THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 18th, 2024



MARTIN LUTHER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH St. Louis, MO

Pastor Seth Georgson 314-914-6457

THE COMMON SERVICE

Hymn ----- Speak, O Savior; I Am Listening
CW 283

- Speak, O Savior; I am list'ning, As a servant to his lord.
 Let me show respect and honor To your holy, precious Word,
 That each day, my whole life through, I may serve and follow you.
 Let your Word e'er be my pleasure
 And my heart's most precious treasure.
- Oh, what blessing to be near you And to listen to your voice!
 Let me ever love and fear you; Let your Word still be my choice.
 Many hardened sinners, Lord, Flee in terror at your Word,
 But to all who feel sin's burden You give peace and words of pardon.
- 3. Lord, your words are waters living Where I quench my thirsty needs. Lord, your words are bread life-giving; On your words my spirit feeds. Lord, your words will be my light Through death's cold and dreary night; Yes, they are my sword prevailing And my cup of joy unfailing.
- 4. As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me; Let your words in me take root. May your Spirit e'er be near me That I bear abundant fruit. May I daily sing your praise, From my heart glad anthems raise, Till my highest praise is given In the endless joy of heaven.

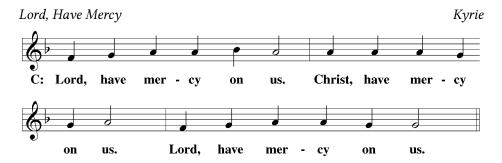
Stand.

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



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.



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.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

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



Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Be seated.

THE WORD

First Lesson ----- Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom has built her house.
She has carved out her seven pillars.
She has prepared her meat.
She has mixed her wine.
She has already set her table.
She has sent out her servant girls.
She calls from the highest point in the city,

"Whoever is naïve, let him turn in here." To someone who lacks sense she says, "Come, eat my food, and drink the wine that I have mixed. Abandon your naïve ways and live. Travel the road to understanding."

Psalm of the Day ----- Psalm 1
CW p.64

Refrain

Blessed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

Blessed is the man

who does not walk in the counsel of the <u>wick</u>ed* or stand in the way of <u>sin</u>ners.

But his delight is in the law of the LORD,* and on his law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season* and whose leaf does not wither.

Whatever he does prospers.

Refrain

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the <u>judgment</u>,* nor sinners in the assembly of the <u>right</u>eous.

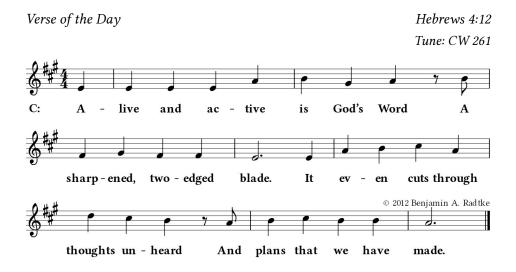
For the LORD watches over the way of the <u>right</u>eous,* but the way of the wicked will <u>per</u>ish.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the beg<u>in</u>ning,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

Second Lesson ----- Ephesians 5:15-20

Consider carefully, then, how you walk, not as unwise people, but as wise people. Make the most of your time, because the days are evil. For this reason, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk on wine, which causes you to lose control. Instead, be filled with the Spirit by speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs (singing and making music with your hearts to the Lord), by always giving thanks for everything to God the Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Stand.

Gospel ----- John 6:51-58

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



"I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread, he will live forever. The bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

At that, the Jews argued among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

So Jesus said to them, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life in yourselves. The one who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the Last Day. For my flesh is real food, and my

blood is real drink. The one who eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like your fathers ate and died. The one who eats this bread will live forever."

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



Be seated.

Hymn of the Day ----- O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace
CW 185

- O Holy Spirit, grant us grace
 That we our Lord and Savior
 In faith and fervent love embrace
 And truly serve him ever,
 So that when death is near at hand
 We at his cross may firmly stand
 And there find our salvation.
- Help us that we your saving Word
 In faithful hearts may treasure;
 Let e'er that bread of life afford
 New grace in richest measure.
 Make us to die to ev'ry sin;
 Each day create us new within
 That fruits of faith may flourish.

3. Then when our earthly race is run,
Death's bitter hour impending,
May your good work in us begun
Continue till life's ending,
Until we gladly may commend
Our souls into our Savior's hand
To rest in peace eternal.

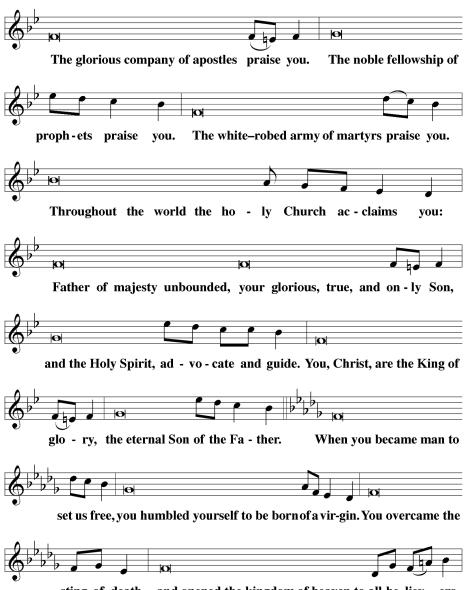
Sermon ------ Ephesians 5:15–20

Walk Wisely because the Days are Evil

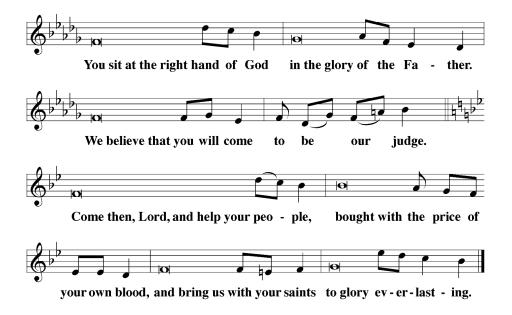
Stand.

After the sermon, the congregation sings:





sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all be-liev - ers.



Be seated.

Offering

Stand.

Online giving option: mluther.org/give

Offerings support the spread

of the Gospel here and around the world.

Prayer of the Church

The minister offers the petitions and the congregation responds with "hear our prayer."

- M: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- M: Father, we thank You that You have sent the great Good Shepherd who has compassion on His flock. In His name, we lift up our prayers for the family of God; for every nation, tribe, people and language; and for all those who hunger for the true bread of life. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

- M: Grant us always, O God, to work for the food that endures to eternal life. Bless the ministry of this congregation in our community, that many may embrace Jesus as the Christ and believe that He is the true bread of God who has come from heaven. Grant that we would never hunger or thirst for anything but Christ and His righteousness. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: O Lord, our God, we pray for Your blessing upon all homes and schools, especially the schools, universities and seminary of our church. Bless all places where Your people gather to teach and learn Your Word, and help us to remember that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.
- M: Almighty God, You place men in positions of authority for the sake of order. Grant wisdom to Joseph Biden, our president; Michael Parson, our governor; our judges; those in law enforcement; and all who hold offices of public trust in our land, that they might not act for selfish gain but serve according to Your will for the benefit of all people. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Bestow Your power of healing upon the sick, [especially ________,] that in accordance with Your will, they may give thanks to Your name. Give Your Spirit of hope to the depressed, the lonely and those who mourn the death of loved ones [especially ______]. Strengthen their faith and assure them of Your presence in all circumstances. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.
- M: Holy Father, Your Son assures us that His flesh is true food and His blood true drink, and that those who feed on Him will live forever because of Him. By Your Spirit, prepare our hearts to welcome Him as He comes to us in this Holy Supper, that we may rejoice in His promises and depart in His peace. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

M: O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and 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.



M: Lift up your hearts.

