



“God’s Good Pleasure!”

Saturday, September 26, 2020 at 5:00 pm
Sunday, September 27, 2020 at 8:00 am & 11:00 am

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AS WE GATHER

It has become commonplace to speak of God as responsible for determining life and death for us. So we wonder where is God’s justice when the innocent suffer or His mercy when tragedy strikes. But the Lord insists He has no pleasure in the death of anyone—not even the sinner who deserves his punishment. God’s good and gracious will is that all would be saved and come to the knowledge of His Son. Think how differently we would approach the troubles and trials that affect us and the greater disasters of the world if we took the Lord at His Word and trusted in His will.

Please stand for portions of service marked with asterisk ().*

THE PRELUDE

Nathan Eickmann, Accompanist

RINGING OF THE BELL

THE WELCOME

Pastor Chris Matthis

***OPENING HYMN**

“Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”

LSB 722



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,
3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.
For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.
I know that You will strength - en My steps toward home.



With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;



So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.
For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.
So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

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+ PREPARATION +

***INVOCATION**

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and ✠ of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: 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.

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

People: 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.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

*KYRIE

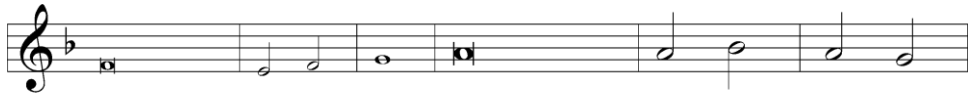
LSB pg. 186



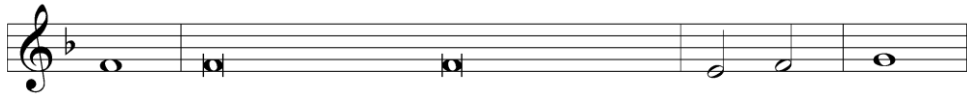
G Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

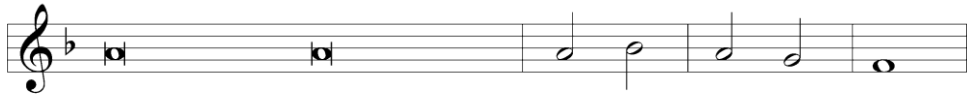
LSB pgs. 187-189



Glory be to God on high: 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**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

(The soul who sins shall die.)

The word of the Lord came to me: “What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? As I live, declares the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .

“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make 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, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

(8:00 am & 11:00 am)

“What a Friend”

Men’s Ensemble

EPISTLE

Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18

(Look not only to your own interests.)

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . .

Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*ALLELUIA and VERSE

LSB pg. 190



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

***HOLY GOSPEL**

Matthew 21:23-27

(Jesus' opponents ask for His credentials and authority.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

***CONFESSION OF FAITH**

The 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 shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom shall 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 worshipped 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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Noye Balmer (8:00 am), Laura Hefta (11:00 am)

HYMN OF THE MONTH

“*Earth and All Stars*”

LSB 722 vs. 1-5



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets! Sing to the
 2 Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm! Sing to the
 3 Trum - pet and pipes! Loud clash - ing cym - bals! Sing to the
 4 En - gines and steel! Loud pound - ing ham - mers! Sing to the
 5 Class - rooms and labs! Loud boil - ing test tubes! Sing to the



Lord a new song! Oh, vic - to - ry! Loud shout - ing
 Lord a new song! Flow - ers and trees! Loud rus - tling
 Lord a new song! Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud hum - ming
 Lord a new song! Lime - stone and beams! Loud build - ing
 Lord a new song! Ath - lete and band! Loud cheer - ing



ar - my! Sing to the Lord a new song!
 dry leaves! Sing to the Lord a new song!
 cel - los! Sing to the Lord a new song!
 work - ers! Sing to the Lord a new song!
 peo - ple! Sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain



He has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too will praise Him with a new song!

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SERMON

Pastor Chris Matthis

***OFFERTORY** LSB pgs. 192-193



☐ 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

“Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” (2 Corinthians 9:7). We give our tithes and offerings to God as an act of worship in gratitude for the gifts He has first given us. If you wish to give electronically using a credit card or automated bank withdrawal, please scan the QR code with your smartphone or visit www.epiphanylc.org and click on GIVE. As good stewards, please use credit wisely.



If you wish to mail your gift, send your check to Epiphany Lutheran Church, 550 E. Wolfensberger Rd., Castle Rock, CO 80109.

