

+DIVINE SERVICE III+
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
+SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST + 08 SEPTEMBER 2024+



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

tgsicms.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. Jose Lopez, 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 membership, pastor would love to speak with you!

Communion Policy

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and welcome to The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church!

To Those Intending To Commune This Morning:

We respectfully request that those visiting this morning would speak to Pastor Killian before coming to the altar for Holy Communion. While we desire that all who believe would join us in this feast of forgiveness, we are mindful of what God has spoken to us in His word regarding receiving this precious meal:

"Whoever therefore eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgement on himself." (1 Corinthians 11:27-29)

In light of this scripture and others, we take admittance to the Lord's Supper most seriously. **It is God's desire that you approach His table with a prepared heart and mind, and our desire that you join us. Please speak to Pastor Killian that we may maintain good order and a God pleasing approach to His most precious gift of mercy! Thank you.**

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation

908 Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear

1 Lord, o - pen now my heart to hear, And through Your
 2 Your Word in - spires my heart with - in; Your Word grants
 △ 3 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the
 Word to me draw near; Let me Your Word e'er pure re -
 heal - ing from my sin; Your Word has pow'r to guide and
 Spir - it, Three in One, Shall glo - ry, praise, and hon - or
 tain; Let me Your child and heir re - main.
 bless; Your Word brings peace and hap - pi - ness.
 be Now and through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; (sts. 1, 3): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Mark A. Jeske, 1952
 Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug

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 184

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Kneel/Stand

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

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution

LSB 185

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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 28:1-2, 6-7; antiphon: v. 8

The LORD is the strength of his | people;*
he is the saving refuge of his a- | nointed.

To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not | deaf to me,*

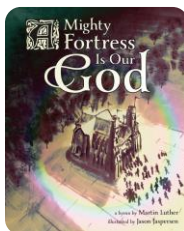
lest, if you be silent to me, I become like those who go down | to the pit.

Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to | you for help,*
when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctu- | ary.

Blessèd | be the LORD!*

For he has heard the voice of my pleas for | mercy.

The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and | I am helped;*
my heart exults, and with my song I give | thanks to him.



Gloria Patri

LSB 186



C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;




as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Kyrie

LSB 186



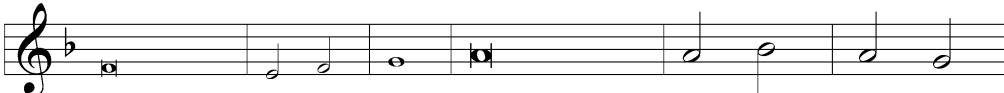
C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

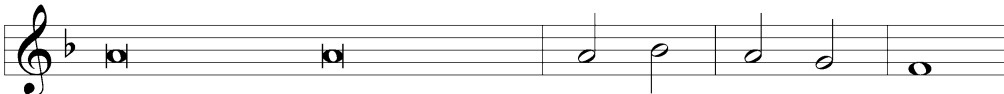
LSB 187



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



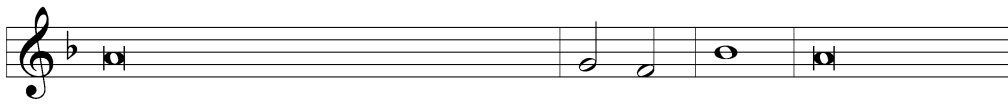
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



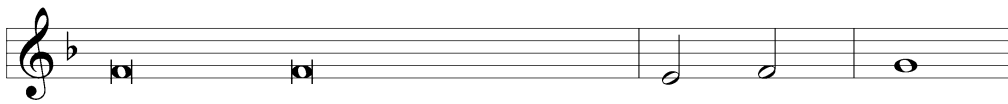
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

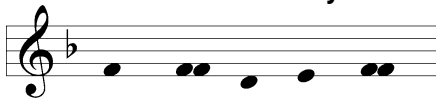


Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

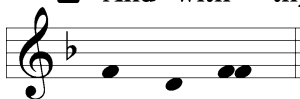
Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P O Lord, let Your merciful ears be open to the prayers of Your humble servants and grant that what they ask may be in accord with Your gracious will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament

Isaiah 35:4–7a

⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart,
“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you.”
⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalms

Psalm 146

¹Praise the LORD!
Praise the LORD, O my soul!
**²I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**
³Put not your trust in princes,
in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.
**⁴When his breath departs he returns to the earth;
on that very day his plans perish.**

⁵Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD his God,
⁶**who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them,
who keeps faith forever;**
⁷who executes justice for the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;
⁸**the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹The LORD watches over the sojourners;
he upholds the widow and the fatherless,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

¹⁰**The LORD will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!**

Epistle

James 2:1-10, 14-18

The Sin of Partiality

¹My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ²For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "You sit here in a good place," while you say to the poor man, "You stand over there," or, "Sit down at my feet," ⁴have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

⁸If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. ⁹But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. . .

