

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 25th, 2024



MARTIN LUTHER
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
St. Louis, MO
Pastor Seth Georgson
314-914-6457

THE COMMON SERVICE

Hymn ----- **Though Thoughtless Thousands Choose**

CW 466

1. Though thoughtless thousands choose the road
 That leads the soul away from God,
 This happiness, dear Lord, be mine:
 To live and die entirely thine.
2. In Christ, by faith, I wish to live,
 From him my life, my all, receive,
 To him devote my fleeting hours,
 Serve him alone with all my pow'rs.
3. Christ is my everlasting all.
 To him I look; on him I call.
 He will my ev'ry want supply
 In time and through eternity.
4. Soon will the Lord, my life, appear;
 Soon shall I end my trials here,
 Leave sin and sorrow, death and pain.
 To live is Christ; to die is gain.
5. Soon will the saints in glory meet,
 Soon walk through ev'ry golden street
 And sing on ev'ry blissful plain,
 "To live is Christ; to die is gain."

Stand.

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



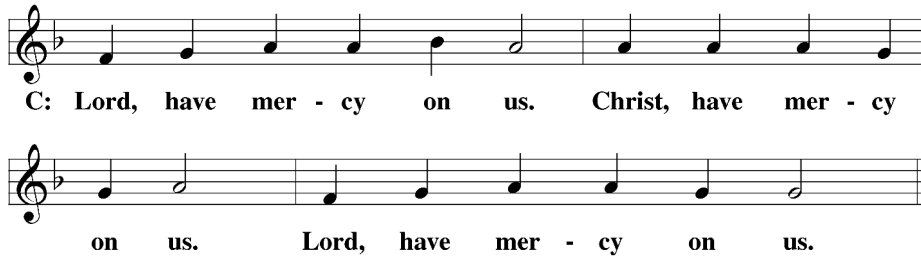
CONFESSION OF SINS

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.

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.



PRAYER AND PRAISE

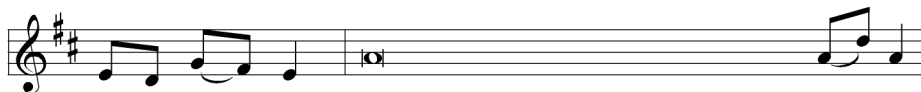
M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Oh, Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord

Venite



C: Oh, come, let us sing to the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of



our sal - va - tion. Let us come into his presence with thanks-giv - ing,



let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise. For the Lord is a



great God and a great king a-bove all gods. The deep places of the earth are



in his hand; the heights of the hills are al - so his. The sea is his, for he



made it, and his hand formed the dry land. Oh, come, let us worship and



bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our mak - er. For he is our God,



and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; 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 ----- Joshua 24:1,2a,14–18

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel at Shechem, and he summoned the elders of Israel, its heads, its judges, and its officers, and they presented themselves before God.

Then Joshua told all the people, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel has said.” ...

Joshua said, “Now, therefore, fear the LORD and serve him wholeheartedly and faithfully. Remove the gods that your fathers served in the region across the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. But if you see no benefit in serving the LORD, then choose for yourselves today whomever you will serve—whether the gods that your fathers served beyond the River or the gods of the Amor-

ites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household—we will serve the LORD!”

The people responded by saying, “Far be it from us to forsake the LORD in order to serve other gods! For the LORD our God, he is the one who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, where we were slaves. He is the one who performed these great signs right before our eyes and protected us on the whole journey that we made and among all the peoples through whom we passed. The LORD drove out of our presence all the peoples and the Amorites who were living in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God!”

Refrain

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

In you, O LORD, I have taken refuge;^{*}
let me never be put to shame.

Rescue me and deliver me in your righteousness;^{*}
turn your ear to me and save me.

Be my rock of refuge to which I can always go;^{*}
For you are my rock and my fortress.

Refrain

Since my youth, O God, you have taught me,^{*}
and to this day I declare your marvelous deeds.

Even when I am old and gray,^{*}
do not forsake me, O God,

till I declare your power to the next generation,^{*}
your might to all who are to come.

**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 ----- Ephesians 5:21-31

...and by submitting to one another in reverence for Christ.

Wives, submit to your own husbands as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, just as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he himself is the Savior. Moreover, as the church submits to Christ, so also wives are to submit to their husbands in everything.

Husbands, love your wives, in the same way as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, by cleansing her with the washing of water in connection with the Word. He

did this so that he could present her to himself as a glorious church, having no stain or wrinkle or any such thing, but so that she would be holy and blameless. In the same way, husbands have an obligation to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. To be sure, no one has ever hated his own body, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body, of his flesh and of his bones. “For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will be one flesh.”

Verse of the Day

1 Timothy 1:10b

Tune: CW 261

C: God's grace has sure - ly been re - vealed Through
Christ, his on - ly Son. Grim death with - in the
tomb is sealed, And life e - ter - nal's won.

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Stand.

Gospel ----- John 6:60–69

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



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

When they heard it, many of his disciples said, “This is a hard teaching! Who can listen to it?”

But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, asked them, “Does this cause you to stumble in your faith? What if you would see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? The Spirit is the one who gives life. The flesh does not help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. But there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus knew from the beginning those who would

not believe and the one who would betray him. He said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me, unless it is given to him by my Father.”

After this, many of his disciples turned back and were not walking with him anymore. So Jesus asked the Twelve, “You do not want to leave too, do you?”

Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom will we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.”

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated.

Hymn of the Day ----- Rise, Shine, You People

CW 556

1. Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
Our human story; God in him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
With grace unbounded.

2. See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;
He brings us freedom, light and life and healing.
All men and women, who by guilt are driven,
Now are forgiven.
3. Come, celebrate, your banners high unfurling,
Your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.
To all the world go out and tell the story
Of Jesus' glory.
4. Tell how the Father sent his Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation
His new creation.

Sermon ----- Ephesians 5:21-31

In Reverence for Christ

Stand.

After the sermon, the congregation sings:

We Praise You, O God

Te Deum



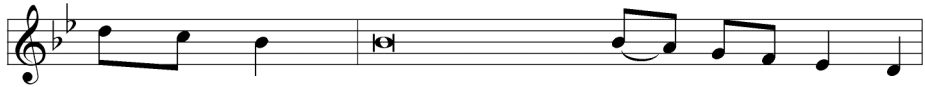
C: We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you,



Fa-ther ev - er - last - ing. To you all angels, all the pow'rs of heav'n,



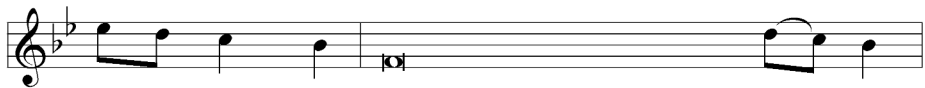
cherubim and seraphim, sing in end-less praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of



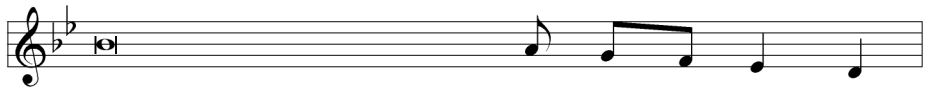
heav'n - ly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of



proph - ets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.



Throughout the world the ho - ly Church ac - claims you:



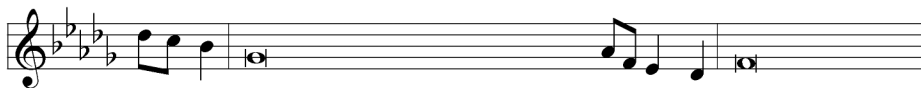
Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and on - ly Son,



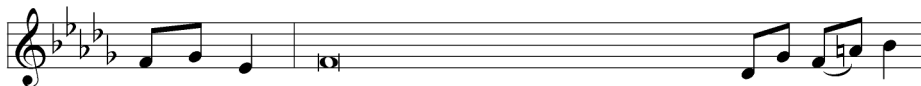
and the Holy Spirit, ad - vo - cate and guide. You, Christ, are the King of



glo - ry, the eternal Son of the Fa - ther. When you became man to



set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a vir-gin. You overcame the



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



You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Fa - ther.



We believe that you will come to be our judge.



Come then, Lord, and help your peo - ple, bought with the price of



your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory ev - er - last - ing.

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: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are known, grant us a true faith, that we would honor You not only with our lips, but serve You faithfully with all our heart, mind and strength. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Almighty God, You call men into the Office of the Ministry to be shepherds to Your sheep. Grant Your wisdom to those who guide Your Church: Mark Schroeder, our Synod president; Dennis Klatt, our district president; our pastor; and all servants of the Church. Keep them steadfast in the faith, so that they do not set forth as divine truth those things that are only human tradition, but rather teach Your Word with honesty and clarity. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Almighty God, preserve us from rejecting Your commandments for the doctrines of men. By Your Spirit’s aid, lead all Christians to keep Your commandments in thought, word and deed, honoring You in all that we do. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Almighty God, preserve Your estate of marriage. Grant that wives would submit to their husbands as to the Lord, and that husbands would love their wives as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself up for her. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
- M: Almighty God, hear our prayers for our nation and its leaders, for all civil servants, and for those whose work imperils them for the sake of their neighbor. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Almighty God, in His earthly ministry Your Son healed the sick and comforted the hurting. Grant healing and peace to those taking treatments, to the ill or injured, to the lonely and the imprisoned, and to all in need of our prayers, [*including _____*], that in meekness each hurting heart would obtain fresh joy in Your Son and exult in You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Almighty God, strengthen the faith and sustain to life everlasting all who partake in the fellowship of this altar and receive Christ's body and blood this day in the Holy Communion. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Into Your hands, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the 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.



