

+DIVINE SERVICE II+

OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY + 03 OCTOBER 2021

JESUS REPLIED: "“LOVE THE
LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART
AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL
YOUR MIND.” THIS IS THE FIRST AND
GREATEST COMMANDMENT. AND THE
SECOND IS LIKE IT: “LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR
AS YOURSELF.”
MATTHEW
22:37-
39

The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

tgslcms.org

The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive.”

- ❖ The Rev. Edward Killian, Pastor (mobile) 424.293.6588
- ❖ Ms. Moira Killian, Secretary (Office) 310.671-7644
 - ❖ Mr. Jay Rogers, Organist/Music Director
 - ❖ Mr. Leon Tarr, Congregational Chairman
 - ❖ Mr. Greg Griffin, Acolyte

Welcome to our Divine Service!

We are pleased that you are with us.

+Worship Notes+

*The entire service, including the **rubrics** of when to sit and when to kneel or stand, and what to say, is printed out in this folder so you may follow along.*

Welcome to weekly Divine Service at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church! We are a congregation that confesses the Holy Bible as inerrant, that justification is by faith according to the Holy Bible and confessed in the 1580 Book of Concord. God bless you. **To all of you who are visiting** our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. Please introduce yourself to our pastor. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world. **If you are looking for a church home** and would like to know about our beliefs and practice, please see the pastor. He will be happy to visit with you at your convenience.

A Note From The Organist:

Brahms wrote a few early organ works and then turned to other forms for most of his life. He returned to the organ (and his Lutheran roots) for his final works, eleven chorale preludes. This beautiful setting of a communion hymn has the melody in the soprano voice, with flowing counterpoint around it. In 1985, a forgotten manuscript was found in the library at Yale University. When examined, it was found to contain 33 unknown organ chorales attributed to J. S. Bach. Later research has established their authenticity, and the collection has become known as the Neumeister Chorales, after a previous owner. The chorales are early works, and the young Bach can be heard exploring various techniques, especially in this setting of “Lord thee I Love.”

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation

875 Father, We Praise Thee



1 Fa - ther, we praise Thee, now the night is o - ver, Ac - tive and
 2 Mon - arch of all things, fit us for Thy man - sions; Ban - ish our
 △ 3 All - ho - ly Fa - ther, Son, and e - qual Spir - it, Trin - i - ty



watch - ful, stand we all be - fore Thee; Sing - ing, we of - fer
 weak - ness, health and whole - ness send - ing; Bring us to heav - en,
 bless - ed, send us Thy sal - va - tion; Thine is the glo - ry,



prayer and med - i - ta - tion: Thus we a - dore Thee.
 where Thy saints u - nit - ed Joy with - out end - ing.
 gleam - ing and re - sound - ing Through all cre - a - tion.

Text and tune: Public domain

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

LSB 167

- 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.

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 167

- 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

LSB 167

- 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

Introit

Psalm 122:1, 6, 8–9; antiphon: Liturgical Text

Give peace, O Lord, to those who | wait for you,
and let your prophets be proven | faithful.*

**Hear the prayer of your | servants,*
according to the blessing of Aaron upon your | people.**

I was glad when they | said to me,
“Let us go to the house | of the LORD!”*

Pray for the peace of Je- | rusalem!*
May they be secure who | love you!

For my brothers and com- | panions’ sake
I will say, “Peace be with- | in you!”*

**For the sake of the house of the | LORD our God,*
I will | seek your good.**

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Give peace, O Lord, to those who | wait for you,
and let your prophets be proven | faithful.*
**Hear the prayer of your | servants,*
according to the blessing of Aaron upon your | people.**

Kyrie

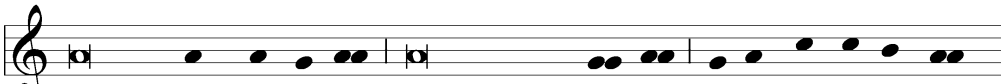
LSB 168



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



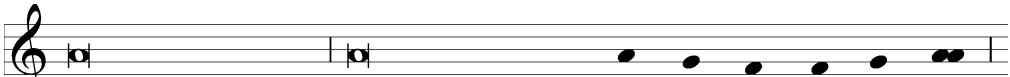
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



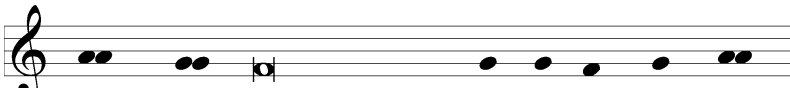
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C A - men.

