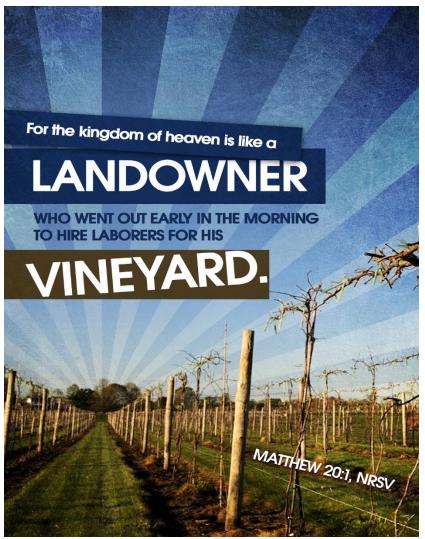
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

worship...Serve...Grow...Connect



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost September 24, 2023 – 8:15AM

(Please note this service is being livestreamed.)

The Holy Lord's Supper: We will celebrate Holy Communion today during worship. In this meal God promises to give us his true body and blood together with the bread and wine. Through his body and blood he forgives our sins and strengthens our relationship with him and with one another. Jesus invites those who trust in his Word, repent of all sins, and set aside any refusal to forgive others. Because participation in this meal is a confession of the faith of this congregation (1 Corinthians 11:26), and because those who eat and drink Christ's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27), it is important that all Christians examine themselves before communing (1 Corinthians 11:28). We invite you to speak with the pastor after the service if you have any questions or concerns.

Gluten Free Communion Wafers available: For those with sensitivity to gluten, we offer gluten free communion wafers. They come from a reliable, commercially available source and care is taken to prevent any contamination with the other communion hosts. When approached by the pastor, just say "gluten free" and he will provide a host from a protected container.

Welcome & Announcements

(Please stand)



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Invocation

- In the name of the Father and of the 🕂 Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Opening Sentences

- P The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing,
- **b**ut to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
- P Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage;
- **C** wait for the LORD!

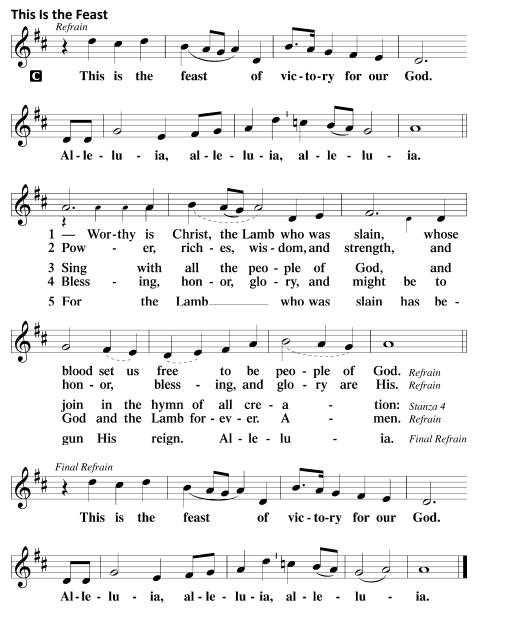
Confession and Absolution

- St. Matthew writes that Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Let us respond by confessing our sins and asking our Lord's forgiveness.
- Heavenly Father, we confess our sins to You. We are too much a part of this fallen world. Because our citizenship is in heaven, invade our thoughts, words, and deeds by Your gracious power. Help us to live each day as pilgrims heading to the eternal promised land. Turn us from our sinful direction to follow our Savior's gracious lead, walking in ways pleasing to You for Jesus' sake. Amen.
- P "For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." Be assured that through Jesus' blood-bought rescue, you are already citizens in the Kingdom of heaven. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ⅓ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

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C Amen.

Service of the Word



Salutation

- P The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

- Lord Jesus, who came from heaven to earth,
- **G** heal us in body, soul, and spirit that we may serve You in joy, now and always;
- **P** for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

(You may be seated)

First Reading

Isaiah 55:6–9

"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

A This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

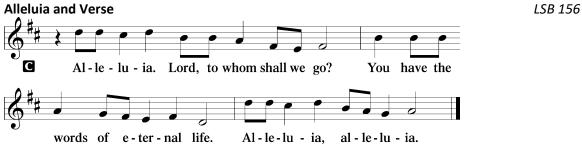
Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

(Please stand)



Matthew 20:1–16

Holy Gospel

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to

this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' So the last will be first, and the first last."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

(You may be seated)





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Sermon

Pastor Keith Brutlag

(Please stand)

