06         | %                           |                  |                   |                   |
|               | 06-Education                | 47.96            | 948.42            | 1,400.00          |
| 67.74         | %                           |                  |                   |                   |
|               | 07-Administration           | 2,722.16         | 31,955.27         | 20,614.00         |
| 155.02        | %                           |                  |                   |                   |
|               | 08-Pastoral Support         | 7,242.23         | 63,874.59         | 63,270.00         |
| 100.96        | %                           |                  |                   |                   |
|               | 09-Personel Tax & Insurance | 1,321.36         | 10,807.22         | 11,276.00         |
| 95.84         | %                           |                  |                   |                   |
|               | 10-Plant Operations - LCA   | 5,826.29         | 40,658.09         | 39,487.00         |
| 102.97        | %                           |                  |                   |                   |
|               | 11-Plant Operations - OA    | 18,855.43        | 127,879.88        | 133,040.00        |
| 96.12         | %                           |                  |                   |                   |
|               | <b>Total Expense</b>        | <b>37,980.22</b> | <b>302,863.20</b> | <b>299,291.00</b> |
| <b>101.19</b> | %                           |                  |                   |                   |

**Income Less Expense                    -321.22           -1,085.12           14,562.00**

# LIFTING UP ONE ANOTHER IN PRAYER

## **Birthdays**

✝ Julie Ledford, 9/16

## **Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries)**

✝ Chad Kapfhamer, 9/15

## **Wedding Anniversaries**

✝ Tom Lawton & Linda Rathje, 9/15

## **Membership Anniversaries**

✝ Tom & Judy Russell, 9/13

## **In Need**

### **Recent Requests**

*For persecuted Christians:*

✝ Ethiopia

*For comfort, health, and healing:*

✝ Brandon Irwin (friend of Lauren Morr)

✝ Justin Ledford

✝ Jimmy Murray (friend of Adrian Popescu)

✝ Homero Salgado

✝ Marisa Sanders

✝ Heidi Schnakenberg (niece of Clara Smith)

✝ All impacted by COVID-19

*For the health and safety of our deployed servicemen and women:*

✝ Luke Voss (neighbor of the Schoellens)

### **Ongoing Requests**

*For family and friends of the congregation:*

✝ Terrie Dowling (aunt of Caitlin East)

✝ Hannibal (Hank) Durden

✝ Rev. David Heller (Pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church, Athens, GA)

✝ The Kroll family (friends of Ascension)

✝ Martin Kunkel

✝ Rosalia Kunkel (mother of Martin Kunkel)

✝ Willard Meyer (grandfather of J.P. Morr)

✝ Adi Murphy (former neighbor of the Beckmans)

*For the leaders of Church and state:*

✝ Director Barbara Collins & Open Arms Board

✝ English District Bishop Jamison Hardy & all district officials

✝ LCMS President Matthew Harrison & all synodical officials

✝ Pastor David Miller & Church Board of Lutheran Church of the Ascension

✝ Rev. Dr. Jonathan & Dcs. Cheryl Naumann, missionaries to Dominican Republic

✝ President Donald Trump & all U.S. government officials

✝ President Donald Trump & all U.S. government officials







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