

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 12, 2021 | 9:45 am | Ascension Lutheran Church



Words of Welcome

Opening Sentences

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P I called on the name of the LORD:

C **O LORD, I believe. Help my unbelief!**

P The LORD has dealt bountifully with us.

C **The LORD has opened our ears.**

P The LORD has delivered us from death.

C **He wipes away tears from all faces.**

P He rescues our feet from stumbling

C **and restores our tongues to proclaim His good news.**

Opening Hymn | LSB 545 | "Word of God, Come Down on Earth"

1 Word of God, come down on earth, Liv - ing rain from
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to
3 Word that caused blind eyes to see, Speak and heal our
4 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, One with God be -
heav'n de - scend - ing; Touch our hearts and bring to birth
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,
mor - tal blind - ness; Deaf we are: our heal - er be;
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove,
Faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
Cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, Sav - ing Word, the
Loose our tongues to tell Your kind - ness. Be our Word in
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to
we re - vere You; Word made flesh, we long to hear You.
world re - stor - ing, Speak to us, Your love out - pour - ing.
pit - y spo - ken, Heal the world, by sin now bro - ken.
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

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Confession and Forgiveness

P Despite all of God's actions on our behalf, we still struggle with sin in our lives. Our tongues still curse. Our feet still stumble. Our ears still listen to lies and vicious gossip. But our heavenly Father invites us to come to Him for restoration, renewal, and forgiveness.

A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.

P Heavenly Father,

C we have sinned against You and our neighbors in what we have said and what we have left unsaid. We have neglected opportunities to love our neighbors. We have stumbled and fallen again and again. We ask that You restore us, renew us, and forgive us on account of Jesus. Amen.

P Almighty God, in His boundless love sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise for our forgiveness and eternal life. Because of Jesus, we are restored, body and soul. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen. We are forgiven and renewed in Christ!

Hymn of Affirmation | LSB 554 (st. 1-3, 5) | "O Jesus, King Most Wonderful"



1 O Je - sus, King most won - der - ful!
2 When once You vis - it dark - ened hearts,
3 O Je - sus, light of all be - low,
5 Oh, may our tongues for - ev - er bless,



O Con - quer - or re - nowned! O Source of peace in -
Then truth be - gins to shine, Then earth - ly van - i -
The fount of life and fire, Sur - pass - ing all the
May we love You a - lone And ev - er in our



ef - fa - ble, In whom all joys are found:
ty de - parts, Then kin - dles love di - vine.
joys we know, All that we can de - sire:
lives ex - press The im - age of Your own!

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Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lord Jesus Christ, at times we fear that You are far away from us. Forgive us for doubting Your presence, and give us confidence that our Redeemer and Vindicator is always near; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading | Isaiah 50:4-10

⁴The LORD God gave Me a tongue like the learned, an instructed tongue, so I know how to sustain the weary with a word. He wakes Me up morning by morning. He wakes up My ears so that I listen like the learned. ⁵The LORD God opened My ear, and I Myself was not rebellious. I did not turn back. ⁶I submitted My back to those who beat Me, and My cheeks to those who pulled out My beard. I did not hide My face from disgrace and from spit. ⁷The LORD God will help Me, so I will not be disgraced. Therefore I have made My face hard like flint. I know that I will not be put to shame. ⁸The One who will acquit Me is near! Who can accuse Me? Let us take our stand. Who can pass judgment on Me? Let him approach Me. ⁹Look, the LORD God will help Me. Who then can declare Me guilty? Look, all of them will wear out like a garment. A moth will consume them.

¹⁰Who among you worships the LORD and listens to the voice of His servant? Anyone who walks in darkness and who has no bright light—let him trust in the name of the LORD, and let him lean on his God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Epistle Reading | James 3:1-12

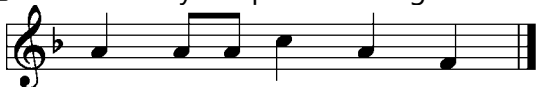
¹Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. ²To be sure, we all stumble in many ways. If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a fully mature man, able to bridle his whole body as well. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they will obey us, we also guide the whole animal. ⁴And consider ships: Although they are very big and are driven by fierce winds, yet they are guided by a very small rudder, wherever the pilot wants to go. ⁵So also the tongue is a small part of the body, yet it also boasts great things. Consider how a little flame can set a large forest on fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire. It is set among the parts of our body as a world of unrighteousness that stains the whole body, sets the whole course of life on fire, and is set on fire by hell. ⁷Indeed, every kind of animal, bird, reptile, and sea creature is being tamed and has been tamed by mankind. ⁸But no one is able to tame the human tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people, who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰Blessing and cursing come out of the same mouth. My brothers, these things should not be this way. ¹¹A spring does not pour out both fresh and bitter water from the same opening, does it? ¹²Can a fig tree bear olives, my brothers, or can a grapevine produce figs? A salt spring cannot produce fresh water either.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Holy Gospel | Mark 9:14-29

