

Trinitytide

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

The Sunday of the Great Commandment



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE ASCENSION

MAKING CHRIST KNOWN

Truth, Beauty, Goodness

ABOUT TODAY'S THEME – EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

In Life and Death, Christ Fulfills the Law of God

The Pharisees ask a Law question. Jesus asks a Gospel question. The Pharisees seek to test Jesus in His own words. Jesus seeks to “test” them in the saving reality of who He is as the Messiah (Matt. 22:34–46). The Law requires you to “fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul” and to “love the sojourner” (Deut. 10:12–21). Failure to keep the Law perfectly brings judgment. On the other hand, the Gospel brings the grace of God given by Jesus Christ, that you may be blameless in the day of His return (1 Cor. 1:1–9). Jesus is David’s Son yet David’s Lord, true God and true man. He is Love incarnate who fulfilled all the demands of God’s Law on our behalf, that we might be saved from the Law’s condemnation and sanctified in the Gospel’s forgiveness. Thereby we see that “God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord” (1 Cor. 1:9).

OCTOBER 3, 2021 SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M.
DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING THREE
UAC XXIV: *Retinetur enim missa apud nos et summa reverentia celebratur.*



PRELUDE

Holsworthy Church Bells

Samuel Wesley

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 795

“Voices Raised to You We Offer”



1 Voic - es raised to You we of - fer; Tune them, God, for
2 All cre - a - tion joins to praise You; Earth and sky Your
3 Christ, the song of Love in - car - nate, Touch - ing earth with
4 Spir - it, flam - ing through cre - a - tion, Kin - dle faith with -



songs of praise. Hearts and hands we bring in trib - ute
works dis - play. Art and mu - sic, gifts You lend us,
heav - en's grace, For Your liv - ing, suf - f'ring, dy - ing,
in each heart. Lift our voic - es high in cho - rus;



For Your gifts through all our days. Al - le - lu - ia!
We re - turn to You to - day. Al - le - lu - ia!
For Your ris - ing, hear our praise! Al - le - lu - ia!
Through our hands Your love im - part. Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Tri - une God, to You we sing!
Al - le - lu - ia! God, Cre - a - tor, source of life!
Al - le - lu - ia! Christ, Re - deem - er, Lord of life!
Al - le - lu - ia! Spir - it, Help - er, breath of life!

- 5 How can any praise we offer
Measure all the thanks we owe?
Take our hearts and hands and voices—
Gifts of love we can bestow.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Triune God, to You we sing!

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 Fourth Commandment

Honor your father and your mother.

What does this mean?

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.

Preparation for Confession and Absolution according to the Fourth Commandment:

- *Do I submit to those whom God has put in authority over me?*
- *Have I been ashamed of, angry, stubborn, or disrespectful toward my parents, teachers, employer, pastor, government or other authorities?*
- *Do I obey all the laws of the city, state and country, and pay my rightful share of all taxes?*

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 122:1, 6, 8-9; antiphon: Liturgical Text



L Give peace, O Lord, to those who | wait for you,*
and let your prophets be proven | faithful.
Hear the prayer of your | servants,*
according to the blessing of Aaron upon your | people.

L I was glad when they | said to me,*
“Let us go to the house | of the LORD!”

C Pray for the peace of Je- | rusalem!*

May they be secure who | love you!

L For my brothers and com- | panions’ sake*
I will say, “Peace be with- | in you!”

C For the sake of the house of the | LORD our God,*
I will | seek your good.



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 Give peace, O Lord, to those who | wait for you,*
and let your prophets be proven | faithful.
Hear the prayer of your | servants,*
according to the blessing of Aaron upon your | people.

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



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.

O God, because without You we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; 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

Deuteronomy 10:12-21

A The Old Testament Reading for the Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity is from Deuteronomy, chapter ten.

A [Moses said:] ¹² "And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³ and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today for your good? ¹⁴ Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it. ¹⁵ Yet the LORD set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day. ¹⁶ Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer

stubborn. ¹⁷ For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe. ¹⁸ He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. ¹⁹ Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. ²⁰ You shall fear the LORD your God. You shall serve him and hold fast to him, and by his name you shall swear. ²¹ He is your praise. He is your God, who has done for you these great and terrifying things that your eyes have seen."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

"Consider all the past as nothing, and say, like David: Now I begin to love my God."
St. Francis de Sales (1567 – 1622)

GRADUAL

Psalm 122:1, 7



L I was glad when they | said to me,*
“Let us go to the house | of the LORD!”

C Peace be with- | in your walls*
and security within your | towers!

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:4-9

A The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter one.

A ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— ⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— ⁷so that you

are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Standing

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Psalm 117:1



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

L Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol him, all peoples!



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

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



G Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

P ³⁴ But when the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. ³⁵ And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸ This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰ On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

question, ⁴² saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." ⁴³ He said to them, "How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴ "'The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet'?"

⁴⁵ If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?" ⁴⁶ And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

"You never so touch the ocean of God's love as when you forgive your enemies."
Corrie Ten Boom (1892 – 1983)

NICENE CREED

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*

CATECHETICAL RECITATION

The Third Commandment

- P** What is the Third Commandment?
- C** Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
- P** What does this mean?
- C** We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 694

"Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower"



1 Thee will I love, my strength, my tow - er; Thee will I
2 Thee will I love, my life, my Sav - ior, Who art my
3 I thank Thee, Je - sus, Son from heav - en, Whose ra - diance
4 O keep me watch - ful, then, and hum - ble; Per - mit me

love, my hope, my joy. Thee will I love with all my
best and tru - est friend. Thee will I love and praise for -
hath brought light to me; I thank Thee, who hast rich - ly
nev - er - more to stray. Up - hold me when my feet would

pow - er, With ar - dor time shall ne'er de - stroy. Thee will I
ev - er, For nev - er shall Thy kind - ness end. Thee will I
giv - en All that could make me glad and free; I thank Thee
stum - ble, And keep me on the nar - row way. Fill all my

love, O Light di - vine, So long as life is mine.
love with all my heart— Thou my Re - deem - er art!
that my soul is healed By what Thy lips re - vealed.
na - ture with Thy light, O Ra - diance strong and bright!

- 5 Thee will I love, my crown of gladness;
Thee will I love, my God and Lord,
Amid the darkest depths of sadness,
And not for hope of high reward,
For Thine own sake, O Light divine,
So long as life is mine.**

SERMON

"We love because he first loved us. If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother."

1 John 4:19-21

Standing

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10–12



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

MUSIC

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Franz Haydn

MEDITATION

1 Corinthians 1:4 – “I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus.” The grace of God and our thanksgiving go together. When God gives to us, thankfulness wells up inside of us. How could it not? And as Paul shows us here, it’s not only the grace given to us that causes us to give thanks but even the grace given to others. We certainly have much to be thankful for when we look at the gifts of grace all around us.

“While it is true that only the sufferings of Christ are a means of atonement, yet since he has suffered for and borne the sins of the whole world and shares with his disciples the fruits of his passion, the Christian also has to . . . bear the sins of others . . . But he would certainly break down under this burden, but for the support of him who bore the sins of all. The passion of Christ strengthens him to overcome the sins of others by forgiving them. He becomes the bearer of the other men’s burdens—“Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ” (Gal 6:2). As Christ bears our burdens, so ought we to bear the burdens of our fellow-men.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906 - 1945)

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 God of Israel, we give You thanks for Jesus Christ, David's Son and Lord, on whom hangs all the Law and the Prophets. Reconciled to You by His righteousness, lead us as disciples to make a godly beginning in the love of You and of our neighbors. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for You, and let Your preachers be proven faithful. Preserve Your Church, and let all Christians be glad to enter into the house of the Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, bless our congregations. Enrich young and old with the testimony about Christ. Confirm them with every spiritual gift, and sustain them in this fellowship to the end, guiltless in the day of the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, execute justice and show Your love to the fatherless, to widows, to sojourners and refugees, and to all who suffer instability. Lead them to find a solid rock in Christ Jesus and a family in the communion of the Holy Christian Church. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God, graciously uphold our republic with its lawmakers and executives. By their actions, let the common good be served. Bring their justice into accord with Your good order and command. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Eternal Father, our Lord Jesus Christ is seated at Your right hand, even now subjecting every enemy under His feet. Give this certain confidence to us and all Your saints in this vale of tears, to the needy, the troubled, the joyful and the expectant [*and especially to _____*]. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord, You are our praise. You are our God, who does great and marvelous things, both seen and unseen. Establish Your saints through the mystery of Christ's blessed Sacrament, which delivers the forgiveness of our sins. Strengthen us by His body and blood in right fear and love of You and in selfless love and service toward our neighbors. 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



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



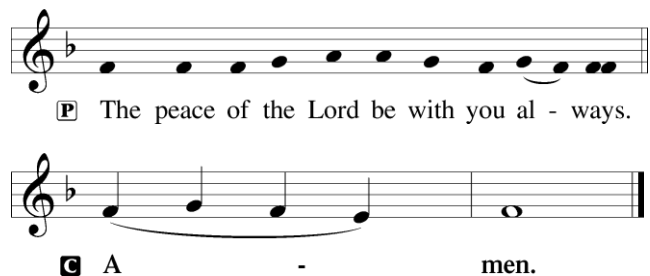
My [†] blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.



