



THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 18, 2026



Pre-service Music

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: You Are Mine

text/tune David Haas

Confession and Absolution

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 loves, cares for, and protects us. He commands his angels concerning us, to guard us in all our ways. 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** Bless the Lord! With all that is within us, let us bless His holy name. 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 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home:

Under the shadow of Thy throne
Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
Soon bears us all away;
We fly forgotten as a dream
Dies at the op'ning day.

O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Text: Public domain

Salutation and Collect of the Day

L The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

L Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Children's Message

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 45:1–7

A The Old Testament reading is from the forty-fifth chapter of the book of Isaiah.

¹ Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him— and the gates shall not be closed: ² I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵ I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. ⁷ I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 96:1-9

L O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

C Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

L Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.

C For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.

L For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

C Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

L Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

C Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.

L Worship the Lord in holy splendor;

C tremble before him, all the earth.

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

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

A The Epistle reading is from the first chapter of the book of 1 Thessalonians.

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

L He will command his angels concerning you

C to guard you in all your ways.

L Bless the Lord, O my soul,

C and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

Gospel Acclamation

G 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 have been filled in him,
G Who is the head of all rule and authority. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15–22

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.
G Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
G Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

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

Blessing of Those Celebrating Birthdays

All who are celebrating a birthday this month are invited to come forward for a prayer and a blessing.

P Loving and gracious Heavenly Father, you have given us our bodies, souls, and all that we have. We thank you for the great gift of life that you have given to us, and especially to these your dearly loved people. We thank you for them and for being able to share life with them. As they celebrate another year of life, we ask your blessing and favor to be upon them. Increase their joy in life lived with you. Grow their trust in your presence and promises. And give them zeal for joining you in your mission in this world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Apostles' Creed

L 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.

Blessing of Those Celebrating Anniversaries

All who are celebrating a wedding anniversary this month are invited to come forward for a prayer and blessing.

P Dear friends, our merciful God and Father has sustained and blessed you throughout your wedded life. May He, who is ever faithful in love and compassion, continue to grant you His grace so that, with true fidelity and steadfast love, you may always honor and keep your promises, grow in love toward Him and for each other, work together to join him in his mission in this world and to make his love in Jesus known, and come at last to the eternal joys that He has promised. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P The almighty and gracious God continue to bless you that you may please Him in both body and soul and live together in holy love until your life's end.

C Amen.

P Let us pray.
Lord God, heavenly Father, You instituted holy matrimony, blessed and honored it with the presence of Your Son at the marriage at Cana in Galilee, and continue to protect and preserve it. We thank You for the love and grace which You have bestowed upon these your dear people throughout their marriage. You have accompanied them with loving-kindness and tender mercy, visited them with Your comfort, strengthened them in sorrow and sickness, and crowned their life with every blessing. You have enabled them to walk in marital love and fidelity, holding them to each other in sickness and in health, in adversity and prosperity, and granting them strength, patience, and faithfulness. Be with them, O Lord, until the end of their days, even as You have guided them in the past. Be their health, strength, refuge, and life. When the days of their earthly pilgrimage have ceased, graciously bring them to the marriage supper of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, where they shall dwell with You and all Your faithful and rejoice in Your joy forever; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

P Dear friends, may your hearts continue to be united in love and faithfulness and your home remain a dwelling place of the Lord. At the end of your pilgrimage here on earth, may you together see God face to face and enjoy that glory which He has promised to all who abide in His love to the end.

C 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 God of our salvation, You deliver Your Son's work through Your Word in power and in the Holy Spirit. Strengthen Your Church to proclaim Your truth with bold mercy and grace. Increase the faith of all who hear, that they may respond in love, steadfast in their hope. 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.

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 God of all truth, from the rising of the sun to its setting, You make known Your salvation in Christ. Bless fathers and mothers as they teach their children Your Word and Your ways. Let them know that there is no God besides You and so rejoice in Your faithfulness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P God our Father, You appointed Cyrus as Your instrument to return Your people to Jerusalem. Uphold the authorities of our nation in wisdom and integrity, that we might live in peace with a good conscience. Grant that they would make salutary use of the taxes we render, and lead us to recognize them as Your instruments, honoring them as You command. Bless and protect those who serve in our military, especially those in places of danger far from home. Bless and protect those who serve here at home as firefighters, police, first-responders, EMTs, and emergency room workers. 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** O Lord, our help comes from You, who made heaven and earth. You preserve our life. Have mercy on those we love, who need your healing and care, that we name before you now, out loud or in our hearts/_____ and on all who are afflicted. Keep them from all evil and shade them from all harm. Grant them healing in accordance with your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty God, guard those who travel. Keep their going out and their coming in. Protect them from every trouble, prosper their journey according to Your will and make their homecomings joyful. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- L** True and living God, You have turned us from idols to serve You and live. As we await Your Son's return in glory, grant that we would faithfully receive Him at this altar with repentance and joy. 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.**
- P** 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

- C** 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** Lord of the harvest, You came into this world not to be served but in order to serve. You love, care for, and serve us in many and various way. For that, we give You our thanks and praise. You invite us to join You in the work that You are doing in our neighborhoods and around our world. Accept the offerings that we give in the various ways that we give them throughout the week, as part of our work of joining You in Your work. 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,
- C** **Amen.**

Offertory

- C** 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.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **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 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

- C** **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 † 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 † 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

G 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 850 God of Grace and God of Glory

God of grace and God of glory,
On Your people pour Your pow'r;
Crown Your ancient Church's story;
Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

Lo, the hosts of evil round us
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

Cure Your children's warring madness;
Bend our pride to Your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Your salvation
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving You whom we adore,
Serving You whom we adore.

Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1878–1969
Text: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

LSB 851 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

Lord of glory, You have bought us
With Your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice;
And with that have freely given
Blessings countless as the sand
To the unthankful and the evil
With Your own unsparing hand.

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You
Gladly, freely of Your own.
With the sunshine of Your goodness
Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures,
Warmed by You, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed
'Tis to give than to receive.

Wondrous honor You have given
To our humblest charity
In Your own mysterious sentence,
"You have done it all to Me."
Can it be, O gracious Master,
That You deign for alms to sue,
Saying by Your poor and needy,
"Give as I have giv'n to you"?

Lord of glory, You have bought us
With Your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust You boldly,
Hope, to stay our souls on You;
But, oh, best of all Your graces,
With Your love our love renew.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–89, 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 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.
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 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.

Benedicamus

- L** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.
- L** Bless we the Lord.
C 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.
C 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.
C Our God has encouraged us in discipleship and following Jesus.
- L** We have received the gifts of God given in Holy Communion.
C 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.
C 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.
- C** Amen.

Sending Hymn

LSB 782 Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings

Gracious God, You send great blessings
New each morning all our days.
For Your mercies never ending,
For Your love we offer praise. Refrain

Lord, we pray that we, Your people
Who Your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of Your blessings
May bring glory to Your name.

By Your Word You formed creation
Filled with creatures large and small;
As we tend that endless treasure
May our care encircle all. Refrain

In His earthly life, our Savior
Knew the care of faithful friends;
May our deeds of dedication
Offer love that never ends. Refrain

Heav'nly Father, may our caring
Bear the imprint of Your grace;
With the Son and Holy Spirit,
Praise be Yours in ev'ry place! Refrain

Text: Gregory J. Wismar, 1946
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