

# Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 20, 2020

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Hermiston, Oregon

Christ Alone Lutheran Church, Ione, Oregon

**The Lord be with you!** The Lord's Supper is celebrated this morning in the confidence that, as He says, Jesus gives us not only bread and wine, but also His very body and blood to eat and drink (Matthew 26:26-28). This meal is given to us for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Christ and our love for one another.

Because the Scriptures tell us that those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood in an unworthy manner are doing themselves great harm (1 Corinthians 11:27-29); and because Holy Communion is a sharing in the faith confessed at this altar, the following are asked to consult with the pastor before taking communion:

- any who are not yet instructed in the Christian faith;
- those who hold a confession differing from that of Bethlehem, Christ Alone, and the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.

**If you are visiting us this morning and would like to receive a blessing at the altar, we invite you to come forward. To let those serving communion know you would like to receive a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest and bow your head – see image to the right.**



**Hymn #577** “Almighty God, Your Word is Cast”

Almighty God, Your Word is cast  
Like seed into the ground;  
Now let the dew of heav'n descend  
And righteous fruits abound.

Let not the sly satanic foe  
This holy seed remove,  
But give it root in ev'ry heart  
To bring forth fruits of love.

Let not the world's deceitful cares  
The rising plant destroy,  
But let it yield a hundredfold  
The fruits of peace and joy.

So when the precious seed is sown,  
Life-giving grace bestow  
That all whose souls the truth receive  
Its saving pow'r may know.

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## Confession and Absolution

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**C: Amen.**

**P:** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C: Who made heaven and earth.**

**P:** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P:** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

**P:** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## Psalm

Psalm 27:1–9

The LORD is my light and my salvation;

**whom shall I fear?**

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;

**of whom shall I be afraid?**

When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes,

**it is they who stumble and fall.**

Though an army encamp against me,

**my heart shall not fear;**

though war arise against me,

**yet I will be confident.**

One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

**that I may dwell in the house of the LORD**

**all the days of my life,**

to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD

**and to inquire in His temple.**

For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble;

**He will conceal me under the cover of His tent;**

**He will lift me high upon a rock.**

And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me,

and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

**I will sing and make melody to the LORD.**

Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;

**be gracious to me and answer me!**

You have said, "Seek My face." My heart says to You,

**"Your face, LORD, do I seek."**

Hide not Your face from me.

**Turn not your servant away in anger,**

O You Who have been my help.

**Cast me not off; forsake me not,**

**O God of my salvation!**

## Kyrie



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## Gloria in Excelsis



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

**P:** Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. <sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

**L:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

recited by all

Psalm 34:9, 19

**Fear the LORD, you His saints,  
for those who fear Him lack nothing!  
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,  
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.**

## Epistle 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, <sup>13</sup>so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. <sup>14</sup>And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear . . . .

<sup>19</sup>for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, <sup>20</sup>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. <sup>21</sup>For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. <sup>24</sup>But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. <sup>25</sup>Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup>so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

<sup>27</sup>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, <sup>28</sup>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. <sup>29</sup>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, <sup>30</sup>engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

**L:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

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

**C:** 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. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, <sup>4</sup>and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' <sup>5</sup>So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>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?' <sup>7</sup>They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' <sup>8</sup>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.' <sup>9</sup>And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. <sup>10</sup>Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup>And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, <sup>12</sup>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.' <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? <sup>14</sup>Take what

belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first last."

**P:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C:** Praise to You, 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  $\text{✠}$  of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Hymn #719 "I Leave All Things to God's Direction"**

I leave all things to God's direction;  
He loves me both in joy and woe.  
His will is good, sure His affection;  
His tender love is true, I know.  
My fortress and my rock is He:  
What pleases God, that pleases me.

God knows what must be done to save me;  
His love for me will never cease.  
Upon His hands He did engrave me  
With purest gold of loving grace.  
His will supreme must ever be:  
What pleases God, that pleases me.

My God desires the soul's salvation;  
My soul He, too, desires to save.  
Therefore with Christian resignation  
All earthly troubles I will brave.  
His will be done eternally:  
What pleases God, that pleases me.

My God has all things in His keeping;  
He is the ever faithful friend.  
He gives me laughter after weeping,  
And all His ways in blessings end.  
His love endures eternally:  
What pleases God, that pleases me.

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## Sermon

### Prayer of the Church

#### Preface

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

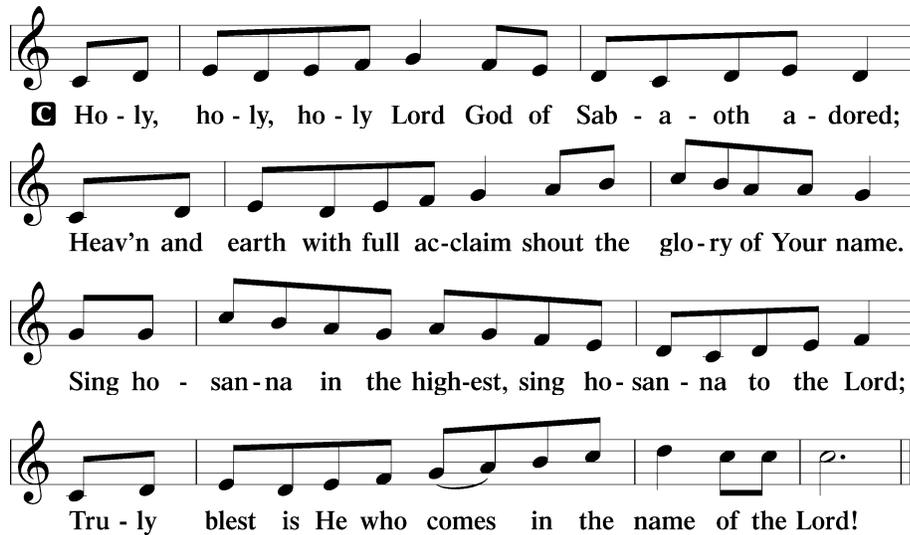
**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

**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, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P:** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## 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.**

## The Words of Our Lord

### Pax Domini

**P:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C:** Amen.

## Agnus Dei



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## Distribution

## Dismissal

*After the Distribution, the following is said:*

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

**C:** Amen.

## Nunc Dimittis



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;  
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is  
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -  
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## 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: Amen.**

## Benedicamus

**P:** Let us bless the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## 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.

**C: Amen.**

**Hymn** "Let Bethlehem Rejoice Together" ..... Sung to "Earth and All Stars"

Let **Bethlehem** rejoice together!  
Cherish the Word of the Lord!  
This is our strength, This is our guidance.  
Cherish the Word of the Lord.  
Come hear Christ's promises true;  
Come now and learn them with a glad heart!  
Here in our school young lambs are gathered,  
Learning the Word of the Lord!  
Hearing they come to Christ their Shepherd!  
Learning the Word of the Lord.  
Come hear Christ's promises true;  
Come now and learn them with a glad heart!  
Those now mature, older and wiser -  
Learn-ing the Word of the Lord -  
As newborn babes, crave only God's milk!  
Learning the Word of the Lord.  
Come hear Christ's promises true;  
Come now and learn them with a glad heart!

Δ Glory to God: Father and Spirit!  
Sing to the Lord songs of praise!  
Also to Christ, the Word Incarnate!  
Sing to the Lord songs of praise!  
He has done marvelous things,  
Let us now praise Him with a glad heart!

## Scripture for September

1 Peter 5:10 NIV

*And the God of all grace, Who called you to His eternal glory in Christ,  
after you have suffered a little while,  
will Himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.*

## What's Happening This Week

<b>Worship:</b>	At Bethlehem ( <i>Hermiston</i> ) At Christ Alone ( <i>Ione</i> )	Sunday at 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday at 8 a.m.
<b>Bible Study:</b>	At the Ione Market At Bethlehem - <b>online</b>	Wednesday at 7 a.m. Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.
<b>Men's Prayer Breakfast:</b>	At Bethlehem	Wednesday at 6:00 a.m.
<b>Individual Communion:</b>	At Bethlehem	Wednesday ( <i>use Sign-Up Genius</i> )

## Doxology #805 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

△ Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

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