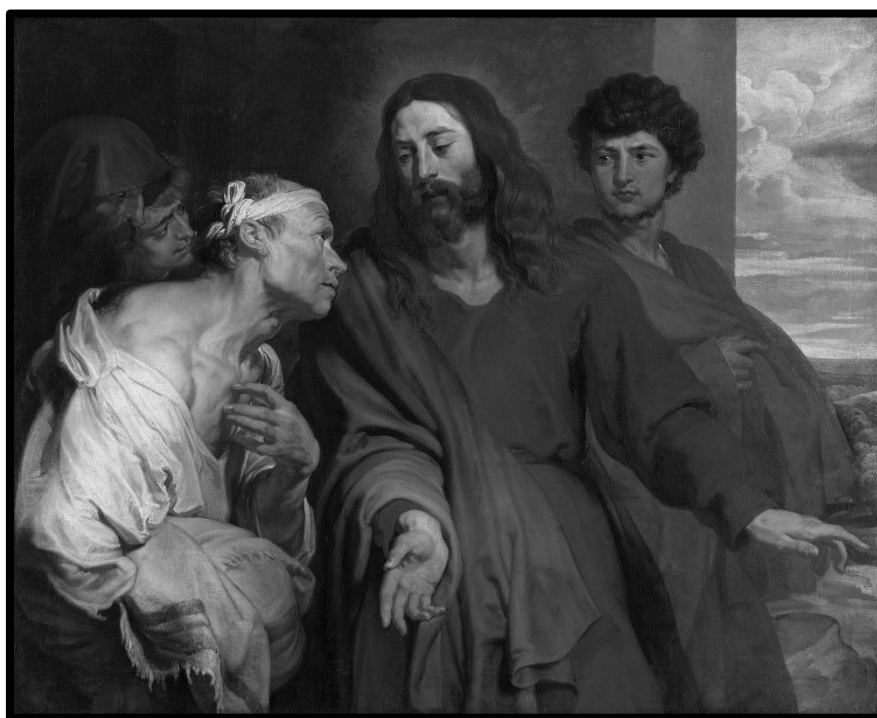


Trinitytide

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

The Sunday of the Paralytic



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE ASCENSION

MAKING CHRIST KNOWN

Truth, Beauty, Goodness

ABOUT TODAY'S THEME – NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Jesus' Incarnation Secures for Us Life, Forgiveness, and Healing

The Lord does not require us to ascend to Him; in mercy He descends to us (Gen. 28:10–17). The ladder in Jacob's dream was not for climbing; it was the means by which the Lord came to bless Jacob. This event finds its fulfillment in Christ who descended from His throne to save and bless us. By His incarnation He is the eternal bridge between heaven and earth. "The Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" (Matt. 9:1–8). The Lord was present in the flesh to absolve the paralytic. Jesus also healed and restored this man's body. "For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation" (Small Catechism). The Lord still has power on earth to forgive sins. In holy absolution He raises up the new man (Eph. 4:22–28) and bestows the healing medicine which will bring about our resurrection on the Last Day. Thus we say with Jacob, "This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven!" (Gen. 28:17)

About image on front cover: "Christ Healing the Paralytic" (1619), by Anthony Van Dyck (1599 – 1641).

OCTOBER 10, 2021 SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M.
DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING THREE
UAC XXIV: *Retinetur enim missa apud nos et summa reverentia celebratur.*



PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 974 (stanzas 1-5)

“Jesus Sinners Doth Receive”



1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this
2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich
3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shep - herd
4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions
grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro -
e'er for - sak - eth; Wea - ry souls that lost their
tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to



live And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is
claim; Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly
way Christ, the Shep - herd, gent - ly tak - eth In His
me; Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these



hope for all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
in these words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
arms that they may live: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
words my soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

- 5 Oh, how blest it is to know:
Were as scarlet my transgression,
It shall be as white as snow
By Thy blood and bitter passion;
For these words I now believe:
Jesus sinners doth receive.

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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

[Hebrews 10:22]

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

Kneeling or sitting forward

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

The Fifth Commandment

You shall not murder.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, but help and support him in every physical need.

