

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

Philippians 2:1, 2

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 2023

11:00 AM

Shared on Augsburg Lutheran Church YouTube Channel

Jesus' parable about two sons who don't do what they say reveals surprises in the reign of God. In the reading from Ezekiel the people claim the ways of the Lord are unfair, while God offers repentance and new life. Paul urges us to look to Christ as a model of humility, putting the interests of others above our own. Nourished by the broken bread and shared cup, we offer our lives for the sake of our needy world.

*The mission of Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church is to glorify God
by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through
worship, witness, education, service and fellowship.*

On the center aisle of each pew is a folder known as the “Friendship Register.” Please sign the register and check if you are communing today. Be sure to review the sheet to identify visitors. Please hand the completed pages from the register to an usher during the singing of the Hymn of the Day.

HOLY COMMUNION

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) Setting Nine

The paraments are green during the time after Pentecost. Green is used to indicate our growth in faith as we follow the teachings and ministry of Christ.

✠ GATHERING ✠

ACCLAMATION

William Stevens

Alleluia. My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them and they follow me. Alleluia.

OPENING VOLUNTARY At the Name of Jesus

Robert J. Powell

We stand.

RINGING OF THE BELL

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be God

the one who forms us,

✠ Jesus who bears the cross,

the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,
you have revealed the ways of justice,
yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed
by the world's violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have
for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused,
known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.
For the ways we turn away
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.
Lead us back to you
and set us on the right path;
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.
Amen.

The assembly turns to face the cross as it enters the sanctuary, following the cross as we have followed Jesus into this holy place and time of corporate worship.

GATHERING HYMN 416 At the Name of Jesus

KING'S WESTON

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.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer- cy.



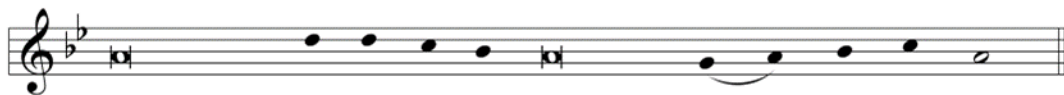
For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



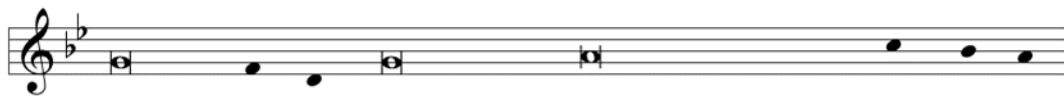
For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of



God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho - ly house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and




praise, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer- cy.




Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us gra-cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE


Refrain



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




1 Lord God, heav'n-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa-ther, we



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

Refrain




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



2 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.


Refrain




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



3 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, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

After the prayer the assembly responds: Amen.

We sit.

WELCOME

✠ WORD ✠

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

The word of the LORD came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die. Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds: Thanks be to God.*

PSALM 25:1-9



¹To | you, O LORD,

I lift | up my soul.

²My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.

³Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

⁴Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

⁶Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your
good- | ness, O LORD.

⁸You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.

⁹You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way.

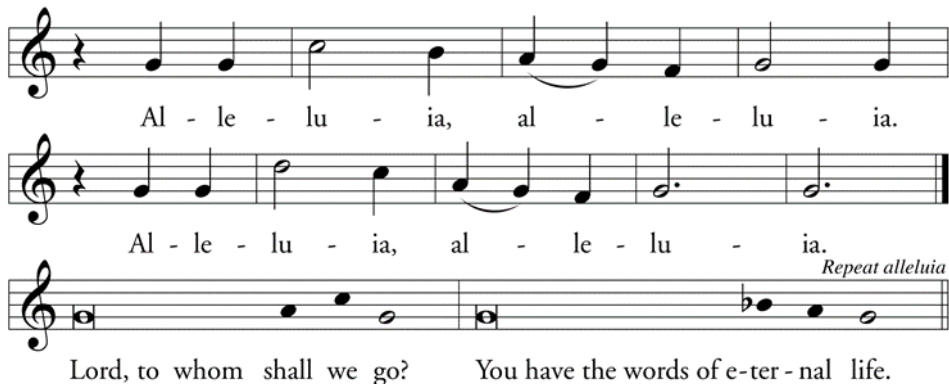
SECOND READING Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*

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

GOSPEL Matthew 21:23-32

The holy gospel according to Matthew.



Glo-ry to you, O Lord.

When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things. What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. 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 after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

The gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

Vicar Hannah Norem

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY 790 Day by Day

BLOTT EN DAG

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

Each portion of the prayers conclude:

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

The congregation is invited to share a sign of God's peace with one another. Please honor those who prefer not to physically share the peace.

