

**FIFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

JULY 2, 2023

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Missouri Synod



**703 W 3RD Street
Mercedes, Texas 78570**

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Rev. Ed Weber, Pastor

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Website:

lutheranmercedes.com

Sunday

9:00 AM

Worship Service

10:30 AM

Adult Bible Class

Sunday School

Holy Communion:

1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday

**[www.facebook.com/
lutheranmercedes/](http://www.facebook.com/lutheranmercedes/)**

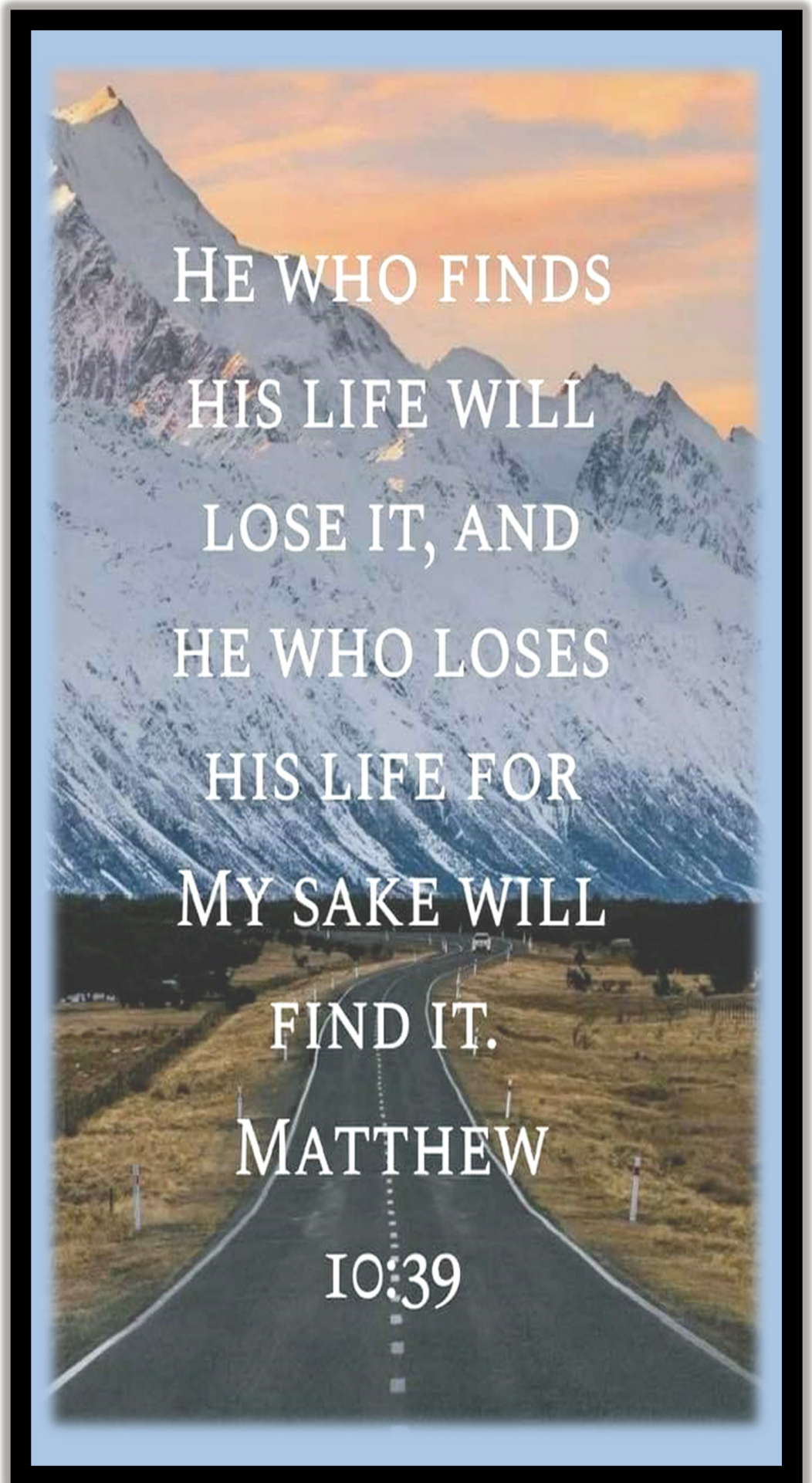
Website:

Misionemanuel.com

Office Hrs, M-F

8 am to 12 pm

CCLI # 2585510



FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 2, 2023

WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would fill out an Attendance/Communion card so that we can keep track of our attendance. They are located in the pew racks in front of you.

