

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 10th, 2023



MARTIN LUTHER
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH
St. Louis, MO

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH
Collinsville, IL

Pastor Seth Georgson
314-914-6457

DIVINE SERVICE I

Hymn ----- Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spoke

CW 453

1. “Come, follow me,” the Savior spoke, “All in my way abiding.
Deny yourselves; the world forsake; Obey my call and guiding.
Oh, bear the cross, whate’er betide; Take my example for your guide.
2. “I am the light; I light the way, A godly life displaying.
I bid you walk as in the day; I keep your feet from straying.
I am the way, and well I show How you should journey here below.
3. “My heart abounds in lowliness, My soul with love is glowing,
And gracious words my lips express, With meekness overflowing.
My heart, my mind, my strength, my all To God I yield; on him I call.
4. “I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your souls’ salvation,
Your hearts from ev’ry guile to free, From sin and its temptation.
I am the refuge of the soul And lead you to your heav’nly goal.”
5. Then let us follow Christ our Lord And take the cross appointed
And, firmly clinging to his Word, In suff’ring be undaunted.
For those who bear the battle’s strain The crown of heav’nly life obtain.

Stand.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Lord, Have Mercy

Kyrie



M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

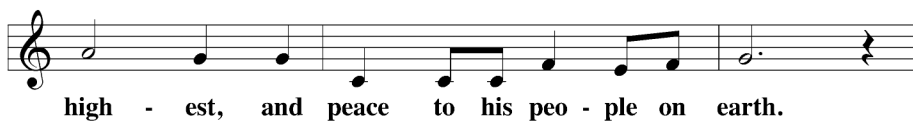
PRAYER AND PRAISE

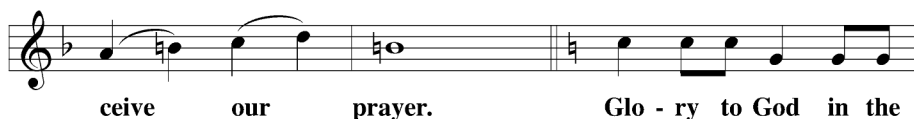
M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

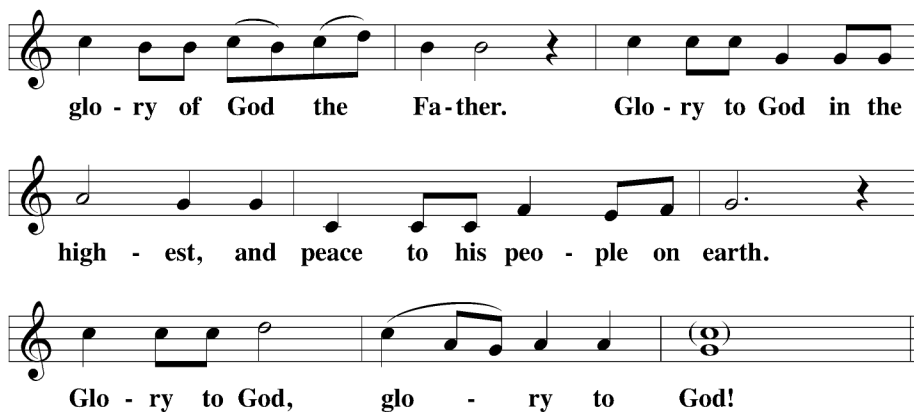
Glory Be to God

Gloria in Excelsis









Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

THE WORD

First Lesson ----- Jeremiah 15:15-21

O LORD, you understand.

Remember me and care for me.

Take vengeance for me on those who persecute
me.

You are slow to anger.

Do not take me away.

Keep in mind that for your sake I bear disgrace.
Your words came to me, and I devoured them.

Your words became my joy,
the delight of my heart,
because I bear your name,
O LORD God of Armies.
I did not sit with the band of partygoers,
nor did I celebrate with them.
I sat alone, because your hand was upon me.
You filled me with indignation.

Why is my pain unending?
Why is my wound incurable, refusing to heal?
Will you be as deceptive as an intermittent stream
to me,
like a source of water that a person can't depend
on?

Therefore this is what the LORD says.
If you repent, I will take you back,
so that you may stand before me.
If what you say is worthwhile and not worthless,
you will be my spokesman.
They must turn to you,
but you must not turn to them.
I will make you like a bronze wall to this people.
They will fight against you,
but they will not overcome you,
because I am with you to save you
and to rescue you, declares the LORD.
I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked,
and I will deliver you from the grasp of the ruth-
less.

Psalm of the Day ----- Psalm 121

CW p.112

Refrain

**Keep me, keep me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me, hide me in the shadow of your wings.**

I lift up my eyes to the hills.*
Where does my help come from?

My help comes from the LORD,*
the maker of heavenen and earth.

He will not let your foot slip,*
he who watches over you will not slumber;

indeed, he who watches over Israel*
will neither slumberer nor sleep.

Refrain

The LORD watches over you,*
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

The LORD will keep you from all harm,*
he will watch over your life;

the LORD will watch over your coming and going*
both now and forevermore.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Second Lesson ----- Romans 12:1–8

Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect.

So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of

faith to each of you. For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us. If the gift is prophecy, do it in complete agreement with the faith. If it is serving, then serve. If it is teaching, then teach. If it is encouraging, then encourage. If it is contributing, be generous. If it is leadership, be diligent. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully.

Verse of the Day

Hebrews 4:12

Tune: CW 334

C: Your words be-came a joy to me; In them my heart de-lights with glee. For on me now you've placed your name, That I your glo-ries may pro - claim.

© 2012 Benjamin A. Radtke

Stand.

Gospel ----- Matthew 16:21–26

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:

Glo-ry be to you, O Lord! Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!

From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again.

Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “May you receive mercy, Lord! This will never happen to you.”

But Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a snare to me because you

are not thinking the things of God, but the things of men.”

Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. In fact whoever wants to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. After all, what will it benefit a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what can a person give in exchange for his soul?”

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

Nicene Creed

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated.

Hymn of the Day ----- Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

CW 465

1. Jesus, I my cross have taken, All to leave and follow you.
Destitute, despised, forsaken, You on earth once suffered, too.
Perish ev'ry fond ambition, All I've ever hoped or known;
Yet how rich is my condition! God and heav'n are still my own.
2. Let the world despise and leave me; They have left my Savior, too.
Human hearts and looks deceive me; You are not, like them, untrue.
And since you have smiled upon me, God of wisdom, love, and might,
Foes may hate and friends may shun me-
Show your face, and all is bright.
3. Go, then, earthly fame and treasure! Come, disaster, scorn, and pain!
In your service pain is pleasure; With your favor loss is gain.
I have called you Abba, Father! You my all in all shall be.
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather; All must work for good to me.
4. Haste, my soul, from grace to glory,
Armed by faith and winged by prayer.
All but heav'n is transitory; God's own hand shall guide you there.
Soon shall end this earthly story; Swift shall pass the pilgrim days,
Hope soon change to heav'nly glory, Faith to sight and prayer to praise.

Sermon ----- Matthew 16:21-26

Who Wants to Bear a Cross?

Stand.

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

Cre - ate in me a

pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -

in me. Do not cast me a - way from your

pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from

me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -

hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Be seated.

Offering

Stand.

Prayer of the Church

*The minister calls for the petitions and the congregation prays with “**Lord, have mercy.**”*

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Online giving option:

mluther.org/give



Offerings support the spread

of the Gospel here and around the world.

- M: For trust in the fatherly care of our avenging God, that we would not seek our own vengeance, but rather bless those who curse us, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**
- M: For the Church of God and all who proclaim the Word of God, that we may forsake the revelers who despise God's Word and always hear what is precious, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**
- M: For Christian neighbors in our community and in each home, that as the beloved of God, we may be unashamed to serve each other in genuine love, truthful speech and constant patience, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**
- M: For our nation, its leaders, and those who serve for the good of our people and for their protection, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**
- M: For peace in our time and the peace that God alone can give, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**
- M: For [_____ and] all in need of healing and restoration, that they may bear their crosses and endure to see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**
- M: For repentance and faith as we approach the Lord's table, that we may not think more highly of ourselves than is right, but that we would set our hearts and minds on the things of God, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**
- M: For those persecuted for the name of Christ, that in communion with all the saints we may bear our crosses faithfully, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