Apostles' Creed

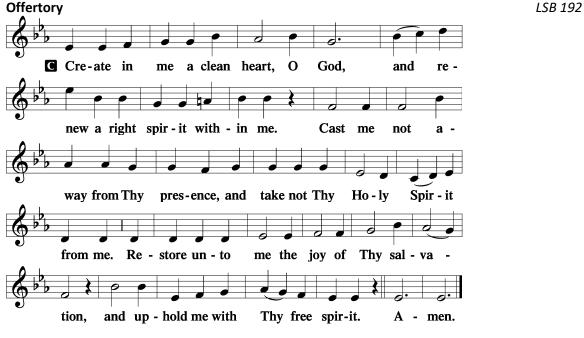
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the 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.

(You may be seated)

Offering

Ushers will collect offerings and prayer cards

(Please stand)



Prayer Response

- A Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

Response after each petition

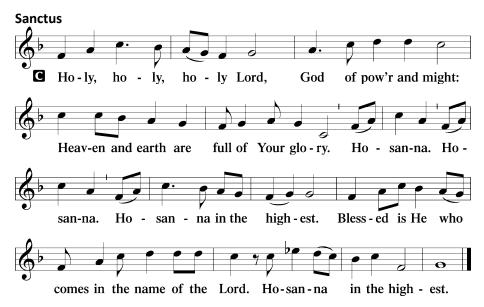
Service of the Sacrament

Preface

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- 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

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, who by His resurrection from the grave guards us from the evil one, winning for us eternal life, and who continues to direct our hearts to the love of God and to His steadfastness. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 allavailing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we ask that You keep us strong in faith for the days ahead. Grant that we follow Your Lamb through death to eternal life, when faith turns to sight and we celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in Your eternal banquet hall. 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

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."

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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:

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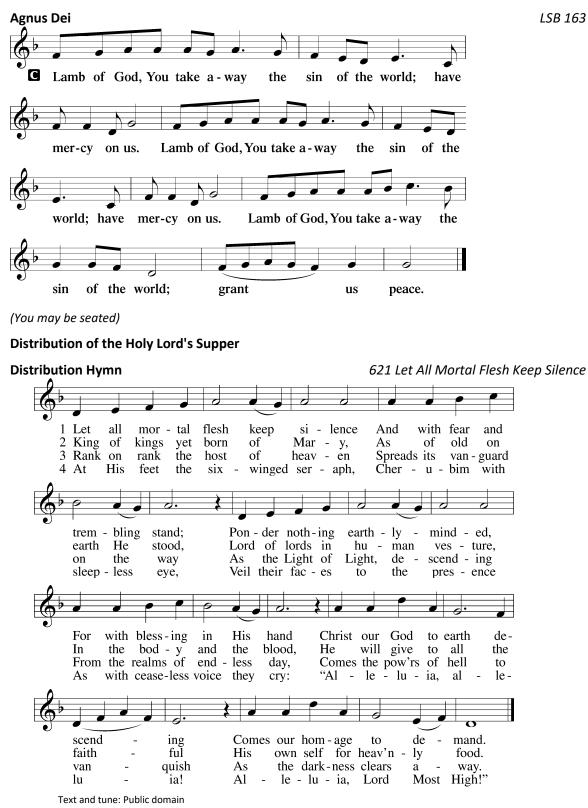
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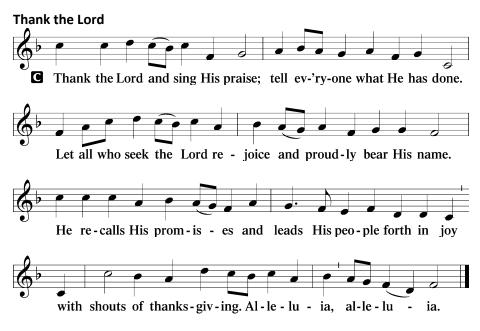
Lord's Prayer

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.



C Amen.





Post-Communion Collect

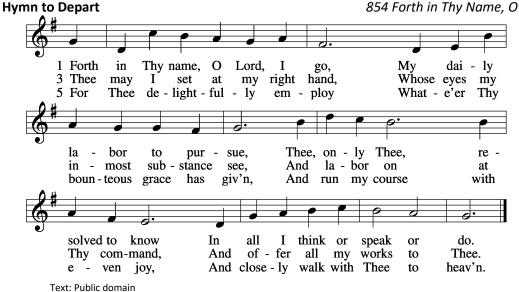
A Let us pray.

> 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 Amen.

Benediction

- 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.
- С Amen.



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854 Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go

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