This Is the Feast

LSB 171



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and

hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -

lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to

God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God,

for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.

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

Salutation and Collect of the Day



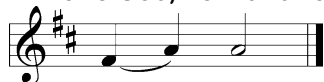
P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, because without You we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 10:12-21

¹²“And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today for your good? ¹⁴Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it. ¹⁵Yet the LORD set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day. ¹⁶Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn. ¹⁷For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe. ¹⁸He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. ¹⁹Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. ²⁰You shall fear the LORD your God. You shall serve him and hold fast to him, and by his name you shall swear. ²¹He is your praise. He is your God, who has done for you these great and terrifying things that your eyes have seen.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 122:1, 7

I was glad when they | said to me,*
“Let us go to the house | of the LORD!”
Peace be with- | in your walls*
and security within your | towers!

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:1–9

¹Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173



Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:34-46

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. ³⁵And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” ³⁷And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, ⁴²saying, “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³He said to them, “How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,

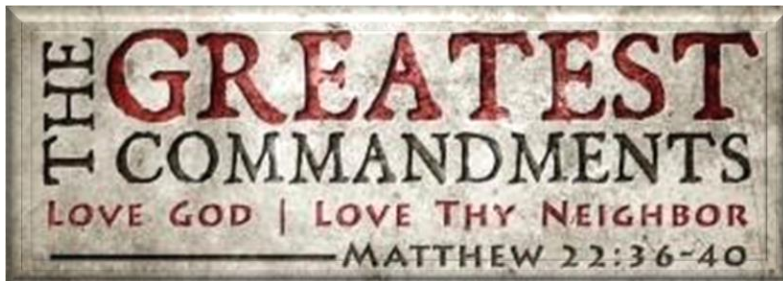
⁴⁴“The Lord said to my Lord,
Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet’?

⁴⁵If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?” ⁴⁶And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.



Nicene Creed

**☐ 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.**

Sit



Hymn of the Day

421 Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing



1 Je - sus, grant that balm and heal - ing In Your ho - ly
 2 Should some lust or sharp temp - ta - tion Fas - ci - nate my
 3 If the world my heart en - tic - es With the broad and
 4 Ev - 'ry wound that pains or grieves me By Your wounds, Lord,
 5 O my God, my rock and tow - er, Grant that in Your



wounds I find, Ev - 'ry hour that I am feel - ing Pains of
 sin - ful mind, Draw me to Your cross and pas - sion, And new
 eas - y road, With se - duc - tive, sin - ful vi - ces, Let me
 is made whole; When I'm faint, Your cross re - vives me, Grant - ing
 death I trust, Know - ing death has lost its pow - er Since You



bod - y and of mind. Should some e - vil thought with - in
 cour - age I shall find. Or should Sa - tan press me hard,
 weigh the aw - ful load You were will - ing to en - dure.
 new life to my soul. Yes, Your com - fort ren - ders sweet
 crushed it in the dust. Sav - ior, let Your ag - o - ny



Tempt my treach - 'rous heart to sin, Show the per - il, and from
 Let me then be on my guard, Say - ing, "Christ for me was
 Help me flee all thoughts im - pure And to mas - ter each temp -
 Ev - 'ry bit - ter cup I meet; For Your all - a - ton - ing
 Ev - er help and com - fort me; When I die be my pro -



sin - ning Keep me from its first be - gin - ning.
 wound - ed," That the tempt - er flee con - found - ed.
 ta - tion, Calm in prayer and med - i - ta - tion.
 pas - sion Has pro - cured my soul's sal - va - tion.
 tec - tion, Light and life and res - ur - rec - tion.

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Proper response is "Lord, have mercy."