This week we celebrate Holy Communion. We teach that in the receiving of the Lord's Supper each person receives the real presence of the Body and Blood of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins. If you are not a member of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod and desire to partake of Communion, please ask to speak with Pastor Weber or one of the elders prior to the service.

A Prayer Upon Entering Church - Lord Jesus Christ, as I follow You, You call for devotion to Your kingdom apart from the things of this world. Even as the sword of truth divides, help me to know lasting peace and find fulfillment and forgiveness in You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

AS WE GATHER - Peace in our time would be a wonderful thing to experience, as countless things in life are anything but peaceful. From our stresses and circumstances to the sins that surround us and others, can peace ever be attained? It is not from lack of trying. Politicians attempt to create and even make promises of peace, relationships that were strained can become mended, and turmoil can be overcome at times. But does it last? We know in this world it doesn't, but there is a peace that does last. Jeremiah is inspired to speak of false peace among his people, but only the Lord can truly bring it. As the Paul writes about the anything but peaceful lives of sin, we are reminded of peace that only comes

from God's forgiveness in Christ. Even as Jesus speaks of the sword He comes to bring, it doesn't bring "peace on earth." As we hear God's Word, may we be drawn today and always to a peace that is beyond our understanding come by and through Christ's victory for us as we await eternal joys in Him.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR

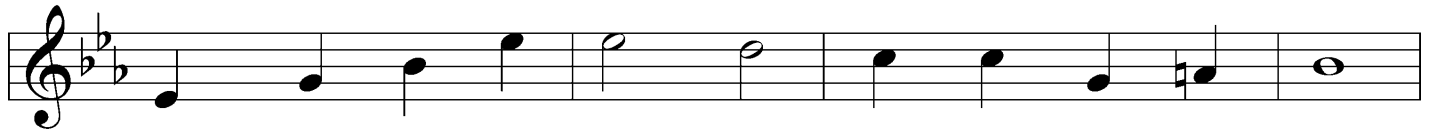
PAGE 203

WELCOME

PRELUDE *(A quiet time for prayer and meditation)*

OPENING HYMN*Onward, Christian Soldiers***LSB 662**

1 On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, March - ing as to war,
 2 Like a might - y ar - my Moves the Church of God;
 3 Crowns and thrones may per - ish, King - doms rise and wane,
 4 On - ward, then, ye faith - ful, Join our hap - py throng,



With the cross of Je - sus Go - ing on be - fore.
 Broth - ers, we are tread - ing Where the saints have trod.
 But the Church of Je - sus Con - stant will re - main.
 Blend with ours your voic - es In the tri - umph song:



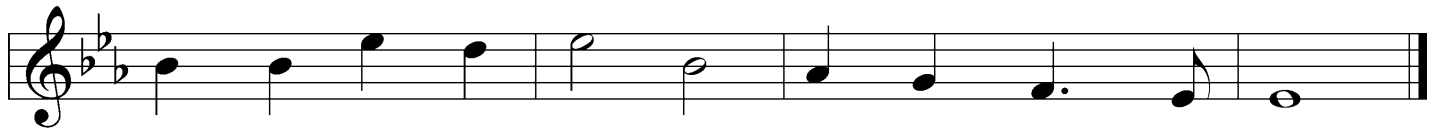
Christ, the roy - al mas - ter, Leads a - gainst the foe;
 We are not di - vid - ed, All one bod - y we,
 Gates of hell can nev - er 'Gainst that Church pre - vail;
 Glo - ry, laud, and hon - or Un - to Christ, the king;



For - ward in - to bat - tle See His ban - ners go!
 One in hope and doc - trine, One in char - i - ty.
 We have Christ's own prom - ise, And that can - not fail.
 This through count - less a - ges Men and an - gels sing.

Refrain

On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, March - ing as to war,



With the cross of Je - sus Go - ing on be - fore.

Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.**

(We take a moment of silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Savior.)

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT *Psalm 89:15–18; antiphon: v. 1*

P I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever; with my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations.

C **Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! They walk, O Lord, in the light of Your countenance.**

P In Your name they rejoice all day long, and in Your righteousness

they are exalted.

