



# THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST AUGUST 23, 2026



## Pre-service Music

## Welcome and Announcements

**Call to Worship: Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling**

*text/tune Will Lamartine Thompson*

## Confession and Absolution

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

### Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### Confession and Absolution

**P** The Lord is near the brokenhearted; He delivers those who are discouraged. Therefore, let us go to our God and confess our sins knowing that,

**C** **our God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

**C** **Gracious and merciful God, we confess that while we have been made new creations through the waters of our baptism, we still live ensnared by sin, and are unable to free ourselves. We have not always lived our lives in accordance with the identity that you have given us in Jesus. We have not always done the things that you have called us to do. We have not always loved you above all else and with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength. We have not always loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us all our sins. Renew our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that our lives would show the identity you have given us in baptism, and the new creations that you have made us to be. Amen.**

**P** God's saints lack nothing. God's people are delivered from all their afflictions. In mercy, Almighty God has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I, therefore, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit

**C** Amen.

### Peace of the Lord

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

# Service of the Word

## Gathering Hymn: LSB 802 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, invisible,  
God only wise,  
In light inaccessible  
hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious,  
the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious,  
Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting,  
and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting,  
Thou rulest in might;  
Thy justice like mountains  
high soaring above  
Thy clouds which are fountains  
of goodness and love.

To all life Thou givest—  
to both great and small—  
In all life Thou livest,  
the true Life of all;  
We blossom and flourish  
as leaves on the tree  
And wither and perish—  
but naught changes Thee.

Great Father of glory,  
pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore Thee,  
all veiling their sight;  
All laud we would render:  
O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendor  
of light that hides Thee.

Text: W. Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**L** The Lord be with you.  
**G** And also with you.

**L** Let us pray.  
Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** Amen.

## Children's Message

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 51:1–6

**A** The Old Testament reading is from the fifty-first chapter of the book of Isaiah.

<sup>1</sup> Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. <sup>2</sup> Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. <sup>3</sup> For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. <sup>4</sup> Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. <sup>5</sup> I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. <sup>6</sup> Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm

Psalm 138

**L** I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

**C** **I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.**

**L** On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

**C** **All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

**L** They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

**C** **For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

**L** Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

**C** **The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

**L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

**C** **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## Epistle

Romans 11:33—12:8

**A** The Epistle reading is from the eleventh chapter of the book of Romans.

<sup>33</sup> O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! <sup>34</sup> “For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?” <sup>35</sup> “Or who has given a gift to him, to receive a gift in return?” <sup>36</sup> For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever. Amen. <sup>1</sup> I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. <sup>3</sup> For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup> We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup> ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

- L** Fear the LORD, you his saints,  
**C** **for those who fear him lack nothing!**  
**L** Many are the afflictions of the righteous,  
**C** **but the LORD delivers them out of them all.**

## Gospel Acclamation

- C** **Halle, halle, halle\_lujah!**  
**Halle, halle, halle\_lujah!**  
**Halle, halle, halle\_lujah!**  
**Hallelujah! Halle\_lujah!**

Text: arr. Mark Sedio

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## Verse

- P** Alleluia. You are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,  
**C** **Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone. Alleluia.**

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 16:13–20*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.  
**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup> And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup> He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup> Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Sermon

## Hymn of the Day: LSB 645 Built on the Rock

Built on the Rock the Church shall stand  
Even when steeples are falling.  
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land;  
Bells still are chiming and calling,  
Calling the young and old to rest,  
But above all the souls distressed,  
Longing for rest everlasting.

Surely in temples made with hands  
God, the Most High, is not dwelling;  
High above earth His temple stands,  
All earthly temples excelling.  
Yet He who dwells in heav'n above  
Chooses to live with us in love,  
Making our bodies His temple.

We are God's house of living stones,  
Built for His own habitation.  
He through baptismal grace us owns  
Heirs of His wondrous salvation.  
Were we but two His name to tell,  
Yet He would deign with us to dwell  
With all His grace and His favor.

Here stands the font before our eyes,  
Telling how God has received us.  
The altar recalls Christ's sacrifice  
And what His Supper here gives us.  
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim  
Christ yesterday, today, the same,  
And evermore, our Redeemer.

Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,  
That, when the church bells are ringing,  
Many in saving faith may come  
Where Christ His message is bringing:  
"I know My own; My own know Me.  
You, not the world, My face shall see.  
My peace I leave with you. Amen."

Text: Nikolai Fredrik Severin Grundtvig, 1783–1872, abr.; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## Apostles' Creed

- I** We make confession of our faith together in the words of the creed.
- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

## Prayer of the Church

- L** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.
- P** Loving and Gracious God, you have gathered us together to be your people in this world. You give us your Holy Spirit, your word, and the sacraments. Work through Your means of grace to transform our lives, so that they would always show your love and forgiveness and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** Almighty God, from You and through You and to You are all things. You have built Your Church on the confession of the Gospel and have promised that the gates of hell will not overcome it. To Your Church throughout the world grant the faith and courage to confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord God Almighty, You transform Your Church by the Holy Spirit so that she does not conform to the world. Draw forth from Your people their proclamation of thanksgiving, that they may tell of all Your wondrous deeds. Give us joy and zeal for living as your disciples who join you in your work in this world. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** O Lord, grant us joy and peace in the forgiveness of all our sins that you give to us. As You have so graciously forgiven us, help us to extend this grace by forgiving others. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Gracious God we pray for our partners in ministry in this community, for Gathering Lambs, Luther Towers, and Interfaith Housing Alliance for the Poor, bless them and the good work they do in our community. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** Heavenly Father, care for all families, children, single adults and youth, that they might steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal. Grant an increase in wisdom and grace to all who teach and learn. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Lord God, grant that all nations and leaders might act for peace; promote godliness; and protect all who live under violence, oppression, injustice and fear, that all people might extol You. Allow justice, mercy, peace, and compassion to grow and increase in us, among us, and through us. And heal our world from the evils of injustice, prejudice, inequality, and hatred. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** Heavenly Father, care for all victims of disaster, both natural and man-made, for those stricken by illness or infirmity, for the aged and infirm, for the grieving and for those near death. *[Especially show Your steadfast love to those we love whom we name before you now out loud or in our hearts\_\_\_\_\_.]* Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** O Lord, give us humble joy as we set our hearts and minds on the things of God. Prepare us to receive the blessed gifts of our Lord's table, that this food may keep us holy and blameless in Christ now and when He comes again. Work through your means of grace to strengthen our faith and to increase our love and service to You, to one another, and to our neighbors. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** All these things and everything else for which we should ask, we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## Offering

- G** Offer, offer, offering, we give our gifts to say,  
"Thank you Lord for loving us and blessing us each day."  
Time to share our gifts and say,  
"Thank you Lord for each new day."

## Offertory Prayer

- L** Giving God, You provide us with all we need to support our bodies and lives. Your abundance and provision will never fail or leave us lacking. Allow Your generosity to inspire our generosity. Accept the offerings that we give in the various ways that we give them throughout the week. Increase and grow our trust in You through the giving of our offerings. Be glorified in the giving of them as we give them in thanksgiving and with gratitude for all Your blessings and gifts to us. Use them to further the work that You are doing in this place and all around our world. In Jesus' name we pray,
- G** Amen.

## Offertory

- G** What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**G** And also with you.  
**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**G** We lift them to the Lord.  
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**G** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## Proper Preface

- P** It is truly good, 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, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. 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

- G** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Proclamation of Christ

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.  
**C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

## The Lord's Prayer

- P** God, remember us in your love 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.**

## Pax Domini

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** **Amen.**

## Agnus Dei

- C** **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**  
**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**  
**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

## Distribution Hymn: LSB 783 Take My Life and Let It Be

Take my life and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days,  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move  
At the impulse of Thy love;  
Take my feet and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing  
Always, only for my King;  
Take my lips and let them be  
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold,  
Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect and use  
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine,  
It shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is Thine own,  
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
At Thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself, and I will be  
Ever, only, all for Thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79  
Text: Public domain

### **Distribution Hymn: LSB 940 Holy God, We Praise Thy Name**

Holy God, we praise Thy name;  
Lord of all, we bow before Thee.  
All on earth Thy scepter claim,  
All in heav'n above adore Thee.  
Infinite Thy vast domain,  
Everlasting is Thy reign.

Hark! The glad celestial hymn  
Angel choirs above are raising;  
Cherubim and seraphim,  
In unceasing chorus praising,  
Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:  
Holy, holy, holy Lord!

Lo, the apostles' holy train  
Join Thy sacred name to hallow;  
Prophets swell the glad refrain,  
And the white-robed martyrs follow,  
And from morn to set of sun  
Through the Church the song goes on.

Thou art King of Glory, Christ;  
Son of God, yet born of Mary.  
For us sinners sacrificed,  
As to death a Tributary,  
First to break the bars of death,  
Thou hast opened heav'n to faith.

Holy Father, holy Son,  
Holy Spirit, three we name Thee;  
Though in essence only one,  
Undivided God we claim Thee  
And, adoring, bend the knee  
While we own the mystery.

Text: Latin, c. 4th cent.; German version Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1774, Vienna; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, alt.  
Text: Public domain

### **The Dismissal**

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart  $\text{✠}$  in peace.

**G** Amen.

## Thank the Lord

- G** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.  
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

## Post-Communion Collect

- L** Let us pray.  
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- G** Amen.

## Benedicamus

- L** The Lord be with you.  
**G** And also with you.
- L** Bless we the Lord.  
**G** Thanks be to God.
- L** As we depart from this place, we celebrate the ways God has blessed us in this service.  
We have received forgiveness of all our sins and remembered the identity given to us in our baptism.  
**G** Our God has equipped us for life lived in His kingdom.
- L** We have heard the good news of the gospel and the word of God read and proclaimed.  
**G** Our God has encouraged us in discipleship and following Jesus.
- L** We have received the gifts of God given in Holy Communion.  
**G** As our God has served us, so we go from this place to be engaged in service to God, to one another and to our neighbors.
- L** As we depart from this place, we go as people who have been equipped for life, encouraged in discipleship, and who engage in service.  
**G** We go as people who have been invited by God to join God in the work that He is doing in this place.
- P** As you go, receive the blessing of our God:  
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
- G** Amen.

## **Sending Hymn: LSB 660 Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus**

Stand up, stand up for Jesus,  
Ye soldiers of the cross.  
Lift high His royal banner;  
It must not suffer loss.  
From vict'ry unto vict'ry  
His army He shall lead  
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished,  
And Christ is Lord indeed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus;  
The trumpet call obey;  
Stand forth in mighty conflict  
In this His glorious day.  
Let all His faithful serve Him  
Against unnumbered foes;  
Let courage rise with danger  
And strength to strength oppose.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus;  
Stand in His strength alone.  
The arm of flesh will fail you,  
Ye dare not trust your own.  
Put on the Gospel armor;  
Each piece put on with prayer.  
Where duty calls or danger,  
Be never wanting there.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus;  
The strife will not be long;  
This day the din of battle,  
The next the victor's song.  
The soldiers, overcoming,  
Their crown of life shall see  
And with the King of Glory  
Shall reign eternally.

Text: George Duffield, Jr., 1818–88, alt.  
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