Preparation for Confession and Absolution according to the Fifth Commandment:

- *Have I unjustly taken the life of anyone, born or unborn?*
- *Do I hate anyone, or am I angry with anyone?*
- *Do I hold grudges or harbor resentment?*
- *Am I abusive (in word or deed) toward my spouse, children, or anyone else?*
- *Have I ignored the plight of the helpless or been callous toward genuine need?*

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

[John 20:19-23]

C Amen.

Standing

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 78:1-3, 4b; antiphon: Psalm 35:3b; 34:17a, 6b; 48:14a



L Say to my soul, "I am your sal- | vation!"*
When the righteous cry for help, the | LORD hears.
[The Lord] saved him out of all his | troubles;*
this is God, our God forever and | ever.

L Give ear, O my people, to my | teaching;*
incline your ears to the words | of my mouth!

C I will open my mouth in a | parable;*
I will utter dark sayings | from of old,

L things that we have | heard and known,*
that our fathers have | told us.

C We will tell the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, | and his might,*
and the wonders that | he has done.



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

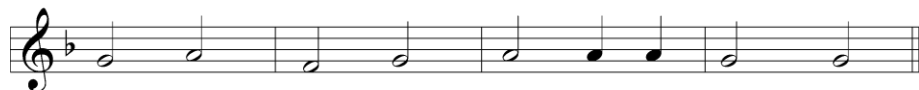
L Say to my soul, "I am your sal- | vation!"*
When the righteous cry for help, the | LORD hears.
[The Lord] saved him out of all his | troubles;*
this is God, our God forever and | ever.

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

Mark 10:47




C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

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

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



The musical score is written for a single voice part on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo and meter are indicated by a common time signature 'C' and a 'P' (Piano) dynamic marking. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some words in bold. The score consists of 12 lines of music, each with a corresponding line of lyrics. The lyrics are: Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

P Glory be to God on high: **G** and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, of Your bountiful goodness keep from us all things that may hurt us that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish whatever You would have us do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sitting

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 28:10-17

A The Old Testament Reading for the Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity is from Genesis, chapter 28.

A ¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. ¹² And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! ¹³ And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring.

¹⁴ Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

¹⁵ Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶ Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it." ¹⁷ And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 141:1-2



- # EPISTLE

Ephesians 4:22-28

- truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. ²⁶ Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, ²⁷ and give no opportunity to the devil. ²⁸ Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

Thomas à Kempis (1380 – 1471)

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Psalm 98:1a



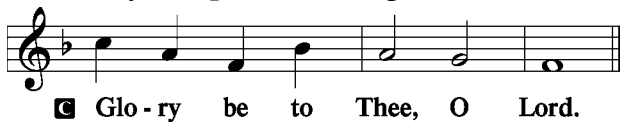
L Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things!



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 9:1-8

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



P ¹ And getting into a boat [Jesus] crossed over and came to his own city. ² And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." ³ And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." ⁴ But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? ⁵ For

which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? ⁶ But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he then said to the paralytic—"Rise, pick up your bed and go home." ⁷ And he rose and went home. ⁸ When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



APOSTLES' CREED

[Matthew 10:32]

C 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.

CATECHETICAL RECITATION

The Fourth Commandment

P What is the Fourth Commandment?

C Honor your father and your mother.

P What does this mean?

C We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

Sitting

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 707

"Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His stat-utes still!
2 Or - der my foot-steps by Thy Word And make my heart sin-cere;
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict-er watch to keep;
4 Make me to walk in Thy com-mands—'Tis a de-light-ful road—



Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!
Let sin have no do-min-ion, Lord, But keep my con-science clear.
And should I e'er for-get Thy way, Re-store Thy wan-d'ring sheep.
Nor let my head or heart or hands Of-fend a-gainst my God.

SERMON

Standing

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10–12



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Sitting

OFFERING

MEDITATION

Ephesians 4:24 – “Put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”
The battle between the old self in Adam and the new self in Christ is fought in the heart and mind of every Christian. Paul encourages us to put on the new man, which is created in the image of God. Our sanctification – our growth in godliness – is a growth into God’s image. We do this by keeping our eyes on Christ and imitating Him in everything with love, kindness, and self-giving generosity.

“Whoever is truly a child of God through faith will, with childlike trust, address his or her heavenly Father every day in prayer. The one in whose heart the Holy Spirit has made His home will, as a spiritual priest, daily offer to God this incense of prayer.”