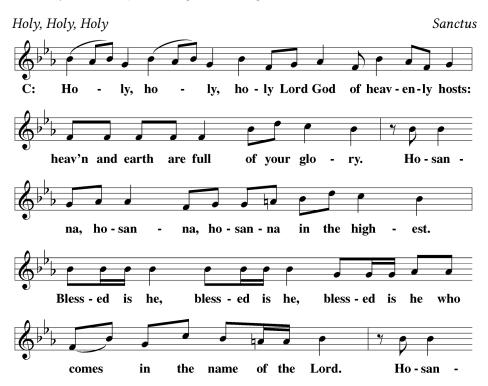


M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



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:





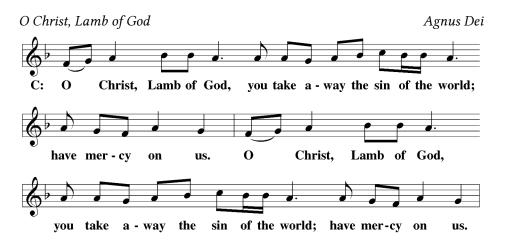
Words of Institution

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.







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 hymns:

Hymn ----- Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior CW 313

- 1. Jesus Christ, our blessed Savior, Turned away God's wrath forever; By his bitter grief and woe He saved us from the evil foe.
- 2. As his pledge of love undying, He, this precious food supplying, Gives his body with the bread And with the wine the blood he shed.
- 3. Jesus here himself is sharing; Take heed how you are preparing, For if you do not believe, Judgment instead you shall receive.
- Useless would be Jesus' passion If salvation you could fashion.
 Do not come if you suppose You need not him who died and rose.
- 5. Christ says, "Come, all you that labor, And receive my grace and favor; Those who feel no pain or ill Need no physician's help or skill."

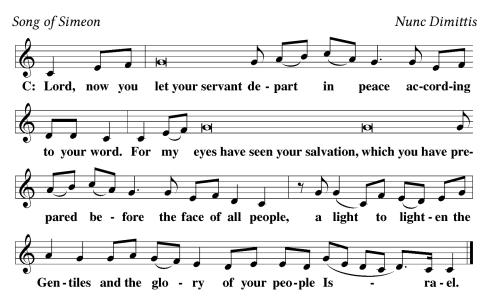
- Then hold fast with faith unshaken That this food is to be taken By the souls who are distressed, By hearts that long for peace and rest.
- 7. Praise the Father, who from heaven Unto us such food has given And, to mend what we have done, Gave into death his only Son.
- 8. If your heart this truth professes And your mouth your sin confesses, Surely you will be his guest And at his banquet ever blest.

Hymn ----- O Lord, We Praise You

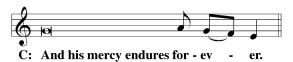
- O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and adore you,
 In thanksgiving bow before you.
 Here with your body and your blood you nourish
 Our weak souls that they may flourish. O Lord, have mercy!
 May your body, Lord, born of Mary,
 That our sins and sorrows did carry,
 And your blood for us plead
 In all trial, fear, and need: O Lord, have mercy!
- Your holy body into death was given,
 Life to win for us in heaven.
 No greater love than this to you could bind us;
 May this feast of that remind us! O Lord, have mercy!
 Lord, your love and kindness did move you;
 Let your supper move us to love you.
 All our debt you have paid;
 Peace with God once more is made. O Lord, have mercy!

3. May God bestow on us his grace and favor
To please him with our behavior
And live together here in love and union,
Cherishing our blest communion. O Lord, have mercy!
Let not your good Spirit forsake us;
Grant that heav'nly-minded he make us.
Give your Church, Lord, to see
Days of peace and unity. O Lord, have mercy!

After the distribution is finished the congregation stands and sings:



 $\label{eq:M:Mean} M: \quad O \mbox{ give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.}$



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.



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.



Be seated.

Hymn ----- Go, My Children, with My Blessing
CW 332

- Go, my children, with my blessing, Never alone.
 Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.
 In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
 Go, my children, with my blessing-You are my own.
- Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
 Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.
 Here you heard my dear Son's story;
 Here you touched him, saw his glory.
 Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.

- Go, my children, fed and nourished, Closer to me;
 Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.
 Here my Spirit's power filled you; Here his tender comfort stilled you.
 Go, my children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.
- I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;
 I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace;
 I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
 Go, my children; I will keep you And give you peace.



The Common Service is from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal copyright © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House.

Scripture is from The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version $^{\text{TM}}$ (EHV $^{\text{TM}}$) copyright © 2019 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.

Cover: "Jesus Teaches His Disciples the Lord's Prayer" by Hans Brosamer, 1550.