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

- P** In thanksgiving for Jesus Christ, David's Son and Lord, on whose love hangs all the Law and the Prophets and in whose discipline we also make our beginning in love, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For the Church, that her preachers may be proven faithful, and that all Christians would be glad to enter into the house of the Lord, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For our congregation, that young and old may be enriched with the testimony about Christ, grow in every spiritual gift, and endure in Christ's fellowship until the day of His revealing, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For the fatherless, for widows, for sojourners and refugees, and for all who suffer instability, that they may find a solid rock in Christ Jesus and a family in the communion of the Holy Christian Church, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For our republic with its lawmakers and executives, that the common good would be served, and that its justice would accord with our God's good order and command, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For the needy, the troubled, the joyful and the expectant, *Alice, Carmen, Charlotte, Cynthia, the Conrad's, Dalton, David, Debra, Faith, Gloria, James, Jason and all California Fire Fighters, Jamsetta, Jod, Johnathan, Karen, Lynette, Marion and her family, Sabrina, Susie*, that they may look confidently to Christ, seated at the Father's right hand and subjecting every enemy under His feet, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** For all who commune, that strengthened by the forgiveness of our sins delivered in the body and blood of Christ, we may grow in the fear, love and service of God, who is our praise, let us pray to the Lord:
- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Offering *Collected after service in the back of the church.*

Offertory

LSB 176



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.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 177



P The Lord be with you.

C And al-so 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 (Abbreviated)

LSB 177

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 178

C 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.

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.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

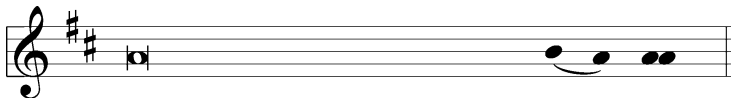
Lord's Prayer

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

LSB 180



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 180



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



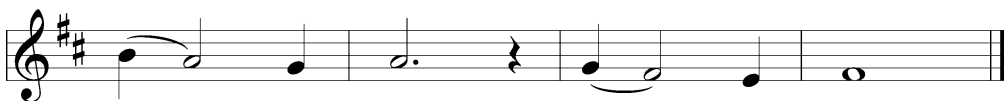
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



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.

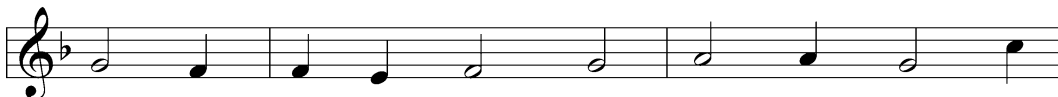
Distribution

Distribution Hymn

623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray That we may
2 Give us, who share this won - drous food, Your bod - y
3 By faith Your Word has made us bold To seize the
4 One bread, one cup, one bod - y, we, Re - joic - ing
5 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray: O keep us



feast on You to - day; Be - neath these forms of
bro - ken and Your blood, The grate - ful peace of
gift of love re - told; All that You are we
in our u - ni - ty, Pro - claim Your love un -
stead - fast till that day When each will be Your



bread and wine En - rich us with Your grace di - vine.
sins for - giv'n, The cer - tain joys of heirs of heav'n.
here re - ceive, And all we are to You we give.
til You come To bring Your scat - tered loved ones home.
wel - comed guest In heav - en's high and ho - ly feast.

Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

624 The Infant Priest Was Holy Born



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty,
 sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
 hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
 Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.

5 The veil is torn, our Priest
 we see,
 As at the rail on bended
 knee
 Our hungry mouths from
 Him receive
 The bread of immortality.

On sin-parched lips the
 chalice pours
 His quenching blood that life
 restores.

6 The body of God's Lamb we
 eat,
 A priestly food and priestly
 meat;

7 With cherubim and
 seraphim
 Our voices join the endless
 hymn,
 And "Holy, holy, holy" sing
 To Christ, God's Lamb, our
 Priest and King.

Text: © 1997, 2003 Chad L. Bird. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000401
 Tune: Public domain

Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 181



☐ 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 -



Post-Communion Collect

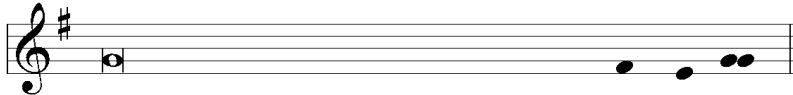
P Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

LSB 183



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.