Johann Gerhard (1582 – 1637)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

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

Brief silence

P Lord, You are our God forever and ever. You are our salvation, and in Jesus Christ, Your Son, You have delivered us out of all our troubles. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P We glorify You, Lord God, that You have given such authority to men to forgive sins in the name of Jesus Christ, whose blood has made atonement for the sins of the world. Focus every word and deed of Your ministers in the Church toward this Office of the Keys, that the Gospel may predominate in our worship and life together. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P Heavenly Father, restore to all Christian hearts the joy of Your salvation by the blood of Christ, and make us eager to hear the voice of the Gospel in the forgiveness of sins. So, in turn, lead every Christian household — husbands, wives and children — to speak the truth with our neighbors and to forgive one another as Christ has forgiven us. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P Almighty God, preserve the lives of Joseph, our president; Brian, our governor; and all our leaders. Even as You rule the world by Your mighty power, be pleased to give wisdom to our nation, that it may have peace and success in accordance with Your commandments. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P Lord God, Your Son healed the sick and the broken. Hear our prayers for those in need among us, [especially _____], and grant them healing now and resurrection at the Last Day. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P Holy Father, how awesome is this place, the very house of God and the gate of heaven, for here, according to Christ's Word, Your Son is bodily present with us in the Sacrament of the Altar. Bring us in repentance and faith to eat and drink worthily at His Supper this day, and through its forgiveness and healing, put off the old self and renew us in true righteousness and holiness. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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



P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

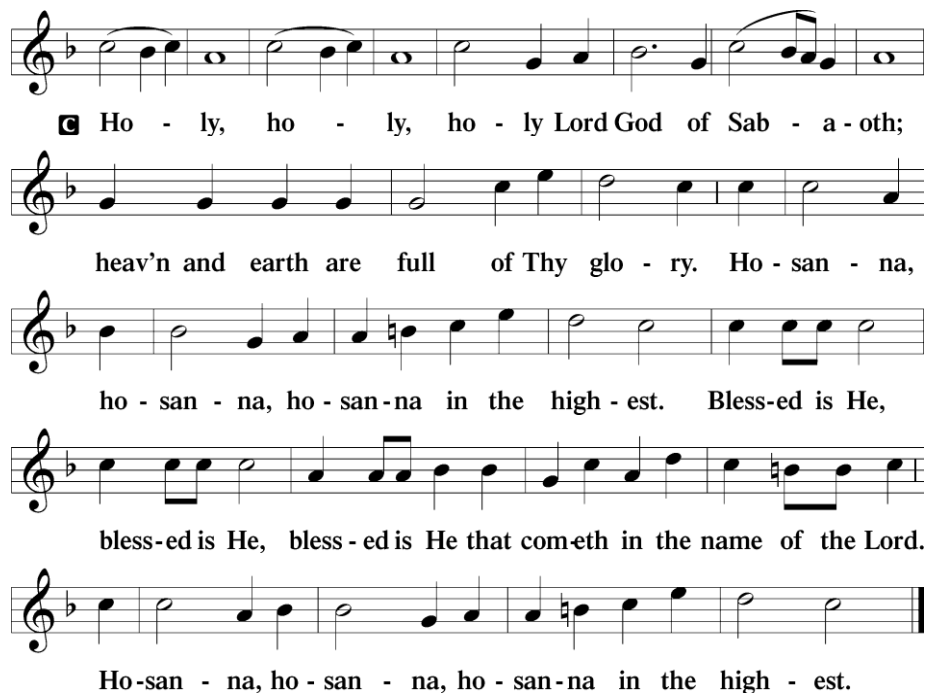
P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, 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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;

heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,

ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,

bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.

Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,



and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the



dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My [†] bod - y, which is giv-en for you.



This do in re-mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so



He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it



them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in



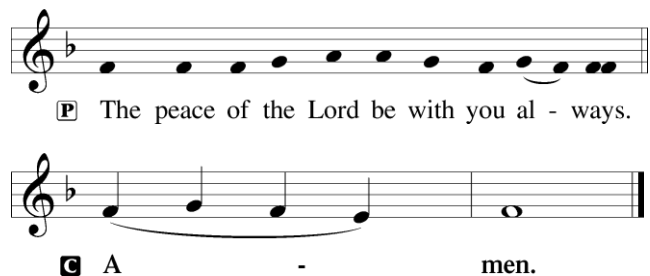
My [†] blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.



This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

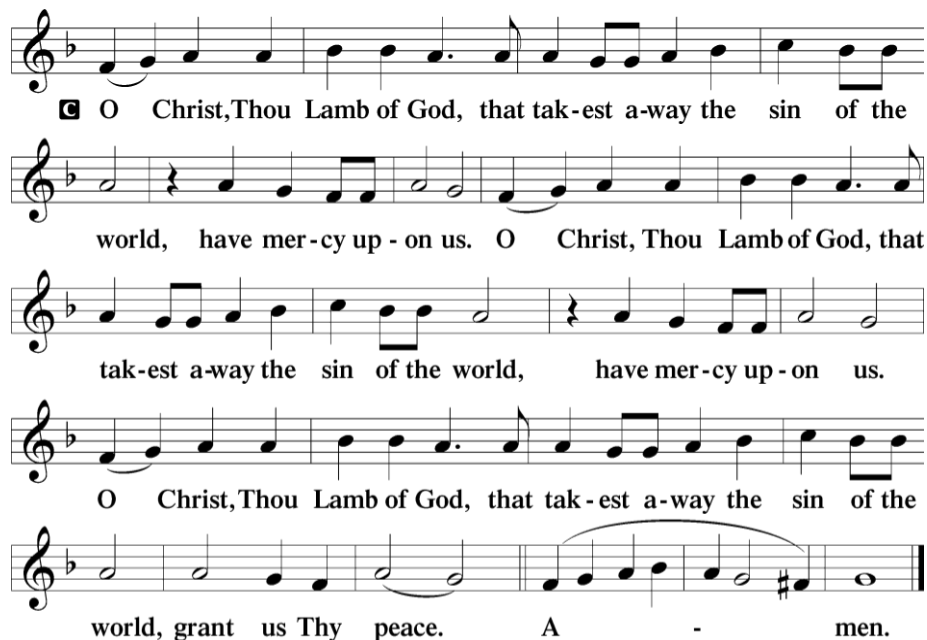
PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19



AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

John 1:29



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.)

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Service Book 636

"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, Leave the
2 Has - ten as a bride to meet Him, And with
3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure Nei - ther
4 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der O - ver



gloom-y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to the day-light's
lov - ing rev - 'rence greet Him. For with words of life im -
cost nor pain will mea - sure; But the price-less gifts of
this sur - pass - ing won - der That the bread of life is



splen - dor, There with joy your prais - es ren - der.
mor - tal He is knock - ing at your por - tal.
heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.
bound-less Though the souls it feeds are count - less:



Bless the One whose grace un-bound - ed This a - maz - ing
O - pen wide the gates be - fore Him, Say - ing, as you
Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, None could buy the
With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to



ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and
there a - dore Him: Grant, Lord, that I now re -
gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you
us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -



ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
ceive You, That I nev - er - more will leave You.
riv - en, And His blood, for you once giv - en.
la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!

- 5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,
Truest friend, and dearest treasure,
Peace beyond all understanding,
Joy into all life expanding:
Humbly now, I bow before You;
Love incarnate, I adore You;
Worthily let me receive You
And, so favored, never leave You.**

- 6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor,
Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,
Jesus, joy of my desiring,
Fount of life, my soul inspiring:
At Your feet I cry, my maker,
Let me be a fit partaker
Of this blessed food from heaven,
For our good, Your glory, given.
- 7 Lord, by love and mercy driven,
You once left Your throne in heaven
On the cross for me to languish
And to die in bitter anguish,
To forego all joy and gladness
And to shed Your blood in sadness.
By this blood redeemed and living,
Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.
- 8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You,
Let me gladly here obey You.
By Your love I am invited,
Be Your love with love requited;
By this Supper let me measure,
Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
Through the gift of grace You give me
As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

"A person may pretend to be a Christian while in reality he is not. As long as he is in this condition, he is quite content with his knowledge of the mere outlines of the Christian doctrines. . . . However, the moment a person becomes a Christian, there arises in him a keen desire for the doctrine of Christ. "

C.F.W. Walther (1811-1887)

NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon

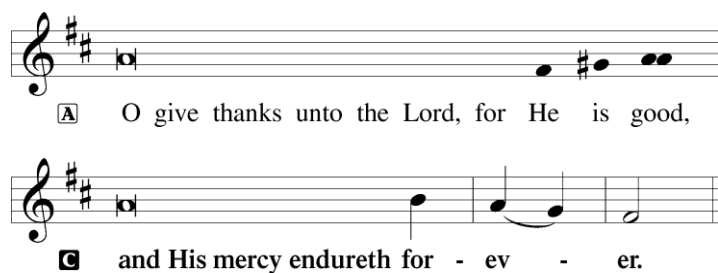
Luke 2:29-32



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
 cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A-men.

THANKSGIVING

Psalms 107:1



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

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.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

2 Timothy 4:22, Psalm 103:1



P The Lord be with you.

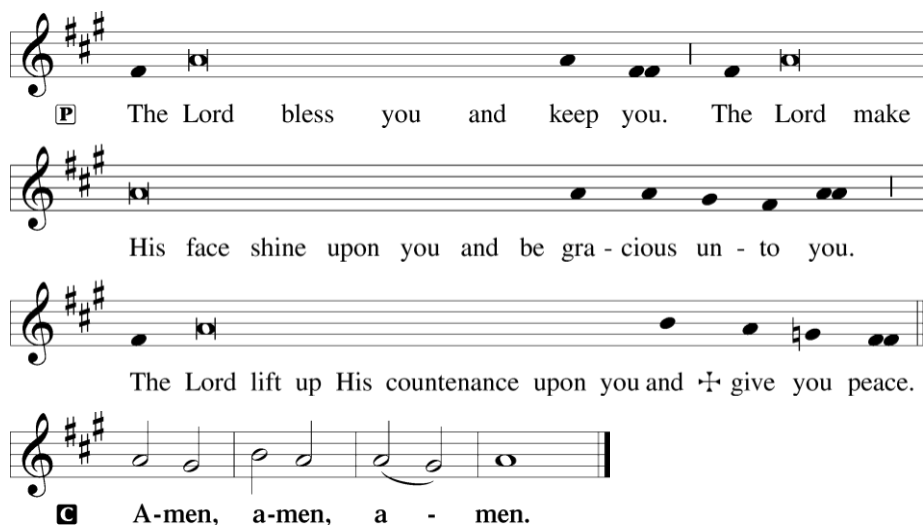
C And with thy spir - it.

A Bless we 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 upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

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

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lutheran Service Book 533

"Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure Eternal"



1 Je - sus has come and brings plea - sure e - ter - nal,
2 Je - sus has come! Now see bonds rent a - sun - der!
3 Je - sus has come as the might - y Re - deem - er.
4 Je - sus has come as the King of all glo - ry!



Al - pha, O - me - ga, Be - gin - ning and End;
Fet - ters of death now dis - solve, dis - ap - pear.
See now the threat - en - ing strong one dis - armed!
Heav - en and earth, O de - clare His great pow'r,



God - head, hu - man - i - ty, u - nion su - per - nal,
See Him burst through with a voice as of thun - der!
Je - sus breaks down all the walls of death's for - tress,
Cap - tur - ing hearts with the heav - en - ly sto - ry;



O great Re - deem - er, You come as our friend!
He sets us free from our guilt and our fear,
Brings forth the pris - 'ners tri - um - phant, un - harmed.
Wel - come Him now in this fast - fleet - ing hour!



Heav - en and earth, now pro - claim this great won - der:
Lifts us from shame to the place of His hon - or.
Sa - tan, you wick - ed one, own now your mas - ter!
Pon - der His love! Take the crown He has for you!



Je - sus has come and brings plea - sure e - ter - nal!
Je - sus has come! Hear the roll of God's thun - der!
Je - sus has come! He, the might - y Re - deem - er!
Je - sus has come! He, the King of all glo - ry!