Faith Without Works Is Dead

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled,"

without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Mark 7:31-37

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

Jesus Heals a Deaf Man

³¹[Jesus] returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him.

³³And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, 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

773 Hear Us, Father, When We Pray



1 Hear us, Fa - ther, when we pray, Through Your Son and
 2 When we know not what to say And our wound - ed
 3 Je - sus, ad - vo - cate on high, Sac - ri - ficed on
 4 By Your Spir - it now at - tend To our prayers and



in Your Spir - it. By Your Spir - it's Word con - vey
 souls are plead - ing, May Your Spir - it, night and day,
 Cal - v'ry's al - tar, Through Your priest - ly blood we cry:
 sup - pli - ca - tions, As like in - cense they as - cend



All that we through Christ in - her - it,
 Groan with - in us in - ter - ced - ing;
 Hear our prayers, though they may fal - ter;
 To Your heav'n - ly hab - i - ta - tions.



That as bap - tized heirs we may Tru - ly pray.
 By His sighs, too deep for words, We are heard.
 Place them on Your Fa - ther's throne As Your own.
 May their fra - grance waft a - bove, God of love.

Text: Chad L. Bird, 1970
 Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen
 Text: © Chad L. Bird. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000401
 Tune: Public domain

Sermon

Pastor Edward Killian

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192



☐ Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

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

Prayer of the Church

The proper response is "Hear our prayer."

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Heavenly Father, by Your Spirit open our deaf ears to hear Your Word, that our tongues would be released to proclaim with zeal how Your Son has done all things well. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious God, You have commanded Your Church to take the Word of life to the ends of the earth. Strengthen and support all who travel to foreign lands on behalf of the Church's mission. Give them wisdom and courage as they tell others about Christ. Bless their hearers with hearts that are receptive to Your gifts. Lord, in Your mercy,

P Heavenly Father, help parents to raise up their children to know You as their help and hope, that they may not put their trust in princes in whom there is no salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

P Heavenly Father, we place our hope in You and ask Your blessing on all rulers, that their plans would be ordered for the welfare of those they govern and that You would execute Your justice for the oppressed. Lord, in Your mercy,

- P** Heavenly Father, graciously behold the sick and those in any need *especially Alice, Allison, Betty, Bev, Diane, Janet, Johnathan, Kannon, Lynette, Marion and her family, Ron, and Timothy*. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Heavenly Father, give us a humble and urgent faith that would beg even for crumbs from Your Son's table, that as Your children we may receive the fullness of the feast He gives in His body and blood. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Heavenly Father, create and sustain in us a lively faith in Christ Jesus, and lead us by Your Spirit to be active in all good works. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Heavenly Father, Source of all life and the life that never ends, receive our prayers this day in the name of Your beloved Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- G** Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194



P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



G We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



G It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

LSB 194

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

Sanctus

LSB 195



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



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196



P Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,



Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it



is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;



and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who



tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to



temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.



C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197



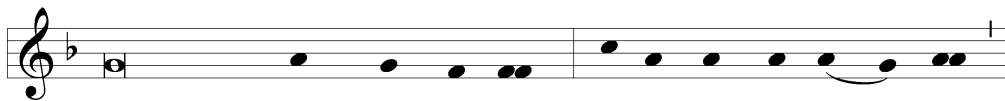
P Our Lord Je - sus Christ, on the night when He was be - trayed, took bread,



and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the



dis - ci - ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † bod - y, which is giv - en for you.



This do in re - mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so

He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv - en thanks, He gave it
to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in
My \dagger blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.
This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 197

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

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

Sit

Please refer to the Communion Policy on page 2 before approaching the altar.

Distribution

Distribution Hymn

621 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence And with fear and
2 King of kings yet born of Mar - y, As of old on
3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en Spreads its van - guard
4 At His feet the six - winged ser - aph, Cher - u - bim with

trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
earth He stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,
on the way As the Light of Light, de - scend - ing
sleep - less eye, Veil their fac - es to the pres - ence

For with bless - ing in His hand Christ our God to earth de -
In the bod - y and the blood, He will give to all the
From the realms of end - less day, Comes the pow'rs of hell to
As with cease - less voice they cry: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

scend - ing Comes our hom - age to de - mand.
faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.
van - quish As the dark - ness clears a - way.
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent.; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829-85, alt.