Peace I leave with you;
my peace I give you.
I do not give to you as the world gives.
Do not let your hearts be troubled
and do not be afraid.
John 14:27

Hymn to Depart

920 Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go



1 Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
 2 King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;
 3 Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth
 4 Christ's are our lips, His Word we speak;
 5 We are the Church; Christ bids us show



Christ to the world with joy we bring;
 King - ship with Him His ser - vants gain;
 This world of time to con - se - crate,
 Proph - ets are we whose deeds pro - claim
 That in His Church all na - tions find



Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
 With Christ the Ser - vant - Lord of all,
 This world of sin by grace to heal,
 Christ's truth in love that we may be
 Their hearth and home where Christ re - stores



Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.
 Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.
 Christ's world in Christ to re - cre - ate.
 Christ in the world, to spread Christ's name.
 True peace, true love to all man - kind.

Text: © 1969, 1987 OCP Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000401
 Tune: Public domain

Lord, Thee I Love With All My Heart BWV 1115

J. S. Bach (1695-1750)

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
 Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2021 Concordia Publishing House.

✚ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✚

Announcements

+ Last Sunday's Attendance: 42

+ October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

LWML Message

+ **THANK YOU** for helping assemble 65 hygiene kits last Sunday for the needy at Lutheran Social Services, Long Beach! **Your help and donations are much appreciated for this LWML service project.**

+ **LWML SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10** - We will celebrate the LWML and its mission work with a special service prepared by Dr. Dale Meyer, former president of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and speaker of The Lutheran Hour. Our LWML will serve a light brunch after the service in the narthex.

+ **OKTOBERFEST ON REFORMATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31** - Our LWML has hosted an Oktoberfest meal for several years after our Reformation service. The congregation is welcomed to participate by bringing a German dish or just enjoying the food! **Watch for signing up for food on October 10!**

Synod Sentences for the Eighteenth Sunday After Trinity

In Life and Death, Christ Fulfills the Law of God

The Pharisees ask a Law question. Jesus asks a Gospel question. The Pharisees seek to test Jesus in His own words. Jesus seeks to "test" them in the saving reality of who He is as the Messiah (Matt. 22:34-46). The Law requires you to "fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul" and to "love the sojourner" (Deut. 10:12-21). Failure to keep the Law perfectly brings judgment. On the other hand, the Gospel brings the grace of God given by Jesus Christ, that you may be blameless in the day of His return (1 Cor. 1:1-9). Jesus is David's Son yet David's Lord, true God and true man. He is Love incarnate who fulfilled all the demands of God's Law on our behalf, that we might be saved from the Law's condemnation and sanctified in the Gospel's forgiveness. Thereby we see that "God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord" (1 Cor. 1:9).

Lutherans For Life Thoughts for the Eighteenth Sunday After Trinity

Those who see abortion as just "another issue" and would support or encourage a woman to make such a choice fail to understand the scriptural concept of "neighbor" and have a false sense of what it means to love. Those who see both mother and unborn child as "neighbor" and take action to bring help and hope fulfill the second greatest commandment in the Law and reflect the love of Christ (Matthew 22:34-40).

An Excerpt from Luther's Writings

"Now here Christ shows the Pharisees and the Scribes a twofold kindness. In the first place, He dispels their blindness and teaches them what the law is. In the second place, He teaches them how impossible it is for them to keep the law. Their blindness He dispels, in that He teaches them what the law is, namely: that love is the law. Human reason cannot comprehend this nowadays any more than the Jews did then, for if it had been possible for human reason to comprehend it, the Pharisees and Scribes, who at that time were the best and wisest of the people, could have understood it; but they thought it consisted alone in performing the external works of the law; in giving to God, whether it be done willingly or unwillingly; but their inward blindness, their covetousness, and their hardened heart they could not see, and thought they thoroughly understood the law and were fine fellows, holy and pious people; but they stood in their own light. For no one is able to keep the law unless his nature is thoroughly renewed." *From the Church Postil for the Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity Sunday.*

A Prayer For The Week

Lord God, heavenly Father: We are poor, miserable sinners; we know Your will, but cannot fulfill it because of the weakness of our flesh and blood, and because our enemy, the devil, will not leave us in peace. Therefore we beseech You, pour Your Holy Spirit in our hearts, that in steadfast faith we may cling to Your Son Jesus Christ, find comfort in His Passion and death, believe the forgiveness of sins through Him, and in willing obedience to Your will lead holy lives on earth, until by Your grace, through a blessed death, we depart from this world of sorrow, and obtain eternal life; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

A Snippet From 1517

One name repeatedly emerges from the heart and mind of Paul: Jesus. Jesus is Messiah, Jesus is Savior, Jesus is the world's rightful and reigning King.

...In particular, Paul wants them to have King Jesus at the center of their understanding of the world and of history. Most of the Christians in Corinth (like most if not all of us) had not been Jews, but ordinary pagans and heathens. The Corinthians had been gentiles, believing in various gods and goddesses, but without any idea that history—the story of the world—was going anywhere (theirs was a cyclical understanding of time) or, for that matter, that their own lives might be going anywhere. Paul wants them to learn this lesson, just as you do for your auditors: together (and as individuals) we have been caught up into a great movement of the love and power of the one true God, the God of Israel, whose work for the whole world has now been unveiled through the events concerning His Son. That is why Jesus is at the center of the picture...

...To begin with, he says, God has set them aside for His own special purposes in Christ Jesus - which is exactly what it means to be "holy" (v.2). This happened when they heard the Holy Gospel and received Holy Baptism. These are the line of demarcation between purpose and purposelessness. God has set them aside for special purposes and such people, like your auditors, are expected to cooperate inside this fact and reality. No baptized person is on the sidelines looking-in anymore. They are in the game: a most meaningful and hopeful and purposeful life which is, in fact, going somewhere. That is what most of the letter is all about and what most of pastoral ministry is about: convincing the baptized they are truly bound-up as participants in the

manifestation of God's kingdom rule on earth and there is meaning and purpose behind their baptism, their catechesis, their place and participation in the life of the Church and it is not slipping in and out as a spectator. It is not an occasional affair like an afterthought from their "real" lives, the one the world tells them is so much more important. As Christians, we are going somewhere together and, in the meantime, we have work to do. Even then we need each other, and this Kingdom called the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church every step of the way.

But once the Corinthians have been set aside as special, they discover how they are part of a large and growing worldwide family, brothers and sisters of everyone who, "calls on the name of our Lord, King Jesus." In fact, "calling on" this name, the name into which one is baptized, is the one and only sign of membership in this family, though people in Paul's day and ever since have tried to introduce other signs of membership as well. The idea of "calling on His name" links a worldwide family back to the earlier story of Israel, the people who, "called on the name of the Lord," in the sense of YHWH, Israel's God. Right from the start, Paul shows what is going on in Jesus, Israel's true King, the world's true Lord, summoning all people into His family. This is what bonds us together, not loosely but deeply, significantly, in what the world should recognize as love. The concept is so central to Paul's thinking, and to the life of the communities chartered by his royal announcement of Jesus' kingship, he has developed ways of talking about it which sound to us like gloss-over texts but for him are totally formulaic. Verse 3 is one such way he talks about it when he says grace and peace will come to them, "from God our Father and Christ Jesus the Lord."...

...The result of this "grace" was the encircling of God's riches around them (vv. 5, 6). This is where they are now: blessed by God and being sanctified in every station of life, every good and worthy vocation, in all privileges and in every hardship. They had become a community of disciples through baptism. They had become learners of the way and will of the King through devotion to His Word. They are growing eagerly in the knowledge of God and His new life, able to teach one another, and so strengthening and confirming the original royal proclamation made to them. Therefore, they know meaning, experience purpose in life, and savor hope. Consequently, life can be sweet even when it is bitter.

God called them in the past, God equips them in the present, and God will complete the whole process in the future. This is the Gospel story the preacher must tell. It is your commissioned message. No other message brings life, indeed, is life. Human history and especially the Christian life have a shape, and Jesus is its shaper at every point, infusing even the mundane and the difficult with sanctifying purposes, ultimate meaning, and enduring hope. It is not a Pollyanna existence but because it is going somewhere and Christ has made us part of His Church that is the principle instrument in altering and shaping the world, it will never leave a person despairing or not caring about life or death. The Christian, then, must always be leaning forwards towards God's finishing line, "eagerly waiting for our Lord, Christ Jesus to be revealed." There is a day coming—like the Day of the Lord in the Old Testament, only more so—when the hidden truth about the world will be unveiled. This truth will turn out to be a person, and the person will turn out to be Jesus. *Rev. John Bombaro, 2020*

Jesus
LOVES ME
THIS I KNOW