C: **And al - so with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - 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



C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your 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 who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san -
na, ho - san - na, 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: A - men.

O Christ, Lamb of God

Agnus Dei

C: 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 God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - - - men.

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 ----- Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

CW 377

1. Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice, With exultation springing,
And, with united heart and voice And holy rapture singing,
Proclaim the wonders God has done, How his right arm the vict'ry won.
How dearly it has cost him!
2. Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay; Death brooded darkly o'er me.
Sin was my torment night and day; In sin my mother bore me.
Yet deep and deeper still I fell; Life had become a living hell,
So firmly sin possessed me.
3. My own good works availed me naught, No merit they attaining;
My will against God's judgment fought, No hope for me remaining.
My fears increased till sheer despair Left naught but death to be my share
And hell to be my sentence.
4. But God beheld my wretched state Before the world's foundation,
And, mindful of his mercies great, He planned my soul's salvation.
A Father's heart he turned to me, Sought my redemption fervently;
He gave his dearest treasure.
5. He spoke to his beloved Son: "Tis time to have compassion.
Then go, bright Jewel of my crown, And bring mankind salvation.
From sin and sorrow set them free; Slay bitter death for them that they
May live with you forever."
6. The Son obeyed his Father's will, Was born of virgin mother,
And, God's good pleasure to fulfill, He came to be my brother.
No garb of pomp or pow'r he wore; A servant's form like mine he bore
To lead the devil captive.

7. To me he spoke, "Hold fast to me-I am your rock and castle.
Your ransom I myself will be; For you I strive and wrestle.
For I am yours, your friend divine, And evermore you shall be mine;
The foe shall not divide us.
8. "The foe shall shed my precious blood, Me of my life bereaving.
All this I suffer for your good; Be steadfast and believing.
Life shall from death the vict'ry win; My innocence shall bear your sin,
And you are blest forever.
9. "Now to my Father I depart, The Holy Spirit sending
And, heav'nly wisdom to impart, My help to you extending.
He will a source of comfort be, Teach you to know and follow me,
And in all truth will guide you.
10. "What I on earth have lived and taught Be all your life and teaching;
So shall my kingdom's work be wrought And honored in your preaching.
Take care that no one's man-made laws
Should e'er destroy the gospel's cause.
This final word I leave you."

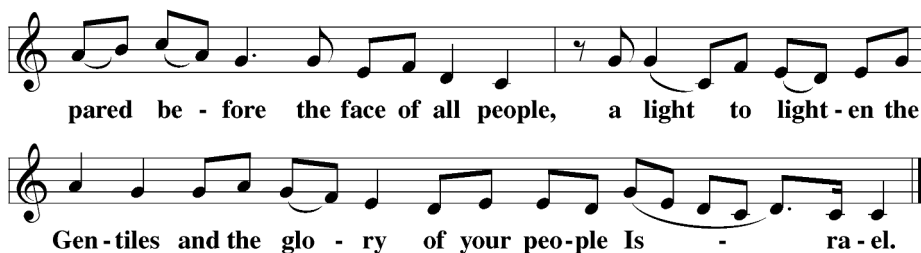
After the distribution is finished the congregation stands and sings:

Song of Simeon

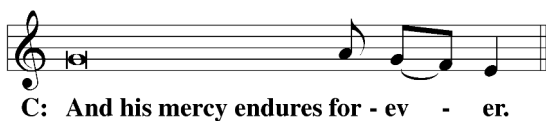
Nunc Dimittis

C: Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace ac-cord-ing

to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have pre-



M: O 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 ----- Oh, Blest the House, Whate'er Befall

CW 506

1. Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall,
Where Jesus Christ is all in all!
A home that is not wholly his-
How sad and poor and dark it is!
2. Oh, blest that house where faith you find
And all within have set their mind
To trust their God and serve him still
And do in all his holy will.
3. Oh, blest the parents who give heed
Unto their children's foremost need
And weary not of care or cost.
May none to them and heav'n be lost!
4. Blest such a house; it prospers well.
In peace and joy the parents dwell,
And in their children's lives is shown
How richly God can bless his own.
5. Then here will I and mine today
A solemn promise make and say:
Though all the world forsake his Word,
I and my house will serve the Lord!



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