POSTLUDE

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

Grayson Beckman, *Elder*

Penny Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

David Kroll

Cantor

Adrian Popescu

Altar Guild

Anne Bigelow/Whitney Worthington

Usher(s)

Tracy Woolery/Mark Saldaña

Greeter(s)

Tom Lawton & Linda Rathje

Fellowship Host(s)

TBD

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

Grayson Beckman, *Elder*

Edie Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Adrian Popescu

Altar Guild

Linda Rathje/Lucie Woolery

Usher(s)

Richard Drachenberg/Greg Ison

Greeter(s)

Anne Bigelow

Fellowship Host(s)

TBD

Making Christ Known

CALENDAR		
Sunday 10/10	Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>The Case for Faith</i> Divine Service with Holy Communion Fellowship Hour Open Arms Board Meeting	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following worship Following fellowship
Monday 10/11	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Tuesday 10/12	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Wednesday 10/13	Open Arms LCDC Church Office Open Arms LCDC Chapel	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 10:00 AM
Thursday 10/14	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday 10/15	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Saturday 10/16	Open Arms LCDC Church Office Open Arms Fall Festival	Closed Closed 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM
Sunday 10/17	Twentieth Sunday after Trinity Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>The Case for Faith</i> Divine Service with Holy Communion Fellowship Hour Church Board Meeting	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following worship Following fellowship



✝ Adult Bible Study: *The Case for Faith*

Theme: From the back cover: *"Doubt is familiar territory for Lee Strobel, the former atheist and New York Times bestselling author of books for skeptics and Christians. But he believes that faith and reason go hand in hand, and that Christianity is a defensible religion."*

"In this six-session revised small group Bible study, Strobel explores the most common emotional obstacles to faith in Christ. These include the natural inclination to wrestle with faith and doubt, the troubling presence of evil and suffering in the world, and the exclusivity of the Christian gospel. They also include this compelling question: Can I doubt and be a Christian?"

"Through compelling personal stories and expert testimony combined with reflection and interaction, you will learn how to overcome these obstacles, deepen your spiritual convictions, and find new confidence that Christianity is a reasonable faith."

Day & Time: Sundays at 9:00 A.M., from September 12 through October 24

Location: Church fellowship hall

✝ Adult Bible Study: *Lutheranism 101*

Theme: What makes the Lutheran confession of faith unique? Why is Lutheran worship different than at the church next door? Does it have to be confusing? If you're a lifelong Lutheran looking to dig deeper, new to Lutheranism and want answers, or are just curious about the Lutheran church—this book is for you! Conversational and fun to flip through, this reference guide helps you easily get to know theology basics in a way that won't make your brain hurt.

Inside this second edition, sections on topics such as:

- Marriage ("What God Has Joined Together")
- Justification ("All that Jesus Did As Our Savior")
- Prayer
- The works of unbelievers
- Early Lutheranism
- End times predictions

Day & Time: Sundays at 9:00 A.M., beginning October 31

Location: Church fellowship hall

✝ Book Club: *Uncle Tom's Cabin*

Theme: From the back cover: *"Harriet Beecher Stowe was appalled by slavery, and she took one of the few options open to nineteenth century women who wanted to affect public opinion: she wrote a novel, a huge, enthralling narrative that claimed the heart, soul, and politics of millions of her contemporaries. Uncle Tom's Cabin paints pictures of three plantations, each worse than the other, where even the best plantation leaves a slave at the mercy of fate or debt. Her questions remain penetrating even today: "Can man ever be trusted with wholly irresponsible power?"*

"First published more than 150 years ago, this monumental work is today being reexamined by critics, scholars, and students. Though "Uncle Tom" has become a synonym for a fawning black yes-man, Stowe's Tom is actually American literature's first black hero, a man who suffers for refusing to obey his oppressors. Uncle Tom's Cabin is a living, relevant story, passionate in its vivid depiction of the cruelest forms of injustice and inhumanity-and the courage it takes to fight against them."

Day & Time: Sunday, November 7 at 3:30 PM

Location: Church fellowship hall

Pathos ~ BEAUTY

✝ Divine Service

Theme: A feast for the senses! Experience the gracious presence of the Lord in Word and Sacrament through liturgy and song. Dazzling to the eye, enticing to the ear, tantalizing to the taste, gentle to the touch, fragrant to the nose, the Church engages you in every way. Prepare to have an encounter with the divine.

Day & Time: Sundays at 10:00 A.M.

Location: Church sanctuary

✝ Private Confession

Theme: Know the peace of a clear conscience and the renewed joy of a soul that has been set free from sin. This gift can be yours through Private Confession. It is a unique opportunity to help you in your spiritual battle, and grow you into Christian maturity. The Lord wants to apply His grace to you in a personal and intimate way.

Day & Time: Call Pastor Miller or email him at pastor@ascension-lcms.com to schedule an appointment.

Location: Church sanctuary

✝ All Saints' Sunday: Commemoration of the Faithful Departed

Theme: Every year, the Church commemorates the faithful departed by naming them publicly and leaving a moment of silence. If you have a loved one who has died in the faith this past year and you would like to add them to the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed, please contact Pastor Miller at pastor@ascension-lcms.com. Please be sure to include his or her first and last name, as well as his or her relationship to you. God's peace be yours through our risen and ascended Lord Jesus Christ!

Day & Time: Sunday, November 1 during Divine Service

Location: Church sanctuary



✝ 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 are focusing on district ministries on college campuses. 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.

✝ LCA Stewardship: Focus On Time

Theme: The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod defines Christian stewardship as “the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family, the Church in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes.”

Hopefully, during the months of July and August, the Treasures Allocation Spreadsheets helped your family determine how to allocate your “Treasures.”

Now, for the months of September and October, the focus will be on God's gift of “Time.” To assist with the management of your time in balancing the 5 aspects of life (Faith, Relationships, Physical Health, Finances, and Self) you will be receiving via email worksheets on planning and recording your time. These can be used by all the members of your family.

Hopefully, these tools will be helpful to you and your family to become better stewards of God's gift of time, which He has bestowed on you all. Please contact Clara Smith, the Chair of Stewardship, for more information. Email: clara.smith@mindspring.com. Cell: (678) 438-1756.

✝ **Open Arms Fall Festival**

Theme: Help support your congregation and reach out to the families of Open Arms by attending the Ascension hospitality table. There, we will greet, distribute literature, and share the joy of balloons. Please see signup sheet in the Narthex. On behalf of your church, thank you!

Day: Saturday, October 16 from 10 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

Location: Church grounds

✝ **Reformation Party**

Theme: Celebrate over 500 years of the Reformation and our evangelical faith! Not only will we observe Reformation Day in Divine Service, but you're invited to partake of a special luncheon afterwards with brats and beer. Families A-L please bring a dessert. Families M-Z please bring a side. Happy Reformation!

Day & Time: Sunday, October 31 after Divine Service

Location: Church fellowship hall

✝ **Chili Cook-Off**

Theme: Everyone's favorite event is returning for 2021. Enter your best chili for a chance to win a prize for Tastiest Chili, Most Original Chili, or Spiciest Chili. Even if you're not entering, join the fun and cast your votes!

Day & Time: Sunday, November 21 after Divine Service

Location: Church fellowship hall

LIFTING UP ONE ANOTHER IN PRAYER

Birthdays

✝ Richard Drachenberg, 10/14

Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries)

✝ None this week

Wedding Anniversaries

✝ None this week

Membership Anniversaries

✝ Eden Miller, 10/13

✝ Jeni Miller, 10/13

In Need

Recent Requests

For persecuted Christians:

✝ Pakistan

For comfort, health, and recovery:

- ✝ Unborn child of Isaac & Bekah Beckman Anne Bigelow
- ✝ Melanie Beauchamp (sister of Jason Schoellen)
- ✝ Anne Bigelow
- ✝ Danielle Darnell (cousin of Kati Durden)
- ✝ Ruth Henry
- ✝ Ezra Hoffman (baby of Lauren Morr's friend)
- ✝ Mary Huntoon (sister of Anne Bigelow)
- ✝ James McFerrin (grandfather of Open Arms family)
- ✝ Kerstin Popescu (mother of Adrian Popescu)
- ✝ Unborn daughter of Evan and Rebekah Woolery (granddaughter of Tracy and Lucie Woolery)
- ✝ Brielle Woolery (granddaughter of Tracy and Lucie Woolery)

Ongoing Requests

For family and friends of the congregation:

- ✝ Debbie Dickensheets
- ✝ Hannibal (Hank) Durden
- ✝ Mary Greene (neighbor of Ruth Henry)
- ✝ Jimmy Murray (friend of Adrian Popescu)
- ✝ Michael Ocepek (brother-in-law of Eileen Buehl)
- ✝ Heidi Schnakenberg (niece of Clara Smith)
- ✝ Bill Vester

For the leaders of Church and state:

- ✝ Director Barbara Collins-Hopkins & 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 Joseph Biden & all U.S. government officials



THE LUTHERAN
CHURCH OF THE
ASCENSION

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