

Our Savior Lutheran Church
Mankato, Minnesota

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 17, 2023

At Our Savior Lutheran Church we live to make Christ known.

Monthly Memory Verse:

Know therefore today, and lay it to your heart, that the Lord is God in heaven
above and on the earth beneath; there is no other.
Deuteronomy 4:39

Weekly Discussion Question:

What can you do to remind yourself of God's work?

Confession and Absolution

Opening Hymn: "Christ Is Surely Coming"

LSB 509

- 1 Christ is surely coming
Bringing His reward,
Alpha and Omega,
First and Last and Lord:
Root and Stem of David,
Brilliant Morning Star;
Meet your Judge and Savior,
Nations near and far!
- 2 See the holy city!
There they enter in,
All by Christ made holy,
Washed from ev'ry sin:
Thirsty ones, desiring
All He loves to give,

- Come for living water,
Freely drink, and live!
- 3 Grace be with God's people!
Praise His holy name!
Father, Son and Spirit,
Evermore the same;
Hear the certain promise
From the_ eternal home:
"Surely I come quickly!
Come, Lord Jesus, come!"

Text: Christopher M. Idle, 1938
Text: © 1980 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope
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P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

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.

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

Service of the Word

Kyrie

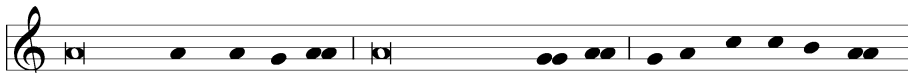
LSB 168



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



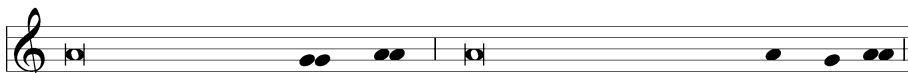
C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



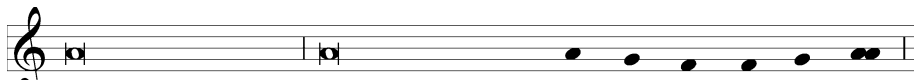
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



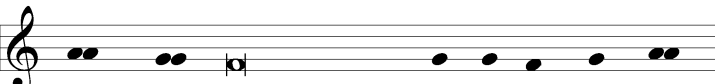
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



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, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - - men.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 50:15–21

¹⁵When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him.” ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷‘Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.’ And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your servants.” ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalms

Psalms 103:1–12

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!
²Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,
³who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
⁴who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
⁵who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.
⁶The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.
⁷He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.

⁸The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
⁹He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
¹⁰He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
¹²as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Gloria Patri

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

Epistle

Romans 14:1–12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

☩ This is the Word of the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173



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

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21–35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day: “Come Down, O Love Divine”

LSB 501

- 1 Come down, O Love divine;
Seek Thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with Thine own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near;
Within my heart appear,
And kindle it, Thy holy flame bestowing.
- 2 O let it freely burn,
Till worldly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
And let Thy glorious light
Shine ever on my sight,
And clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
- 3 Let holy charity
Mine outward vesture be
And lowliness become mine inner clothing—
True lowliness of heart,
Which takes the humbler part,
And o’er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.
- 4 And so the yearning strong,
With which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the pow’r of human telling;
No soul can guess His grace
Till it become the place
Wherein the Holy Spirit makes His dwelling.

Text: Bianco da Siena, c. 1350–1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–90 Text: Public domain

Sermon

Apostles’ Creed

☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayer 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.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

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.

- 2 What can these anxious cares avail thee,
 These never-ceasing moans and sighs?
What can it help if thou bewail thee
 O'er each dark moment as it flies?
Our cross and trials do but press
The heavier for our bitterness.
- 3 Be patient and await His leisure
 In cheerful hope, with heart content
To take whate'er thy Father's pleasure
 And His discerning love hath sent,
Nor doubt our inmost wants are known
To Him who chose us for His own.
- 4 God knows full well when times of gladness
 Shall be the needful thing for thee.
When He has tried thy soul with sadness
 And from all guile has found thee free,
He comes to thee all unaware
And makes thee own His loving care.
- 5 Nor think amid the fiery trial
 That God hath cast thee off unheard,
That he whose hopes meet no denial
 Must surely be of God preferred.
Time passes and much change doth bring
And sets a bound to ev'rything.
- 6 All are alike before the Highest;
 'Tis easy for our God, we know,
To raise thee up, though low thou liest,
 To make the rich man poor and low.
True wonders still by Him are wrought
Who setteth up and brings to naught.
- 7 Sing, pray, and keep His ways unswerving,
 Perform thy duties faithfully,
And trust His Word; though undeserving,
 Thou yet shalt find it true for thee.
God never yet forsook in need
The soul that trusted Him indeed.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.; Georg Neumark, 1621-81
Text: Public domain

“Chief of Sinners Though I Be”

LSB 611

- 1 Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high,
Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine,
I am His, and He is mine.
 - 2 Oh, the height of Jesus’ love,
Higher than the heav’ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea,
Lasting as eternity!
Love that found me—wondrous
thought!
Found me when I sought Him not.
 - 3 Only Jesus can impart
Balm to heal the wounded heart,
Peace that flows from sin forgiv’n,
Joy that lifts the soul to heav’n,
- Faith and hope to walk with God
In the way that Enoch trod.
- 4 Chief of sinners though I be,
Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known,
All my sorrows are His own.
He sustains the hidden life
Safe with Him from earthly strife.
 - 5 O my Savior, help afford
By Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would
stray,
Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply
While I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.
Text: Public domain

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

LSB 816

- 1 From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator’s praise arise;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Let the Redeemer’s name be sung
Through ev’ry land by ev’ry tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
 - 2 Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;
Eternal truth attends Thy Word.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to
shore
- Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- △ 3
- All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore
Forever and forevermore:
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text (sts. 1–2): Isaac Watts, 1674–1748; (st. 3):
William W. How, 1823–97 Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 182



Lord, now 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.
 Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.
 Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

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.

Closing Hymn: “The Clouds of Judgment Gather”

LSB 513

- 1 The clouds of judgment gather,
The time is growing late;
Be sober and be watchful,
Our judge is at the gate:
The judge who comes in mercy,
The judge who comes in might
To put an end to evil
And diadem the right.
- 2 Arise, O true disciples;
Let wrong give way to right,
And penitential shadow
To Jesus’ blessed light:
The light that has no evening,
That knows no moon or sun,
The light so new and golden,
The light that is but one.
- 3 The home of fadeless splendor,
Of blooms that bear no thorn,
Where they shall dwell as children
Who here as exiles mourn;
The peace of all the faithful,
The calm of all the blest,
Inviolable, unfading,
Divinest, sweetest, best.
- 4 Oh, happy, holy portion,
Relief for all distressed,
True vision of true beauty,
Refreshment for the blest!
Strive now to win that glory,
Toil now to gain that light;
Send hope ahead to grasp it
Till hope be lost in sight.

Text: Bernard of Cluny, 12th cent.; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978

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Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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