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

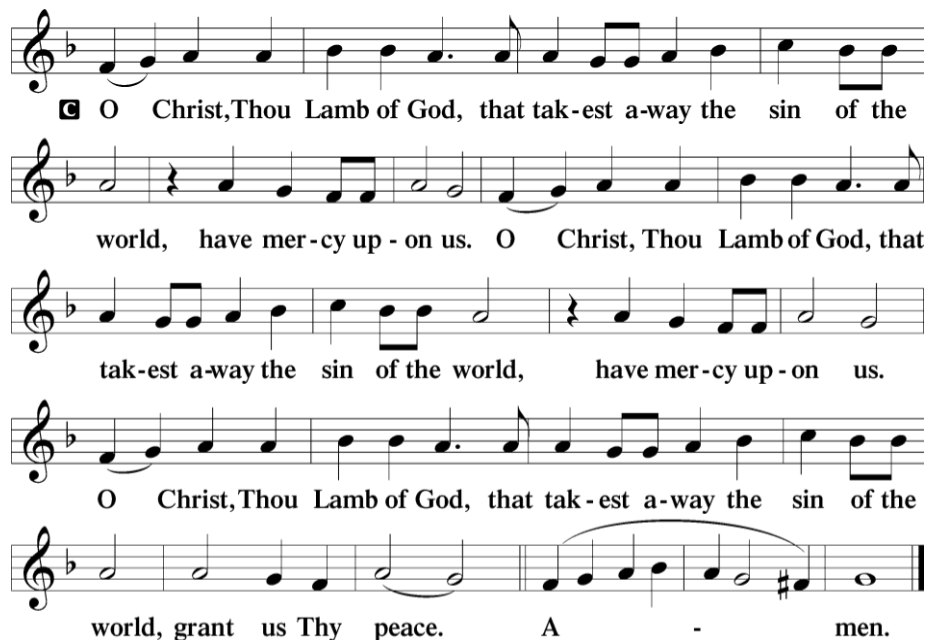
PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

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 567

"Not What These Hands Have Done"



1 Not what these hands have done Can save this guilt - y soul;
2 Not what I feel or do Can give me peace with God;
3 Thy work a - lone, O Christ, Can ease this weight of sin;
4 Thy love to me, O God, Not mine, O Lord, to Thee,



Not what this toil - ing flesh has borne Can makemy spir - it whole.
Not all my prayers and sighs and tears Can bear my aw - ful load.
Thy blood a - lone, O Lamb of God, Can give mepeacewith - in.
Can rid me of this dark un - rest And set my spir - it free.


- 5 Thy grace alone, O God,
To me can pardon speak;
Thy pow'r alone, O Son of God,
Can this sore bondage break.
- 6 I bless the Christ of God,
I rest on love divine,
And with unfalt'ring lip and heart
I call this Savior mine.

"There are two ways, one of life and one of death; and between the two ways there is a great difference.
"Now this is the way of life: "First, you must love God who made you, and second, your neighbor as yourself." And whatever you want people to refrain from doing to you, you must not do to them.
"What these maxims teach is this: "Bless those who curse you," and "pray for your enemies." Moreover, fast "for those who persecute you." For "what credit is it to you if you love those who love you? Is that not the way the heathen act?" But "you must love those who hate you," and then you will make no enemies. "Abstain from carnal passions." If someone strikes you "on the right cheek, turn to him the other too, and you will be perfect." If someone "forces you to go one mile with him, go along with him for two"; if someone robs you "of your overcoat, give him your suit as well." If someone deprives you of "your property, do not ask for it back." (You could not get it back anyway!) "Give to everybody who begs from you, and ask for no return." For the Father wants his own gifts to be universally shared. Happy is the man who gives as the commandment bids him, for he is guiltless!"

Didache (first century A.D.)

NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon

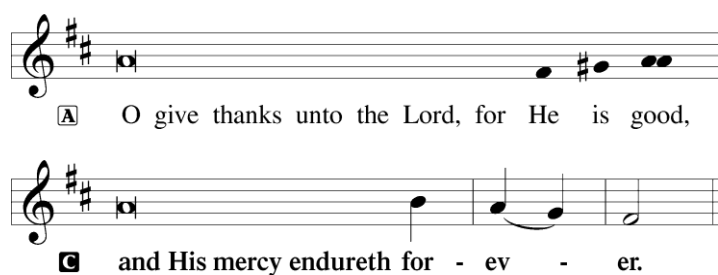
Luke 2:29-32



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.

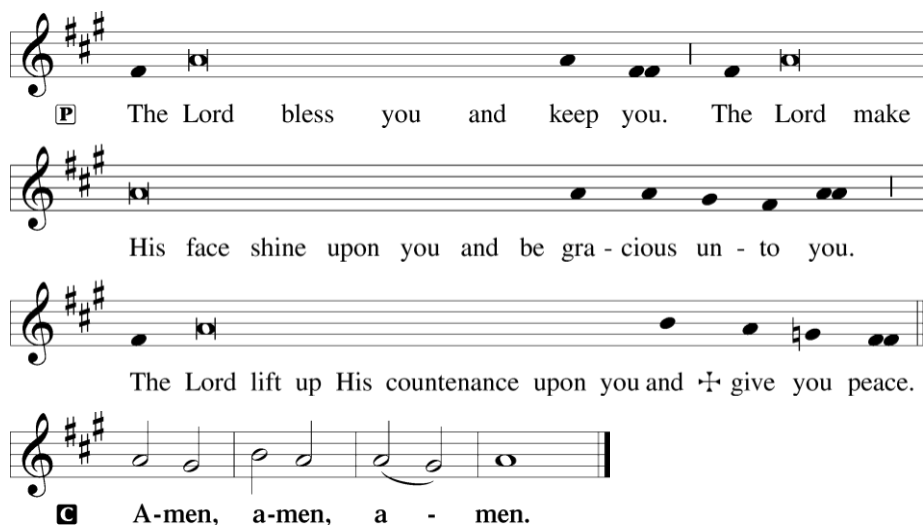
C And with thy spir - it.

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 708

"Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart"



1 Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from
2 Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich boun-ty gave My bod - y, soul, and
3 Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come, To A - br'ham's bos - om



me de - part, With ten - der mer - cy cheer me. Earth
all I have In this poor life of la - bor. Lord,
bear me home, That I may die un - fear - ing; And



has no plea - sure I would share. Yea, heav'n it - self were
grant that I in ev - 'ry place May glo - ri - fy Thy
in its nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in



void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me. And should my
lav - ish grace And help and serve my neigh - bor. Let no false
peace-ful sleep Un - til Thy re - ap - pear - ing. And then from



heart for sor - row break, My trust in Thee can noth - ing shake.
doc - trine me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.
death a - wak - en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,



Thou art the por - tion I have sought; Thy pre - cious
Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my
O Son of God, Thy glo - rious face, My Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
cross and fol - low Thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and
and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust Thy Word.
Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy com - fort still af - ford.
tend, my prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in F Major

Johann Krebsbs

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

The Rev. Al Oren, *Guest Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

J.P. Morr, *Head Elder*

Edie Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Adrian Popescu

Altar Guild

Jeni Miller/Caitlin East

Usher(s)

Greg Ison/Richard Drachenberg

Greeter(s)

Nancy Grossberg

Fellowship Host(s)

TBD

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

Grayson Beckman, *Elder*

Penny Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

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

Making Christ Known

CALENDAR		
Sunday 10/3	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study Divine Service with Holy Communion Fellowship Hour	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following worship
Monday 10/4	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Tuesday 10/5	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Wednesday 10/6	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 10/7	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday 10/8	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Saturday 10/9	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
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



✝ **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

✝ **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

Ethos ~ GOODNESS

✝ 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

- ✝ Darlene Beckman, 10/4
- ✝ Jude Miller, 10/4
- ✝ Christina Schoellen, 10/4
- ✝ Amare Bentley, 10/9

Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries)

- ✝ Darlene Beckman, 10/8

Wedding Anniversaries

- ✝ Jason & Christina Schoellen, 10/9

Membership Anniversaries

- ✝ None this week

In Need

Recent Requests

For persecuted Christians:

- ✝ Myanmar

For comfort, health, and recovery:

- ✝ Unborn child of Isaac & Bekah Beckman
- ✝ Melanie Beauchamp (sister of Jason Schoellen)
- ✝ Anne Bigelow
- ✝ Danielle Darnell (cousin of Kati Durden)
- ✝ Sandra Foster (aunt of Michelle Noel)
- ✝ Ruth Henry
- ✝ Ezra Hoffman (baby of Lauren Morr's friend)
- ✝ Mary Huntoon (sister of Anne Bigelow)
- ✝ James McFerrin (grandfather of Open Arms family)
- ✝ Betty McMurray (aunt of Michelle Noel)
- ✝ Michelle Noel

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



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