



Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
October 1, 2023

*With One Voice* – Service of the Word & Prayer  
and *Lutheran Book of Worship* – Setting Two

**GOD GATHERS US AS HIS HOLY PEOPLE**

**HYMNS TODAY: 257, 353, & 252**

**WELCOME!** We are glad to have you join us for worship today.

PRELUDE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*In remembrance of Baptism, you may sign a cross on your chest or forehead.*

We gather to worship the One true God – the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (WOV pp. 49-50)

Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

**pray in the Holy Spirit**

*Jude 20*

Keep yourselves in the love of God;

**look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Jude 21*

If anyone is in Christ, he or she is a new creation:

**Everything old has passed away;**

**behold everything has become new!**

*2 Corinthians 5:17*

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

*We keep silence for self-reflection and examination.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God has mercy on you, forgives you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthens you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keeps you in eternal life. **Amen.**

OFFERING OF PEACE (WOV p. 50)

Sisters and brothers, rejoice!

Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. *2 Corinthians 13:11*

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

*John 20:19-21*

*Having been reconciled to God in Christ, we share His peace with others.*

**GATHERING HYMN: “Holy Spirit, Truth Divine” (LBW #257)**

AFFIRMATION OF PURPOSE

Matthew 28:18-20, 22:36-39; Mark 12:30-31

We are Joy Mission Church, missionary-disciples of Jesus Christ.

**We love God, love neighbor, and serve with joy in Jesus' name.**

APOSTOLIC GREETING (LBW p. 78)

2 Corinthians 13:14

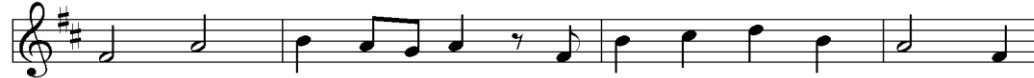
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE (LBW pp. 79-80)

Luke 2:9-11, 13-14



Ⓐ Glo-ry to God in the high- est, and peace to his peo- ple on earth.



Ⓑ Lord God, heav- en- ly king, al- might- y God and Fa - ther:



We wor- ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je- sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa- ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a- way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat- ed at the right hand of the Fa- ther; re- ceive our prayer.



For you a- lone are the Ho - ly One, you a- lone are the Lord,

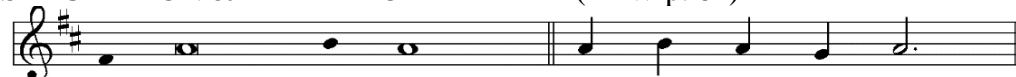


you a- lone are the Most High, Je- sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir- it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa- ther. A - men

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY (LBW p. 82)



Ⓐ The Lord be with you. Ⓑ And al - so with you.

Ruth 2:4

Let us pray together: **O Almighty and most Merciful God, through your bountiful goodness, keep us from all things that may hurt us, that we, being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that you would have us do. Grant this, we pray, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## GOD SPEAKS TO US IN HIS WORD

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

<sup>1</sup>The word of the Lord came to me: <sup>2</sup>“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? <sup>3</sup>As I live, declares the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. <sup>25</sup>“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? <sup>26</sup>When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. <sup>28</sup>Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? <sup>30</sup>Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 25:1-9\* *Sung responsively between cantor and congregation. (Tone #9)*

<sup>1</sup>To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my | trust in you;\*

let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph | over me.

<sup>2</sup>**Let none who look to you be | put to shame;\***

**let the treacherous be disappointed | in their schemes.**

<sup>3</sup>Show me your | ways, O Lord,\*

and teach | me your paths.

<sup>4</sup>**Lead me in your | truth and teach me,\***

**for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.**

<sup>5</sup>Remember, O Lord, your compas- | sion and love,\*

for they are from | everlasting.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;\***

**remember me according to your love and for the sake of your good- | ness, O Lord.**

<sup>7</sup>Gracious and upright | is the Lord;\*

therefore he teaches sinners | in his way.

<sup>8</sup>**He guides the humble in | doing right\***

**and teaches his way | to the lowly.**

<sup>9</sup>All the paths of the Lord are | love and faithfulness\*

to those who keep his covenant and his | testimonies.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:1-18

<sup>1</sup>So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup>And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,...

in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. <sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, <sup>13</sup>for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. <sup>14</sup>Do all things without grumbling or disputing, <sup>15</sup>that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, <sup>16</sup>holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. <sup>17</sup>Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. <sup>18</sup>Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

VERSE (LBW p. 83)

John 6:68

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL ANNUNCIATION (LBW p. 83)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the twenty-first chapter.