C For You are the glory of their strength, and in Your favor our horn is exalted.

P For our shield belongs to the Lord, and our king to the Holy One of Israel.

All 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.

P I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever; with my mouth will I make known Your faithfulness to all generations.

KYRIE



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

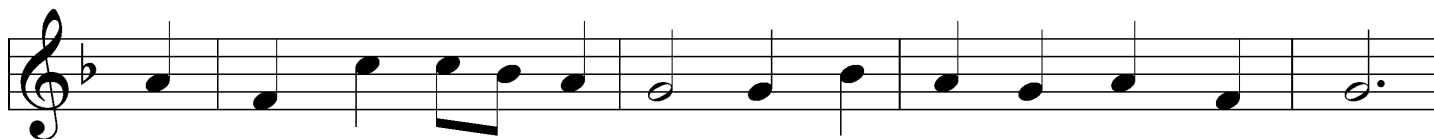
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



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 - shipped 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

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with your spirit.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Almighty God, by the working of Your Holy Spirit, grant that we may gladly hear Your Word proclaimed among us and follow its directing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Jeremiah 28:5–9*

(Prophets and peace)

5 Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and in the presence of all the people who stood in the house of the Lord, 6 and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! The Lord do so; the Lord perform your words which you have prophesied, to bring back the vessels of the Lord's house and all who were carried away captive, from Babylon to this place. 7 Nevertheless hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people: 8 The prophets who have been before me and before you of old prophesied against many countries and great kingdoms—of war and disaster and pestilence. 9 As for the prophet who prophesies of peace, when the word of the prophet comes to pass, the prophet will be known as one whom the Lord has truly sent."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalm 119:153–160; antiphon: v. 154*

P Plead my cause and redeem me; revive me according to Your word.

C Consider my affliction and deliver me, for I do not forget Your law.

P Plead my cause and redeem me; revive me according to Your word.

C Salvation is far from the wicked, for they do not seek Your statutes.

P Great are Your tender mercies, O Lord; revive me according to Your judgments.

C Many are my persecutors and my enemies, yet I do not turn from Your testimonies.

P I see the treacherous, and am disgusted, because they do not keep Your word.

C Consider how I love Your precepts; revive me, O Lord, according to Your lovingkindness.

P The entirety of Your word is truth, and every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.

All 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.

P Plead my cause and redeem me; revive me according to Your word.

EPISTLE *Romans 7:1–13*

(Released from the Law and bound to Christ)

1 Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives? 2 For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband. 3 So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man. 4 Therefore, my

brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God. 5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death. 6 But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.

7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, “You shall not covet.” 8 But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all manner of evil desire. For apart from the law

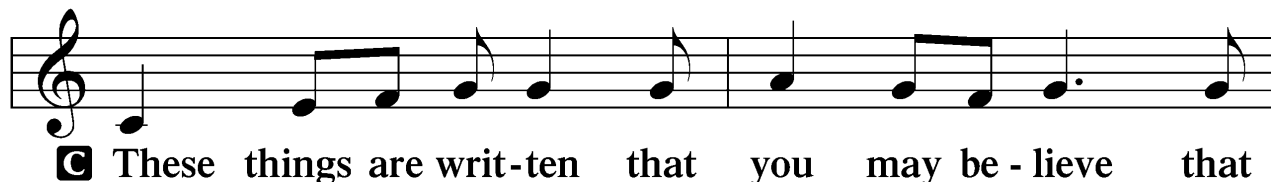
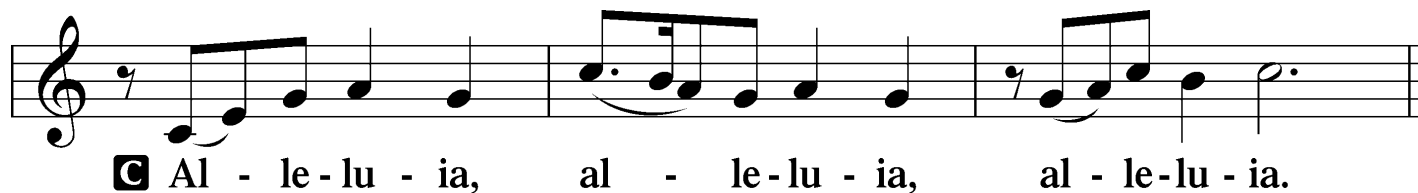
sin was dead. 9 I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died. 10 And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death. 11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed me. 12 Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.

13 Has then what is good become death to me? Certainly not! But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUA and VERSE



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

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

Please stand

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 10:34–42*

(Division when following Christ)

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

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

34 “Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. I did not come to bring peace but a sword. 35 For I have come to ‘set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’; 36 and ‘a man’s enemies will be those of his own household.’ 37 He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. 38 And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. 39 He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

40 “He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me. 41 He who receives a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet’s reward. And he who receives a righteous man in the name of a righteous man shall receive a righteous man’s reward. 42 And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

NICENE CREED

All 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 of the world to come. Amen.

Please sit

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake* **LSB 688**



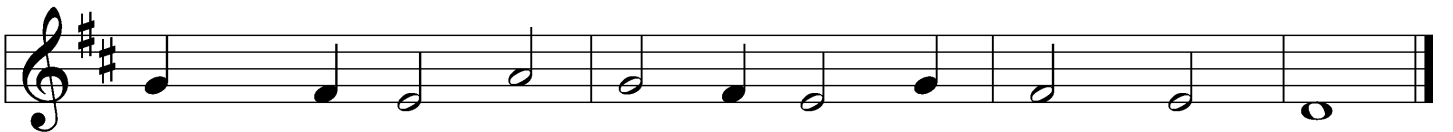
1 "Come, fol - low Me," the Sav - ior spake, "All in My
2 "I am the light, I light the way, A god - ly
3 "My heart a - bounds in low - li - ness, My soul with
4 "I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your
5 Then let us fol - low Christ, our Lord, And take the



way a - bid - ing; De - ny your - selves, the world for - sake,
life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day;
love is glow - ing; And gra - cious words My lips ex - press,
soul's sal - va - tion, Your heart from ev - 'ry guile to free,
cross ap - point - ed And, firm - ly cling - ing to His Word,



O - bey My call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -
I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and
With meek - ness o - ver - flow - ing. My heart, My mind, My
From sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge
In suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the



e'er be - tide, Take My ex - am - ple for your guide.
well I show How you must so - journ here be - low.
strength, My all, To God I yield, on Him I call.
of the soul And lead you to your heav'n - ly goal."
bat - tle's strain The crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

"Receiving Jesus and finding life!"

(Matthew 10:39-40)

OFFERING

Please stand

OFFERTORY *We Give Thee But Thine Own* **LSB 781; vs.1,2,5,6**



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive
5 The cap - tive to re - lease, To God the lost to bring,
6 And we be - lieve Thy Word, Though dim our faith may be:



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!
To teach the way of life and peace, It is a Christ-like thing.
What - e'er for Thine we do, O Lord, We do it un - to Thee.

Text and tune: Public domain

SHARING OF THE PEACE *"Peace be with you"* *(John 20:21)*
(Sharing through ASL (American Sign Language))

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the people of God and for all people according to their needs. Ever-gracious Lord, You have blessed us with time, talents, and abilities to serve others in various vocations. You have also given us the privilege of serving You. As we continue in the joyful job of following You, witnessing Your truth, and living faithfully with Your Word as our guide, grant us continued confidence in Your presence, Your promises, and Your ultimate peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Ever-present Lord, we know in this world we will have trouble. Our Savior speaks of divisions and disturbances even among those closest to us as we bear the name of Your beloved children. In times of trial, grant us a sure faith in Christ's redemptive work accomplished for us. Even as the sword divides, Your cross brings peace for those who believe that You have overcome this world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Ever-providing Lord, You have given us all we need for this body and this life, and have placed authorities over us for order and peace. Even as peace in this world is challenged through wars, skirmishes, and cultural clashes, we have been given a peace beyond all understanding through You. For this nation, we give thanks for the freedoms we are blessed to have as we recognize Independence Day soon. Give safety to all who travel and peace for all who gather. Grant that we appreciate our citizenship here, while also awaiting our true citizenship in heaven. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Ever-comforting Lord, so many around us seek peace of mind, peace of soul, and peace of body, including those near and dear to us who have asked for our prayers, [especially . . .]. In times of fears, questions, and uncertainty, give Your peace, answers, and confidence according to Your will that hope and comfort be found in You alone. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

+SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

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, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin

Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

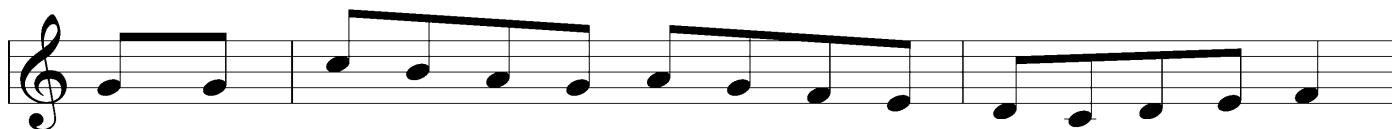
SANCTUS



C 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, 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. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

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.**

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."

P 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."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

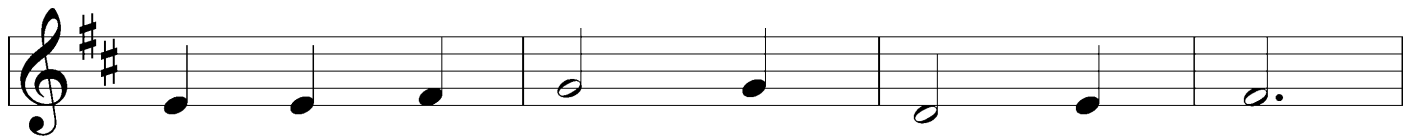
AGNUS DEI



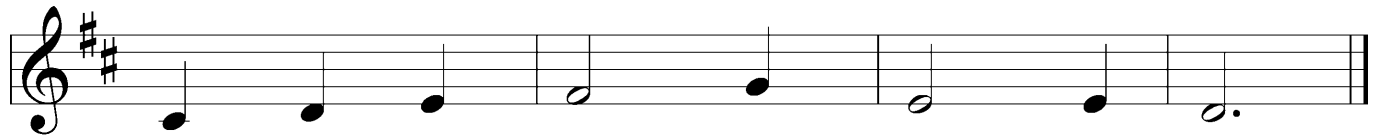
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



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.

Please sit

SILENT PRAYER before COMMUNING

Heavenly Father, in my Holy Baptism you have called me to be Your own possession. Prepare my heart to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and assure me a place at Your heavenly table, where I will eat eternal manna and drink of the river of the water of life freely, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

Jesus Comes Today with Healing

LSB 620



1 Je - sus comes to - day with heal - ing, Knock - ing at my
2 Christ Him - self, the priest pre - sid - ing, Yet in bread and
3 Un - der bread and wine, though low - ly, I re - ceive the
4 God de - scends with heav'n - ly pow - er, Gives Him - self to



door, ap - peal - ing, Of - f'ring par - don, grace, and peace.
wine a - bid - ing In this ho - ly sac - ra - ment,
Sav - ior ho - ly, Blood and bod - y, giv'n for me,
me this hour_____ In this or - di - nar - y sign.



He Him - self makes prep - a - ra - tion, And I hear His
Gives the bread of life, once bro - ken, And the cup, the
Ver - y Lamb of God from heav - en, Who to bit - ter
On my tongue His pledge re - ceiv - ing, I ac - cept His



in - vi - ta - tion: "Come and taste the bless - ed feast."
pre - cious to - ken Of His sa - cred cov - e - nant.
death was giv - en, Hung up - on the curs - ed tree.
grace, be - liev - ing That I taste His love di - vine.

5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,
Whose own feast of love I savor,
Bidden by His gracious call.
Wedding garments He provides me,
With a robe of white He hides me,
Fits me for the royal hall.

6 Now have I found consolation,
Comfort in my tribulation,

Balm to heal the troubled soul.
 God, my shield from ev'ry terror,
 Cleanses me from sin and error,
 Makes my wounded spirit whole.

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Please stand

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 THANKSGIVING

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

(Numbers 6:24-26)

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.

C Amen.

Please sit

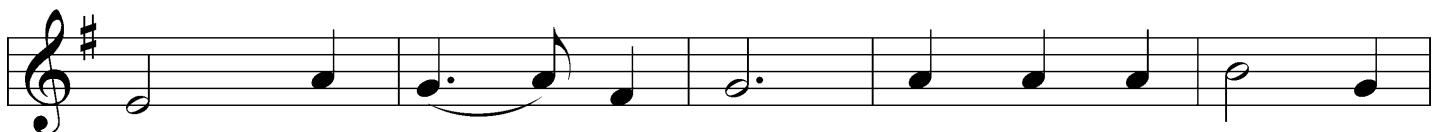
SENDING HYMN

Fight the Good Fight

LSB 664



1 Fight the good fight with all your might; Christ is your
2 Run the straight race through God's good grace; Lift up your
3 Cast care a - side, lean on your guide; His bound - less
4 Faint not nor fear, His arms are near; He chang - es



strength, and Christ your right. Lay hold on life, and
eyes, and seek His face. Life with its way be -
mer - cy will pro - vide. Trust, and en - dur - ing
not who holds you dear; On - ly be - lieve, and



it shall be Your joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.
fore us lies; Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.
faith shall prove Christ is your life and Christ your love.
you will see That Christ is all e - ter - nal - ly.

Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

C **Thanks be to God!**

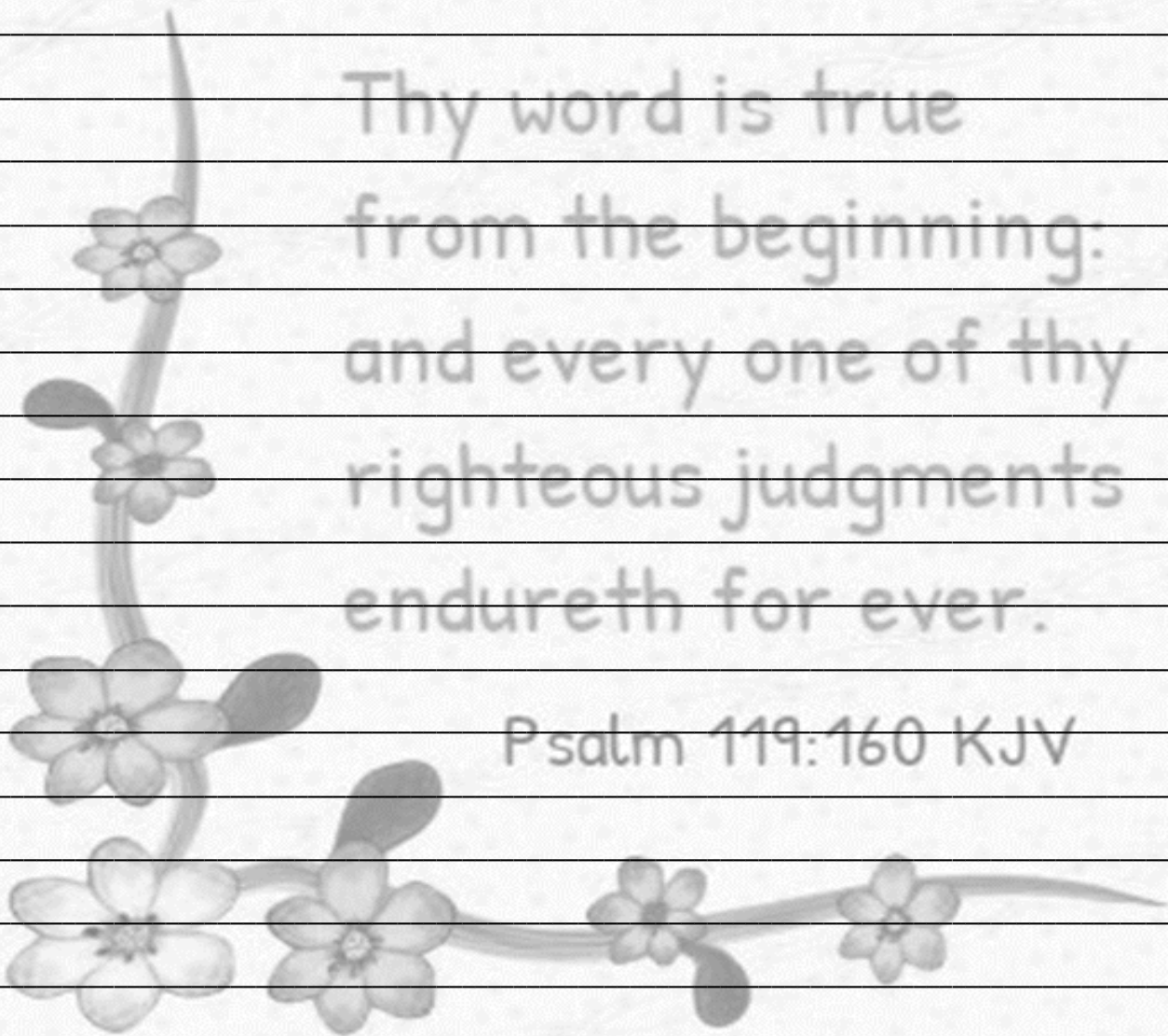
POSTLUDE



Sermon Notes

Thy word is true
from the beginning:
and every one of thy
righteous judgments
endureth for ever.

Psalm 119:160 KJV



From Pastor's Desk

Portals of Prayer for July to September 2023 are available in the Narthex or office.

Adult Bible Class/Sunday School at 10:30 a.m.
Rev. Weber will be leading the class.

July Activities

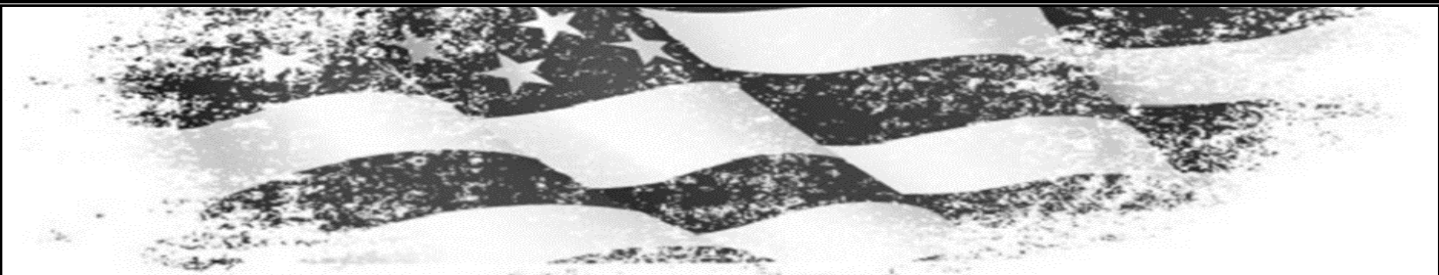
*Pastor Weber will be in Port Isabel at
Fishers of Men
July 10th thru 14th
for Vacation Bible School*

***While Pastor Weber and family are on vacation,
Pastor Richardson from San Benito
will be leading the services on the following
Sundays - July 23rd and 30th.***

Memory Verse Challenge

*This week's memory verse: **Colossians 4:2***

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.



HAPPY 4th of JULY

The Lord Jesus Brings Division on Earth for the Sake of Peace with God in Heaven

False prophets preach what their hearers want to hear, promising peace even when the Lord has spoken “war, famine, and pestilence” (Jer. 28:8). But if “the Lord has truly sent the prophet,” he speaks what the Lord has spoken, and “the word of that prophet comes to pass” (Jer. 28:9). The preaching of God’s Law is hard, because it confronts sin, brings it to light and makes it worse, “sinful beyond measure,” thereby “producing death” in the sinner (Rom. 7:13). But through our Baptism into Christ, “we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive” (Rom. 7:6). Now we belong “to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God” (Rom. 7:4). Belonging to Him puts us at odds with the world and divides us from all earthly ties, not only from our human family, but each person from his own life. For Christ does not come “to bring peace, but a sword” (Matt. 10:34). Yet, whoever takes up his cross to follow Christ, and “loses his life” for Christ’s sake, finds new life in Him (Matt. 10:38–39).

6/25/2023		<i>Sixth Sunday after Pentecost</i>
Sunday Worship	35	<i>Readings:</i>
Plate:	\$ 81.00	<i>Zechariah 9:9-12</i>
Envelopes:	\$ 778.00	<i>Psalms 145:1-14</i>
Memorials:		<i>Romans 7:14-25a</i>
Lee Roy Veland	\$ 125.00	<i>Matthew 11:25-30</i>
Total:	\$ 984.00	
Bible Class:	13	
	\$ 9.00	

Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule		
July Sunday Servants:		
Elder:	Dan Wehling	
Altar Guild:	Suzanne Wehling & Rose Ann Cisneros	
Music:	Doris Pickering	
This Week	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	
Usher:	Earl Neuhaus	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am
Next Week	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost	
Usher:	Ken Eilers	
Sunday:	Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am