[CLICK HERE TO GIVE ELECTRONICALLY](#)

RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING COUNCIL MEMBERS AND ELDERS

*Jim Minter – Vice President
 Jerry Sander – Board of Properties Chair
 Julie Harris – Board of Fellowship Chair
 Don Gibreath – Elder Chair
 Erich Bretz – Elder
 Russ Wenzel – Elder*

*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition is read Pastor says, “Lord, in Your mercy,” and Congregation responds with, “Hear our prayer.”

***LORD'S PRAYER** (Matthew 6:9-13)

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.

+ SACRAMENT +

***PREFACE**

LSB pg. 194



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



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



C It is meet and right so to do.

***WORDS OF OUR LORD** (Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25)

Pastor: 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 \times 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 \times 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** ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

***AGNUS DEI**

LSB pg. 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.

RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper, also known as Holy Communion or the Eucharist, is celebrated at Epiphany Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that our Lord Jesus Christ gives us His very body and blood "in, with, and under" the bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins, and to strengthen our unity with Christ and our Christian brothers and sisters. Our Lord invites to His table those baptized Christians who trust His Word, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive others as He loves and forgives us. Scripture urges us to examine our conscience and belief about Holy Communion before we partake of the Supper (1 Cor. 11:28). Because those who partake of the Lord's Supper unworthily do so to their great harm, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS), and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an Elder. For further study, see Matthew 26:26-29; 5:23-26; 18:15-35; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17; 11:17-34.

Children and uninstructed youth and adults may receive a blessing by crossing their arms over their chest, which is known as the sign of St. Andrew's cross.

White grape juice and gluten free Communion wafers are available for those with alcohol sensitivity or gluten intolerance.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing"

LSB 737



1 Re - joice, my heart, be glad and sing, A
2 He is your trea - sure, He your joy, Your
3 Why spend the day in blank de - spair, In
4 Did not His love and truth and pow'r Guard



cheer - ful trust main - tain; For God, the source of
life and light and Lord, Your coun - sel - or when
rest - less thought the night? On your Cre - a - tor
ev - 'ry child - hood day? And did He not in



ev - 'ry - thing, Your por - tion shall re - main.
doubts an - noy, Your shield and great re - ward.
cast your care; He makes your bur - dens light.
threat - 'ning hour Turn dread - ed ills a - way?

- 5 He only will with patience chide,
His rod falls gently down;
And all your sins He casts aside
In ocean depths to drown.
- 6 His wisdom never plans in vain
Nor falters nor mistakes.
All that His counsels may ordain
A blessed ending makes.
- 7 Upon your lips, then, lay your hand,
And trust His guiding love;
Then like a rock your peace shall stand
Here and in heav'n above.

Tune and text: Public domain

*DISMISSAL

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✕ in peace.

People: **Amen.**

*NUNC DIMITTIS ~ *Song of Simeon*

LSB pg. 199

G 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 pg. 199

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
 People: and His mercy endureth forever.

***BENEDICTION** (5:00 pm only)

LSB pg. 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.



■ A-men, a-men, a - men.

BENEDICTION (8:00 am & 11:00 am)

“Dona Nobis Pacem”

Men’s Ensemble

The Latin words Dona nobis pacem mean “Grant us peace.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CLOSING HYMN

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

LSB 793



1 Praise, my soul, the	King of heav - en;	To His feet your
2 Praise Him for His	grace and fa - vor	To His peo - ple
3 Fa - ther - like He	tends and spares	us; Well our fee - ble
4 An - gels, help us	to a - dore Him;	You be - hold Him



trib - ute bring;	Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress;	Praise Him still the same as ev - er,
frame He knows;	In His hand He gent - ly bears us,
face to face;	Sun and moon, bow down be - fore Him,



Ev - er - more His	prais - es sing:	Al - le - lu - ia,
Slow to chide and	swift to bless:	Al - le - lu - ia,
Res - cues us from	all our foes.	Al - le - lu - ia,
All who dwell in	time and space.	Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia!	Praise the	ev - er - last - ing	King.
al - le - lu - ia!	Glo - rious	in His	faith - ful - ness.
al - le - lu - ia!	Wide - ly	yet His	mer - cy flows.
al - le - lu - ia!	Praise with	us the	God of grace.

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POSTLUDE

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Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

"We help people become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ"