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 21:23-32

<sup>23</sup>When {Jesus} entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” <sup>24</sup>Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ <sup>26</sup>But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>28</sup>What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ <sup>29</sup>And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

GOSPEL RESPONSE (LBW p. 83)

Praise to you, O Christ.  
*Please be seated.*

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

**GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND IN FAITH**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY: “May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill” (LBW #353)**

APOSTLES’ CREED (LBW p. 85, WOV p. 49)

In Christ you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.** *Ephesians 1:13-14*

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

*Genesis 1-2; John 3:16; Luke 2; Acts 2*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS (WOV p. 52)

As God’s people called to love one another,

let us pray for the needs of the Church, the world, and all who are in need.

*Each petition ends with these words:* Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude with these words:* All of these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of Christ who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

OFFERING OF TITHES & ADDITIONAL GIFTS with SPECIAL MUSIC as available.

*We offer our time, talents, and treasure in gratitude for all of the blessings God has given us.*

*Please stand as you are able.*

OFFERTORY HYMN (LBW p. 86)



Let the vine- yards be fruit- ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless- ing. Gath- er a har- vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath- er the hopes and dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

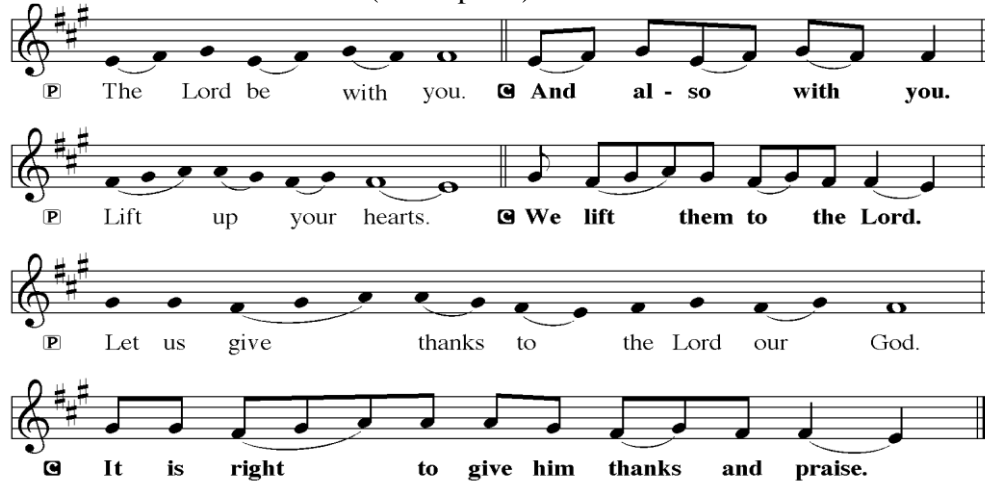
OFFERTORY PRAYER (WOV p. 51)

Let us pray.

God, our Creator, **you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Psalm 145:16*

GREAT THANKSGIVING (LBW p. 88)



☩ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.  
☩ Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.  
☩ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
☩ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE (LBW p. 88) *Sung or spoken by the pastor.*

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death in the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS ("Holy" LBW p. 89)

*Psalm 118:25-26; Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9; Mark 11:9*



☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (LBW p. 90) *1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20*

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,

that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,

that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,

and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (LBW p. 91)

*Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4*

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray...

**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.**

COMMUNION HYMN (LBW p. 92)

*John 1:29*



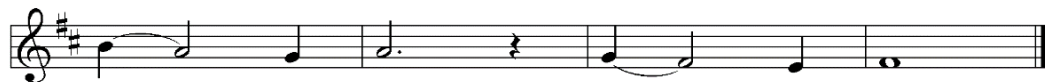
**Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.**



**Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.**



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



**grant us peace, grant us peace.**

*Please be seated.*

### WE RECEIVE THE LORD'S SUPPER

*All who are baptized and trust that Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and wine may come forward to commune. The usher will direct you and offer hand sanitizer if you so desire.*

- *If you require gluten-free wafers or abstain from wine, indicate so to the pastor.*
- *To receive the Sacrament in your seat, notify the usher and it will be brought to you.*
- *If you abstain from the Sacrament, you have full forgiveness of sins by God's Word alone.*

The body of Christ given for you. **Amen.** The blood of Christ shed for you. **Amen.**

*After the elements are covered, please stand as you are able.*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING, CANTICLE, & PRAYER (LBW pp. 92-94)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**



**☩ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.**



**Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.**



**He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy**



**with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.**

Let us pray... Pour out the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION (*"Blessing"* WOV p. 53)

*Romans 15*

May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with every spiritual blessing.

**Amen.**

May the God of faithfulness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### GOD SENDS US FORTH TO SERVE

**SENDING HYMN: "You Servants of God" (LBW #252)**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

Love God. Love neighbor. Serve with joy in Jesus' name.

As a congregation of the North American Lutheran Church we strive to be:



**Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded, & Congregationally Focused.**

Ministers: Joy Mission Church and all the people of God

Pastor: Rev. Paulette McHugh

Parish Administrator: Scheri Force

Pianist: Lavenia Hentz

Volunteer Director of Music: Laurie Lackey

[www.joymission.church](http://www.joymission.church)

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