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

C: **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

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 SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock till he comes again in glory.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,
God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -
ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless -
ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na in the high - est. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

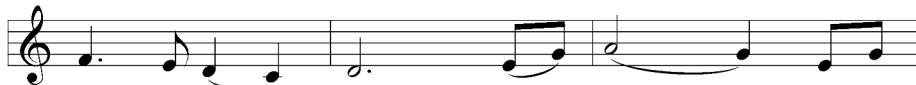
Agnus Dei



O Christ, Lamb of



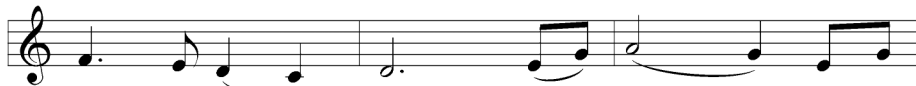
God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of



God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of



Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

In Holy Communion we believe that Jesus gives us his own body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask that, in keeping with God's Word, only confirmed members who are in confessional unity with our church (WELS and ELS) would come forward to receive this sacrament. If you have any questions or are interested in communicant membership, please speak with the pastor.

During the distribution, the congregation sings the following hymn:

Hymn ----- Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

CW 311

1. Soul, adorn yourself with gladness; Leave behind all gloom and sadness.
Come into the daylight's splendor; There with joy your praises render
Unto him whose grace unbounded Has this wondrous supper founded.
Though he reigns above most holy, Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.
2. Hasten as a bride to meet him, And with loving rev'rence greet him,
For with words of life immortal He is knocking at your portal.
Open wide the gates before him, Saying, as you there adore him:
Grant, Lord, that I now receive you, That I nevermore will leave you.

3. He who craves a precious treasure Neither cost nor pain will measure,
But the priceless gifts of heaven God to us has freely given.
Though the wealth of earth were proffered,
Naught would buy the gifts here offered:
Christ's true body, for you riven, And his blood, for you once given.
4. Now I kneel before you lowly, Filled with joy most deep and holy,
As with trembling awe and wonder On your mighty work I ponder,
How by mystery surrounded, Depths that no one ever sounded.
None may dare to pierce unbidden Secrets that with you are hidden.
5. Human reason, though it ponders, Cannot fathom these great wonders,
That Christ's body must be boundless
Since the souls it feeds are countless,
And that he his blood is giving With the wine we are receiving.
These great mysteries unsounded Are by God alone expounded.
6. Lord, by love and mercy driven, You have left your throne in heaven
On the cross for me to languish And to die in bitter anguish,
To forgo all joy and gladness And to shed your blood in sadness.
By this blood redeemed and living, Lord, I praise you with thanksgiving.
7. 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.
8. Jesus, Lord 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.

After the distribution is finished the congregation stands and sings:

Song of Simeon

Nunc Dimittis



The musical score is written on five staves in treble clef. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with a fermata over the final note of the first phrase. The second staff continues the melody with a quarter rest before the final note. The third staff features a key change to two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and includes a sharp sign (#) before the final note. The fourth staff continues the melody with quarter and eighth notes. The fifth staff concludes the piece with a final chord marked with a fermata.

In peace, Lord, you let your
ser - vant now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my
eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for
ev - 'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the
glo - ry, the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures forever.

M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

Hymn ----- Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me

CW 428

1. Why should cross and trial grieve me?
Christ is near With his cheer; Never will he leave me.
Who can rob me of the heaven
That God's Son For me won When his life was given?
2. When life's troubles rise to meet me,
Though their weight May be great, They will not defeat me.
God, my loving Savior, sees them;
He who knows All my woes Knows how best to end them.
3. God gives me my days of gladness,
And I will Trust him still When he sends me sadness.
God is good; his love attends me
Day by day, Come what may, Guides me and defends me.
4. Since I know God never fails me,
In his voice I'll rejoice When grim death assails me.
Trusting in my Savior's merit,
Safe at last, Troubles past, I shall heav'n inherit.

*Divine Service I is from “Christian Worship: Supplement”
copyright © 2008 Northwestern Publishing House.*

*Scripture is from The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version™ (EHV™)
copyright © 2019 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.*

Cover: “Christ Carrying the Cross” after Peter Paul Rubens, 1632.