We sit.

✠ MEAL ✠

OFFERING

We pass the offering plates in recognition that we are all invited to participate in sharing the gifts of abundance with what God has first given us. We recognize that many share their financial gifts online or at different frequencies; passing the plates connects us in our giving, no matter how we share. Please pass the plate down the pew and then onto the next row.

OFFERTORY Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

text: Percy Dearmer
music: Harold Friedell

Draw us in the Spirit's tether; For when humbly, in thy name,
Two or three are met together, Thou art in the midst of them:
Alleluya! Alleluya! Touch we now thy garment's hem.

As the brethren used to gather In the name of Christ to sup,
Then with thanks to God the Father Break the bread and bless the cup,
Alleluya! Alleluya! So knit thou our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living Make as sacraments of thee,
That by caring, helping, giving, We may true disciples be.
Alleluya! Alleluya! We will serve thee faithfully.

We stand.

OFFERTORY HYMN



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spi - rit with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pre - sence, and
take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the
joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Let us pray.

**God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn titled "GREAT THANKSGIVING". It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures: "The Lord be with you." and "And al - so with you." The second staff has two measures: "Lift up your hearts." and "We lift them to the Lord." The third staff has two measures: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff has two measures: "It is right to give our thanks and praise." The music is written in a simple, melodic style with various note values and rests.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn titled "SANCTUS". It consists of five staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff has two measures: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and". The second staff has two measures: "might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -". The third staff has two measures: "san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est." The fourth staff has two measures: "Bles - sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -". The fifth staff has two measures: "san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est." The music is written in a simple, melodic style with various note values and rests.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

You are indeed holy, O God, the fountain of all holiness;
you bring light from darkness, life from death, speech from silence.
We worship you for our lives and for the world you give us.
We thank you for the new world to come and for the love that will rule all in all.
We praise you for the grace shown to Israel, your chosen,
the people of your promise:
the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land,
the memory of the ancestors, the homecoming from exile,
and the prophets' words that will not be in vain.
In all this we bless you for your only-begotten Son,
who fulfilled and will fulfill all your promises.

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 for the 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 for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup
we remember the incarnation of your Son:
his human birth and the covenant he made with us.
We remember the sacrifice of his life:
his eating with outcasts and sinners,
and his acceptance of death.
But chiefly we remember his rising from the tomb,
his ascension to the seat of power,
and his sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit.

We cry out for the resurrection of our lives,
when Christ will come again in beauty and power
to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that we and all who share in this bread and cup
may be united in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
may enter the fullness of the kingdom of heaven,
and may receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants
of every time and every place, and unite them
with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen, amen, amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

AGNUS DEI

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.

We sit.

COMMUNION

Holy Communion is available to all who believe, through two options. Those who are able are invited forward to receive the bread and wine through the method of intinction. Please let an usher know if you need a gluten-free wafer or grape juice option. You may also choose to receive an individual pre-sealed communion kit from an usher that you are welcome to bring forward for the Eucharistic Proclamation. The pastors will come to the pews of those unable to come forward. Those who would like to receive a blessing instead of communion are asked to cross their hands when they come forward.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond Amen.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

HYMN 447 O Blessed Spring

BERGLUND

We stand.

TABLE BLESSING

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

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *Nunc dimittis*



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful - filled. My own
eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the sight of ev-'ry
peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace.

Let us pray.
Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

✠ SENDING ✠

BLESSING

The God of glory, ✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.



The assembly faces the cross as it leaves the sanctuary, following the cross as we follow Jesus into the world. All remain facing the cross for the dismissal.

SENDING HYMN 537 On Our Way Rejoicing

HERMAS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY Dialogue sur les grands Jeux

Nicolas de Grigny

Soli Deo Gloria

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Divine Doodles



AUGSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH

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www.alcws.org (336) 722-8144

A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, North Carolina Synod

Rostered Ministers of Word and Sacrament

The Reverend Paul A. Wollner, Senior Pastor*

The Reverend Joe Yucha, Associate Pastor

Rostered Minister of Word and Service

The Reverend Katie B. Bryant, Youth & Emerging Ministries

Our rostered ministers observe Friday as their sabbath day. *Pastor Paul is on sabbatical through Oct. 9.

Please refer to the announcement sheet for the pastor on call.

Daniele Olsen: Executive Assistant

Kris Andrews: Interim Financial Administrator

Reggie Jackson: Lead Sexton

Carl Davis: Sexton

Dr. Timothy Olsen: Cantor

Christin Barnhardt: Handbell & Children's Music Director

Hannah Norem: Vicar & Communications Coordinator

Robin Welch: Youth & Outreach Coordinator

Augsburg Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation