

# SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 20, 2026

Divine Service Setting Four, pg. 203

Rev. David Ellis, Guest Pastor



## Confession and Absolution

### 906 O Day of Rest and Gladness



1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,  
2 This day at earth's cre - a - tion The light first had its birth;  
3 This day, God's peo - ple meet - ing, His Ho - ly Scrip - ture hear;  
△ 4 That light our hope sus - tain - ing, We walk the pil - grim way,



O balm of care and sad - ness, Most beau - ti - ful, most bright;  
This day for our sal - va - tion Christ rose from depths of earth;  
His liv - ing pres - ence greet - ing, Through bread and wine made near.  
At length our rest at - tain - ing, Our end - less Sab - bath day.



This day the high and low - ly, Through a - ges joined to bless,  
This day our Lord vic - to - rious The Spir - it sent from heav'n,  
We jour - ney on, be - liev - ing, Re - newed with heav'n - ly might,  
We sing to Thee our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;



Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," The tri - une God con - fess.  
And thus this day most glo - rious A three - fold light was giv'n.  
From grace more grace re - ceiv - ing, On this blest day of light.  
The Church her voice up - rais - es To Thee, blest Three in One.

Text (sts. 1-2): Christopher Wordsworth, 1807-85, alt.; (st. 3): Charles P. Price, 1920-99; (st. 4): The Hymnal 1982  
Tune: Gesangbuch der Herzogl. Hofkapelle, 1784, Württemberg | Text (sts. 1-2) and tune: Public domain  
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*Please stand.*

*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.

### Exhortation

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

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**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

## Confession of Sins

LSB 203

**C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

## Prayer for Forgiveness

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**

# Service of the Word

## Introit

*Psalm 116:12–13, 15–16; antiphon: v. 17*

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call on the name of the LORD.

**What shall I render to the LORD  
for all his benefits to me?**

I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD.

**Precious in the sight of the LORD  
is the death of his saints.**

O LORD, I am your servant;

I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.

**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.**

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call on the name of the LORD.

# Kyrie

LSB 204



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

## Gloria in Excelsis

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-shipped 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.

*You may be seated.*

## Children's Sermon

### 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.”

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Psalms 34:9, 19, alt.*

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

## 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.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand.*

## Alleluia and Verse

*LSB 205*



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



**C** These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, 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.

## Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

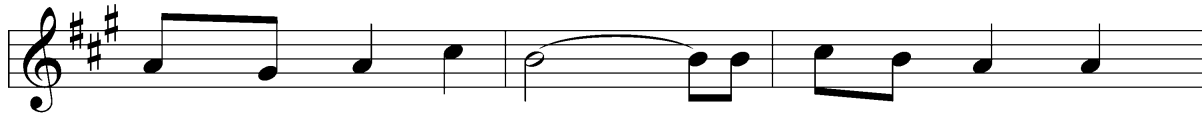
**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

*You may be seated.*

## 720 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight



1 We walk by faith and not by sight, No  
 2 We may not touch His hands and side, Nor  
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; And  
 4 For You, O res - ur - rect - ed Lord, Are  
 5 Lord, when our life of faith is done, In



gra - cious words we hear From Him who spoke as  
 fol - low where He trod; But in His prom - ise  
 may our faith a - bound To call on You when  
 found in means di - vine: Be - neath the wa - ter  
 realms of clear - er light We may be - hold You



none e'er spoke, But we be - lieve Him near.  
 we re - joice And cry "My Lord and God!"  
 You are near And seek where You are found.  
 and the Word, Be - neath the bread and wine.  
 as You are, With full and end - less sight.

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## Sermon

*Please stand.*

### Prayer of the Church

#### Prayer Response

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

*You may be seated as the Offering is gathered.*

## Offering

*Hymn as the Offering is brought forward. Please stand.*

## 781 We Give Thee But Thine Own

*sts. 1–2*



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;  
 2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.  
 And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

Text: William W. How, 1823–97 | Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89 | Text and tune: Public domain

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

LSB 208

- 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.  
**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new 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

LSB 208



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## Lord's Prayer

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**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 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."

## Pax Domini

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

**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 210

**C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

*You may be seated.*

## Distribution

## 636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, Leave the  
 2 Has - ten as a bride to meet Him, And with  
 3 He who craves a pre - cious trea - sure Nei - ther  
 4 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der O - ver



gloom - y haunts of sad - ness, Come in - to the day - light's  
 lov - ing rev - 'rence greet Him. For with words of life im -  
 cost nor pain will mea - sure; But the price - less gifts of  
 this sur - pass - ing won - der That the bread of life is



splen - dor, There with joy your prais - es ren - der.  
 mor - tal He is knock - ing at your por - tal.  
 heav - en God to us has free - ly giv - en.  
 bound - less Though the souls it feeds are count - less:



Bless the One whose grace un - bound - ed This a - maz - ing  
 O - pen wide the gates be - fore Him, Say - ing, as you  
 Though the wealth of earth were prof - fered, None could buy the  
 With the choic - est wine of heav - en Christ's own blood to



ban - quet found - ed; He, though heav'n - ly, high, and  
 there a - dore Him: Grant, Lord, that I now re -  
 gifts here of - fered: Christ's true bod - y, for you  
 us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious con - so -



ho - ly, Deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.  
 ceive You, That I nev - er - more will leave You.  
 riv - en, And His blood, for you once giv - en.  
 la - tion, Pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion!

5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, Truest friend, and dearest treasure,  
 Peace beyond all understanding, Joy into all life expanding:  
 Humbly now, I bow before You; Love incarnate, I adore You;  
 Worthily let me receive You And, so favored, never leave You.

6 Jesus, sun of life, my splendor, Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,  
 Jesus, joy of my desiring, Fount of life, my soul inspiring:  
 At Your feet I cry, my maker, Let me be a fit partaker  
 Of this blessed food from heaven, For our good, Your glory, given.

- 7 Lord, by love and mercy driven, You once left Your throne in heaven  
On the cross for me to languish And to die in bitter anguish,  
To forego all joy and gladness And to shed Your blood in sadness.  
By this blood redeemed and living, Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.
- 8 Jesus, bread of life, I pray You, Let me gladly here obey You.  
By Your love I am invited, Be Your love with love requited;  
By this Supper let me measure, Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.  
Through the gift of grace You give me As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-77; (sts. 1, 4-5): tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978; (sts. 2-3, 6-8): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt. | Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662  
Text (sts. 1, 4-5): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004880 | Text (sts. 2-3, 6-8) and tune: Public domain

*Please stand.*

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;  
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is  
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -  
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## Post-Communion Collect

**P** 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 in 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

LSB 212

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

**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.

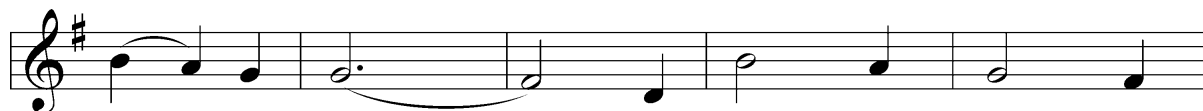
**C** Amen.

*You may be seated for the closing hymn.*

## 710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me  
2 My soul He doth re - store a - gain And me to  
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I  
4 My ta - ble Thou hast fur - nish - ed In pres - ence  
5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my life Shall sure - ly



down to lie In pas - tures green; He  
walk doth make With - in the paths of  
fear no ill; For Thou art with me,  
of my foes; My head Thou dost with  
fol - low me; And in God's house for -



lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.  
righ - teous - ness, E'en for His own name's sake.  
and Thy rod And staff me com - fort still.  
oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.  
ev - er - more My dwell - ing place shall be.

Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, 1650, Edinburgh | Tune: William Gardiner, 1770–1853 | Text and tune: Public domain

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