Tune: French, 17th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

729 I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus



1 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, Trust - ing on - ly Thee;
 2 I am trust-ing Thee for par - don; At Thy feet I bow,
 3 I am trust-ing Thee for cleans - ing In the crim - son flood;
 4 I am trust-ing Thee to guide me; Thou a - lone shalt lead,



Trust - ing Thee for full sal - va - tion, Great and free.
 For Thy grace and ten - der mer - cy Trust - ing now.
 Trust - ing Thee to make me ho - ly By Thy blood.
 Ev - 'ry day and hour sup - ply - ing All my need.

5 I am trusting Thee for power;
 Thine can never fail.
 Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me
 Must prevail.

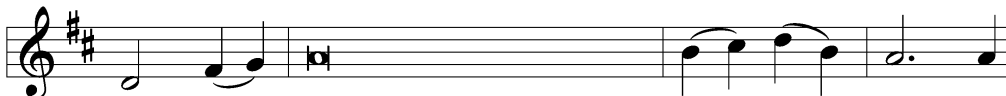
6 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;
 Never let me fall.
 I am trusting Thee forever
 And for all.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79
 Tune: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

a light to light-en the Gen-tiles and the glo-ry of Thy
 peo-ple Is-ra-el. Glo-ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for-ev-er.

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.

Salutation

LSB 201



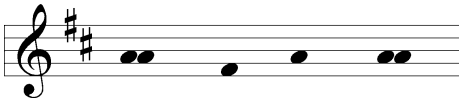
P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



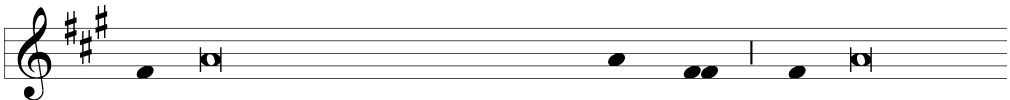
A Bless we the Lord.



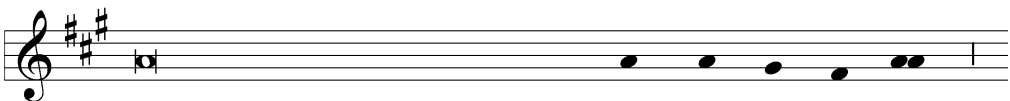
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

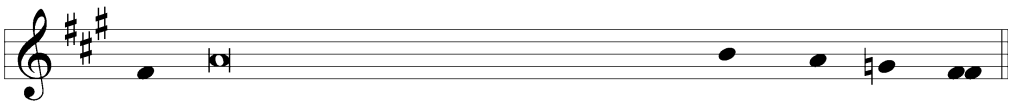
LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Hymn to Depart

549 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
 2 Crown Him, ye mar-tyrs of our God, Who from His al - tar call;
 3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,
 4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da - vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
 The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
 Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
 Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
 The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.

- 5 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
 The wormwood and the gall,
 Go, spread your trophies at His feet
 And crown Him Lord of all.
 Go, spread your trophies at His feet
 And crown Him Lord of all.
- 6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,
 On this terrestrial ball
 To Him all majesty ascribe
 And crown Him Lord of all.
 To Him all majesty ascribe
 And crown Him Lord of all.
- 7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
 We at His feet may fall!
 We'll join the everlasting song
 And crown Him Lord of all.

We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.

Text (sts. 1-5): Edward Perronet, 1726-92, alt.; (sts. 6-7): A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.
Tune: Oliver Holden, 1765-1844

Toccata in D Major

Georg Muffat (1653-1704)

Acknowledgments

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A Note From The Organist:

"God's Word is our Great Heritage" (LSB 552) is a single verse from a longer hymn by Nikolai Grundvig (1783-1872). It is sometimes sung to the tune of "A Mighty Fortress." The tune used is LSB was written by Friedrich O. Reuter, who was born in Germany, then moved first to Canada and then to Chicago, where he was an important teacher and editor of many publications. Benjamin Culli has done a quiet setting, featuring strings and the Open Diapason.

Georg Muffat was born in France, with a French mother and Scottish father. He later studied in Italy. He is noted for including more performance indications in his scores than was typical of the time. He wrote instrumental and keyboard music, and 3 operas which are lost. The Toccata is D Major is somewhat more virtuosic than many pieces of the time, with a large number of 32nd note runs in the final section.

✚ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✚

Announcements

+ Last Sunday's Attendance: 27

+ Altar Guild Set Up: September 8th Susie
September 15th Maurine

Cleanup for September: Gayle and Perla

+ Ushers for September: Leon Tarr and Clinton Galloway

+ Wednesday Evening Zoom Bible Study - Join us online every Wednesday at 7pm as we take an hour to study the Word of God so freely given to us. Pastor Killian is currently leading us through a study of Genesis.

September Birthdays!

Azula Carmack 17th

Johnathan Raoelison 18th

Joella Hurd Collins 24th

Jod Soraci 26th

Lectionary Summary for the Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Our Merciful Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, Does All Things Well

The Lord proclaims the Gospel *“to those who have an anxious heart”* to comfort and encourage them with His presence. He comes not only with threats of *“vengeance”* and *“recompense,”* but with His gracious salvation (Is. 35:4). He opens *“the eyes of the blind”* and *“the ears of the deaf,”* and He loosens *“the tongue of the mute”* to *“sing for joy”* (Is. 35:5–6). Like water on thirsty ground, He speaks His life-giving Word to people of all nations. With His Word and the touch of His hand, He does *“all things well,”* so that you may now speak *“plainly”* (Mark 7:31–37). You confess the truth of God in Christ to the glory of His holy name, and you call upon His name in every trouble, confident that He will hear and answer. As you pray and confess with your tongue, so also *“love your neighbor as yourself”* (James 2:8). Show your faith *“in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory,”* by loving without partiality. For God has *“chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom”* (James 2:1–5).

Stewardship Bulletin Blurb

James 2:2 – **“For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in ...”** God shows no partiality: rich and poor alike are called into the kingdom. And both rich and poor alike have something to contribute to the kingdom in accordance with the callings God has given them in their lives. This is why both the Old and New Testaments talk about proportional giving — that is, giving a proportion of our income to the Lord’s work. This makes it possible for rich and poor alike to have the honor of supporting God’s work.

Lutheran’s For Life Thoughts

Almighty God makes the Prophet Isaiah solemnly proclaim, *“Behold, your God will come ... He will come and save”* (Isaiah 35:4). Jesus demonstrates its fulfillment when He does not cast aside but cares for the burdened body of a neighbor with impairments (Mark 7:32–35). So why should we hold our tongues any longer when we could be dispensing the same hope to those facing surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis?

“Let us never forget and continue to trust in God as our only resource when we face difficult life issues. Continue to pray for our country as some leaders continue to pursue making laws that jeopardize precious lives and challenge God’s plan for life. Let us put our trust in God, not man.” Virginia Flo, Director of Volunteer Relations, Lutherans For Life – *A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Weekly Memory Verse Challenge

Romans 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Explanation of Small Catechism: The Fifth Commandment

62. How does this commandment apply to some specific issues today?

A. It forbids aborting the life of an unborn child (also called elective abortion).

168 **Jeremiah 1:5** Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

169 **Psalms 139:16** Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in Your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

Read **Luke 1:41-44**, where the unborn baby John leaped for joy, acknowledging the unborn Jesus as Lord.

Note: Human life is God's gift. The living but unborn are persons in the sight of God from the moment of fertilization (conception). Therefore, every human life is precious to Him and is also precious to us. Any destruction of embryos through the use of abortifacient drugs or in connection with procedures such as IVF (in vitro fertilization) is also, therefore, contrary to God's will. In some rare and exceptional cases, a medical procedure that is actually necessary to save a mother's life may tragically and unintentionally result in the death of her unborn child.

B. It forbids killing oneself (suicide), seeking help in killing oneself, assisting a person in taking his or her own life (assisted suicide), or killing a person who asks to die or whose life is deemed as too burdensome (euthanasia).

170 **Psalms 134:14-15** But I trust in You, O LORD; I say, "You are my God." My times are in your hand.

Note: When someone is near death, certain treatments may only prolong suffering and not enable either recovery or physical well-being. In such cases, it is important to note that *allowing death to occur* when someone is irreversibly dying is different from *causing death* (which is forbidden by God).

C. It forbids acting violently or abusively toward a child or spouse (child abuse or domestic abuse).

171 **Colossians 3:19** Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them.

172 **Colossians 3:21** Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

D. It forbids engaging in reckless and self-destructive behaviors (for example, substance abuse).

173 **1 Corinthians 6:19-20** Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

E. It forbids hating, despising, or slandering other groups of people (prejudice, racism, and so forth).

175 **James 2:1** My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. (pgs. 88-90)