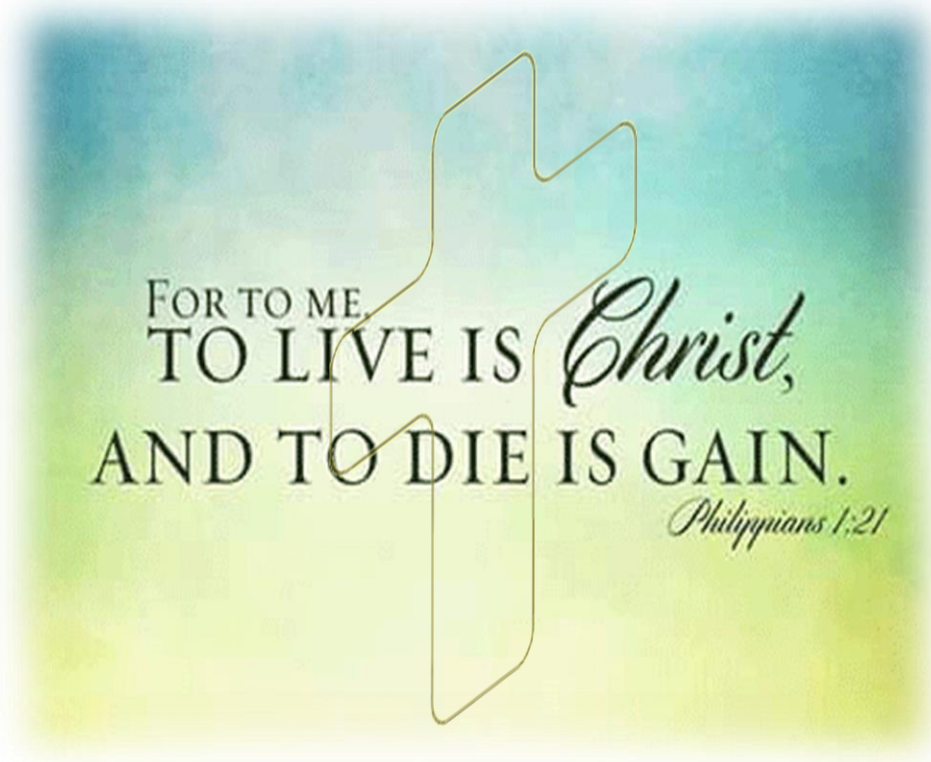


# The 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday – September 24, 2023 – 9:30 a.m. Worship

*(In-Person & Live -Streamed)*



FOR TO ME,  
TO LIVE IS *Christ*,  
AND TO DIE IS GAIN.  
*Philippians 1:21*

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# † Call to Worship †

## Greeting

### Opening Hymn #868 "Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun" (v. 1, 4, 6)



1 A - wake, my soul, and with the sun Thy dai - ly  
4 Lord, I my vows to Thee re - new; Dis - perse my  
△ 6 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all



stage of du - ty run; Shake off dull sloth and  
sins as morn - ing dew; Guard my first springs of  
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye



joy - ful rise To pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice.  
thought and will And with Thy - self my spir - it fill.  
heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.  
Tune: François H. Barthélémon, 1741-1808  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

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

## Invocation

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.
- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, 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.*

## Confession of Sins

*LSB 151*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

## Absolution

*[John 20:19-23] LSB 151*

- P** Almighty God in His mercy 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.

*Stand*

## † Service of the Word †

### Responsive Reading: Psalm 27:1-9

**P**<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my light and my salvation;

**C** whom shall I fear?

**P** The LORD is the stronghold of my life;

**C** of whom shall I be afraid?

**P**<sup>2</sup>When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh,

**C** my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

**P**<sup>3</sup>Though an army encamp against me,

**C** my heart shall not fear;

**P** though war arise against me,

**C** yet I will be confident.

**P**<sup>4</sup>One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

**C** that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,

**P** to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD

**C** and to inquire in His temple.

**P**<sup>5</sup>For He will hide me in His shelter

**C** in the day of trouble;

**P** He will conceal me under the cover of His tent;

**C** He will lift me high upon a rock.

**P**<sup>6</sup>And now my head shall be lifted up

**C** above my enemies all around me,

**P** and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

**C** I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

**P**<sup>7</sup>Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;

**C** be gracious to me and answer me!

**P**<sup>8</sup>You have said, "Seek my face."

**C** My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek."

**P**<sup>9</sup>Hide not your face from me.

**C** Turn not your servant away in anger,

**P** O You who have been my help.

**C** Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation!

**ALL** 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.

### Kyrie

*Mark 10:47 LSB 204*



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 204



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

<sup>6</sup>“Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;

<sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake his way,  
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him,  
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle: Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

<sup>12</sup>I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, <sup>13</sup>so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. <sup>14</sup>And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

<sup>19</sup>for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, <sup>20</sup>as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup>For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. <sup>24</sup>But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. <sup>25</sup>Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup>so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

<sup>27</sup>Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. <sup>29</sup>For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, <sup>30</sup>engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

*John 6:68 LSB 156*

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

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia."

## Holy Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, <sup>4</sup>and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ <sup>5</sup>So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup>They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ <sup>8</sup>And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ <sup>9</sup>And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. <sup>10</sup>Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup>And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, <sup>12</sup>saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius?’ <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first last.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

### Sermon Hymn #698 "May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill"

1 May we Thy pre - cepts, Lord, ful - fill And do on  
2 So may we join Thy name to bless, Thy grace a -  
earth our Fa - ther's will As an - gels do a - bove;  
dore, Thy pow'r con - fess, From sin and strife to flee.  
Still walk in Christ, the liv - ing way, With all Thy  
One is our call - ing, one our name, The end of  
chil-dren and o - bey The law of Chris - tian love.  
all our hopes the same, A crown of life with Thee.

Text: Edward Osler, 1798-1863, alt.  
Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872  
Text and tune: Public domain

### Sermon "Why We're Still Here!"

*Text: Philippians 1:21-26*

Stand

### Apostles' 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.

Sit

### Prayer of the Church

Responses:

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** Hear our prayer.

Final Petition:

**P** Hear us Father for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who has forgiven our sins, healed our sin, will one day raise us from the dead and has taught us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

<p><b>C</b> 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</p>	<p>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.</p>
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Stand

Offerings are brought to the LORD's altar as we sing:

Offertory

*Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19 LSB 159*

**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.

Benediction

*Numbers 6:24-26 LSB 166*

**P** 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** A - men, a - men, a - men.

## Sending Hymn #737 "Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing" (V.1, 3, 4, 7)

1 Re - joice, my heart, be glad and sing, A  
 3 Why spend the day in blank de - spair, In  
 4 Did not His love and truth and pow'r Guard  
 7 Up - on your lips, then, lay your hand, And

cheer - ful trust main - tain; For God, the source of  
 rest - less thought the night? On your Cre - a - tor  
 ev - 'ry child - hood day? And did He not in  
 trust His guid - ing love; Then like a rock your

ev - 'ry - thing, Your por - tion shall re - main.  
 cast your care; He makes your bur - dens light.  
 threat - 'ning hour Turn dread - ed ills a - way?  
 peace shall stand Here and in heav'n a - bove.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr. John Kelly, 1833-90, alt.  
 Tune: Harmonischer Lieder-Schatz, 1738, Frankfurt  
 Text and tune: Public domain

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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