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹⁴When they returned to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them, and some experts in the law were arguing with them. ¹⁵As soon as all the people in the crowd saw Jesus, they were very excited and ran to greet Him. ¹⁶He asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" ¹⁷One man from the crowd answered Him, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a spirit that makes him unable to speak. ¹⁸Wherever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and becomes rigid. I asked Your disciples to drive it out, but they could not." ¹⁹"O unbelieving generation," Jesus replied. "How long will I be with you? How long will I put up with you? Bring him to Me." ²⁰They brought the boy to Jesus. As soon as the spirit saw Him, it threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell on the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. ²¹Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has this been happening to him?" "From childhood," he said. ²²"It has often thrown him into the fire and into the water to kill him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." ²³"If You can?"- Jesus said to him. "All things are possible for the one who believes." ²⁴The child's father immediately cried out and said with tears, "I do believe. Help me with my unbelief!" ²⁵When Jesus saw that a crowd was quickly gathering, He rebuked the unclean spirit. "You mute and deaf spirit," He said, "I command you to come out of

him and never enter him again!" ²⁶The spirit screamed, shook the boy violently, and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many of them said, "He's dead!" ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand, raised him up, and he stood up. ²⁸When Jesus went into a house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why were we not able to drive it out?" ²⁹He said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out, except by prayer and fasting."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise to You, O Christ.

Profession of Faith | Apostles' Creed

A *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.

Hymn of the Day | LSB 611 (st. 1-3) | "Chief of Sinners Though I Be"



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
 2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
 3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
 heav'ns a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
 wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
 Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
 Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
 won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
 walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.

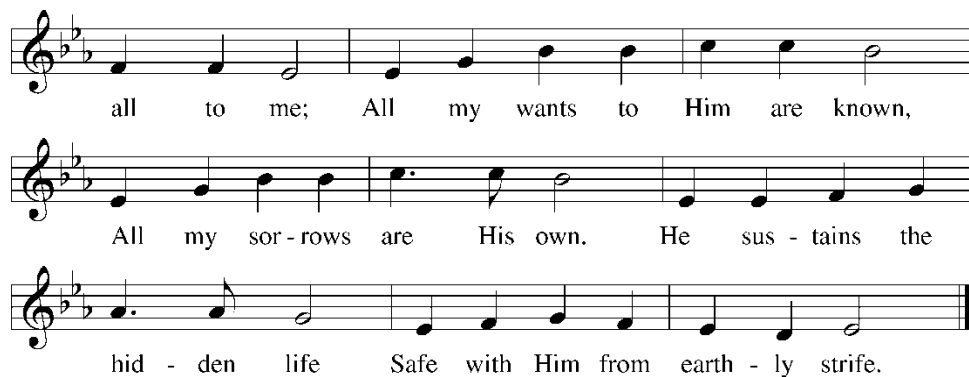
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Message

Response Verses | LSB 611 (st. 4-5) | "Chief of Sinners Though I Be"



4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in



all to me; All my wants to Him are known,
 All my sor-rows are His own. He sus-tains the
 hid-den life Safe with Him from earth-ly 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.

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Offering

A SPECIAL NOTE: The mission and ministries of Ascension are supported by the love, generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends. If you are a GUEST today, please do not feel obligated to make a contribution, but know that any financial gift which you make will be used to help share Christ's love and salvation. Our offerings are an important part of our worship. Also, take a moment to fill out a Friendship Card and place it in the offering plate. Thank you!

Offertory | LSB 806 | "Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart"



Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, Give thanks to the
 Ho-ly One, Give thanks because He's giv-en Je-sus
 Christ His Son. Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, Give
 thanks to the Ho-ly One, Give thanks because He's giv-en
 Je-sus Christ His Son. And now let the weak say "I am
 strong," Let the poor say "I am rich," Be-cause of
 what the Lord has done for us. And now let the

weak say "I am strong," Let the poor say "I am
rich," _____ Be-cause of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks, _____ give thanks. _____

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Prayers of the Church

P Father in heaven, as we hear of the suffering and humiliation described by Isaiah, we remember Jesus' great sacrifice on our behalf. In times of persecution for the sake of bearing Christ's name, remind us that You are with us and Your grace sustains us. Lord, deliver my soul!

C **Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.**

P Father in heaven, James reminds us that the tongue is a powerful part of our body, and our words can do great harm or good. Give us Your Spirit that we would not lie, betray, slander, or hurt with our words, but instead use them to defend our neighbor and praise Your name. Lord, deliver my soul!

C **Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.**

P Father in heaven, Your Son cast out demons and bestowed healing with just His Word. According to Your will, restore and give wholeness to those who are suffering, (especially . . .). Lord, deliver my soul!

C **Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.**

P Father in heaven, You care for all of Your sheep. Work through us to reach out in love to those among us who are straying from Your fold. Restore them so that together we might be fed by Your Word and Sacrament in the holy flock of Your Church. Lord, deliver my soul!

C **Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; our God is merciful.**

(Special petitions may be offered here.)

P Father in heaven, we offer all these prayers, knowing that You hear us and bless us with what we need, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Savior, who has taught us how to pray:

A *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.*

Benediction

P May the love of the Father draw us to Himself. May the peace of the ✠ Lord Jesus fill our lives. May the power of the Holy Spirit enable us to do His will.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn | LSB 783 (st. 1-3, 5-6) | "Take My Life and Let It Be"



1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing Al-ways, on - ly for my King;



Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them flow in cease-less praise.
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.
Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from Thee.

5 Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

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Sending

P Go in peace to love the Lord and to speak His Word of grace!

G **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude