

# Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

October 6, 2024

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Hermiston, 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 of the Month #656 "A Mighty Fortress is our God"

A mighty fortress is our God,  
A trusty shield and weapon;  
He helps us free from ev'ry need  
That hath us now o'ertaken.  
The old evil foe  
Now means deadly woe;  
Deep guile and great might  
Are his dread arms in fight;  
On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done,  
Soon were our loss effected;  
But for us fights the valiant One,  
Whom God Himself elected.  
Ask ye, Who is this?  
Jesus Christ it is,  
Of Sabaoth Lord,  
And there's none other God;  
He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill,  
All eager to devour us,  
We tremble not, we fear no ill;  
They shall not overpow'r us.  
This world's prince may still  
Scowl fierce as he will,  
He can harm us none.  
He's judged; the deed is done;  
One little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain  
Nor any thanks have for it;  
He's by our side upon the plain  
With His good gifts and Spirit.  
And take they our life,  
Goods, fame, child, and wife,  
Though these all be gone,  
Our vict'ry has been won;  
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

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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. Matthew 28:19a

**C: Amen.**

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

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

Psalm 124:8

**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.**

Psalm 130:3-4

**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.**

John 20:19-23

## Introit of the Day

Psalm 127:3-5; antiphon: v. 1a

Unless the Lord builds the house,  
**those who build it labor in vain.**

Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord,  
**the fruit of the womb a reward.**

Like arrows in the hand of a warrior  
**are the children of one's youth.**

Blessèd is the man who fills his quiver with them!

**He shall not be put to shame when he speaks with his enemies in the gate.**

**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.**

Unless the Lord builds the house,  
**those who build it labor in vain.**

## Kyrie

Mark 10:47

**Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.**

## Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

**To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing —  
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

**To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high—**

**For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.**

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

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

**C:** And also with you.

**P:** Let us pray. Merciful Father, Your patience and loving-kindness toward us have no end. Grant that by Your Holy Spirit we may always think and do those things that are pleasing in Your sight; 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

Genesis 2:18-25

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." <sup>19</sup>So out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. <sup>21</sup>So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh;  
she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."

<sup>24</sup>Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. <sup>25</sup>And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual

Psalms 91:11; 103:1

**He will command his angels concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless his holy name!**

## Epistle

Hebrews 2:1-13

Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. <sup>2</sup>For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, <sup>3</sup>how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard,

<sup>4</sup>while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

<sup>5</sup>Now it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. <sup>6</sup>It has been testified somewhere,

“What is man, that you are mindful of him,  
or the son of man, that you care for him?”

<sup>7</sup>You made him for a little while lower than the angels;

you have crowned him with glory and honor,

<sup>8</sup>putting everything in subjection under his feet.”

Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. <sup>9</sup>But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

<sup>10</sup>For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. <sup>11</sup>For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one origin. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, <sup>12</sup>saying,

“I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.”

<sup>13</sup>And again,

“I will put my trust in him.”

And again,

“Behold, I and the children God has given me.”

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

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Alleluia and Verse

John 20:31

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
These things are written that you may believe  
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## Holy Gospel

Mark 10:2-16

**P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the tenth chapter.**

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

Pharisees came up and in order to test [Jesus] asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” <sup>3</sup>He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” <sup>4</sup>They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away.” <sup>5</sup>And Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. <sup>6</sup>But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ <sup>7</sup>Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, <sup>8</sup>and they shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two but one flesh. <sup>9</sup>What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate.”

<sup>10</sup>And in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. <sup>11</sup>And he said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, <sup>12</sup>and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

<sup>13</sup>And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. <sup>14</sup>But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. <sup>15</sup>Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” <sup>16</sup>And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

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

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

## Nicene Creed

[Romans 10:9-10]

**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 #863 "Our Father, by Whose Name"**

Our Father, by whose name  
All fatherhood is known,  
Who dost in love proclaim  
Each family Thine own,  
Bless Thou all parents, guarding well,  
With constant love as sentinel,  
The homes in which Thy people dwell.

O Christ, Thyself a child  
Within an earthly home,  
With heart still undefiled,  
Thou didst to manhood come;  
Our children bless in ev'ry place  
That they may all behold Thy face,  
And knowing Thee may grow in grace.

O Spirit, who dost bind  
Our hearts in unity,  
Who teachest us to find  
The love from self set free,  
In all our hearts such love increase  
That ev'ry home by this release  
May be the dwelling place of peace.

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**Sermon**

## Prayer of the Church Offering

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

### Service of the Sacrament

#### Preface

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

**C: And also with you.**

Ruth 2:4

**P:** Lift up your hearts.

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

[Colossians 3:1]

**P:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

[Psalm 136]

**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

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly 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

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.**

## **The Words of Our Lord**

Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

## **Pax Domini**

John 20:19

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

**C:** Amen.

## **Agnus Dei**

John 1:29

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

## **Distribution**

### **Communion Hymn #535 "How Wide the Love of Christ"**

sung to: Blest be the Tie that Binds

How wide the love of Christ!  
It knows not class or race  
But holds our one humanity  
Within its broad embrace.

How long the love of Christ!  
Its patience will not cease  
Until this broken world is bound  
In everlasting peace.

How high the love of Christ!  
Beyond all thought it soars,  
And yet upon our passing lives  
Unmeasured mercy pours.

How deep the love of Christ,  
Descending to a cross!  
He bears within His wounded hands  
All human pain and loss.

All praise to You, O Christ,  
For love whose depth and height,  
Whose length and breadth fill time and space  
With endless life and light!

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## Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32

O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.

## 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 and Benediction

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

[Psalm 103:1]

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**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.

Numbers 6:24-26

**C: Amen.**

## Hymn #850 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

God of grace and God of glory,  
On Your people pour Your pow'r;  
Crown Your ancient Church's story;  
Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
For the facing of this hour,  
For the facing of this hour.

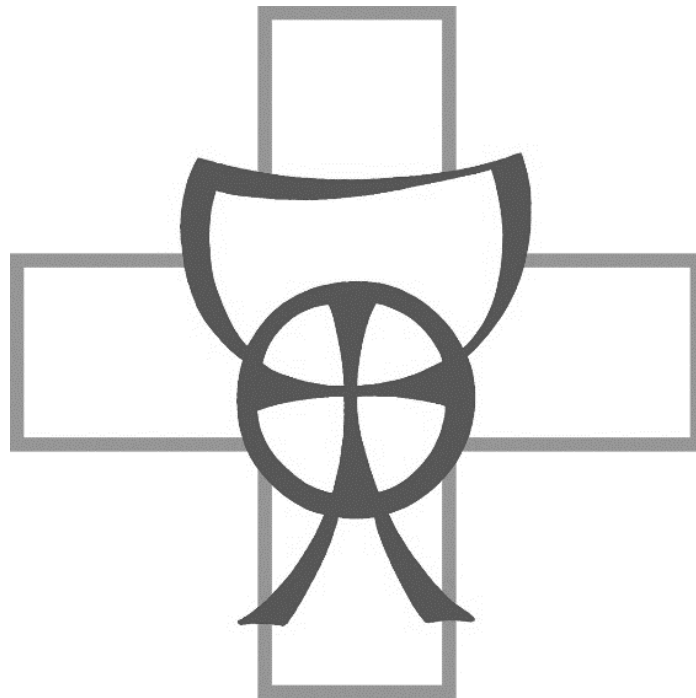
Lo, the hosts of evil round us  
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
Free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
For the living of these days,  
For the living of these days.

Cure Your children's warring madness;  
Bend our pride to Your control;  
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
Rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage  
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,  
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.



Save us from weak resignation  
To the evils we deplore;  
Let the gift of Your salvation  
Be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
Serving You whom we adore,  
Serving You whom we adore.

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