



# How Long, O Lord?

**October 5, 2025**

17th Sunday After Pentecost

**St. John Lutheran Church**

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## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN: *Today Your Mercy Calls Us*

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS p. 56

L: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

L: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for self-reflection*

L: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

L: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

# APOSTOLIC GREETING

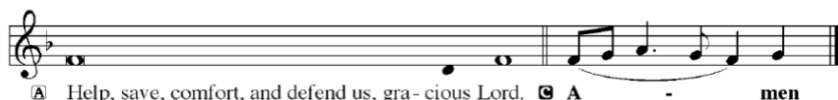
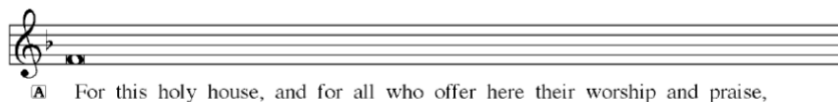
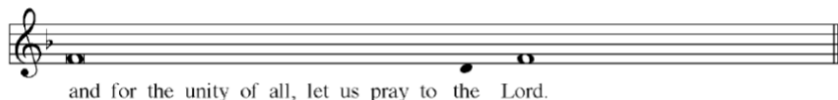
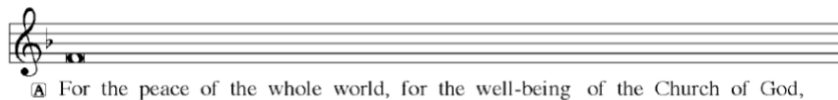
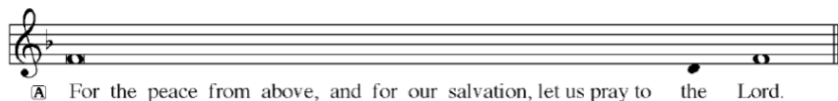
p. 57

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## KYRIE ("In peace let us pray to the Lord...")

p. 57-58





□ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



■ Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-cieve our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

## SALUTATION



□ The Lord be with you.

■ And al - so with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

### C: Free Prayer

FIRST READING: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

L: The First Lesson is from the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> chapters of Habakkuk.

1 This is the message that the prophet Habakkuk received in a vision.

2 How long, O Lord, must I call for help?

But You do not listen!

“Violence is everywhere!” I cry,

but You do not come to save.

3 Must I forever see these evil deeds?

Why must I watch all this misery?

Wherever I look,

I see destruction and violence.

I am surrounded by people

who love to argue and fight.

4 The law has become paralyzed,  
and there is no justice in the courts.

The wicked far outnumber the righteous,  
so that justice has become perverted...

2 I will climb up to my watchtower  
and stand at my guard post.

There I will wait to see what the Lord says  
and how He will answer my complaint.

2 Then the Lord said to me,

“Write my answer plainly on tablets,

so that a runner can carry the correct message to others.

3 This vision is for a future time.

It describes the end, and it will be fulfilled.

If it seems slow in coming, wait patiently,  
for it will surely take place.

It will not be delayed.

4 “Look at the proud!

They trust in themselves, and their lives are crooked.

But the righteous will live by their faithfulness to God.

PSALM 62

1 I wait quietly before God,

for my victory comes from Him.

**2 He alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my fortress where I will never be shaken.**

3 So many enemies against one man —  
all of them trying to kill me.

To them I'm just a broken-down wall  
or a tottering fence.

**4 They plan to topple me from my high position.  
They delight in telling lies about me.**

**They praise me to my face  
but curse me in their hearts.**

5 Let all that I am wait quietly before God,  
for my hope is in Him.

**6 He alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my fortress where I will not be shaken.**

7 My victory and honor come from God alone.

He is my refuge, a rock where no enemy can reach me.

**8 O my people, trust in Him at all times.**

**Pour out your heart to Him,  
for God is our refuge.**

9 Common people are as worthless as a puff of wind,  
and the powerful are not what they appear to be.

If you weigh them on the scales,  
together they are lighter than a breath of air.

**10 Don't make your living by extortion  
or put your hope in stealing.**

**And if your wealth increases,  
don't make it the center of your life.**

11 God has spoken plainly,  
and I have heard it many times:

Power, O God, belongs to You;

**12 unfailing love, O Lord, is Yours.**

**Surely You repay all people  
according to what they have done.**

## SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

L: The Second Lesson is from the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter of 2 Timothy.

1 This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus. I have been sent out to tell others about the life He has promised through faith in Christ Jesus.

2 I am writing to Timothy, my dear son.

May God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord give you grace, mercy, and peace.

3 Timothy, I thank God for you — the God I serve with a clear conscience, just as my ancestors did. Night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. 4 I long to see you again, for I remember your tears as we parted. And I will be filled with joy when we are together again.

5 I remember your genuine faith, for you share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother, Eunice. And I know that same faith continues strong in you. 6 This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. 7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.

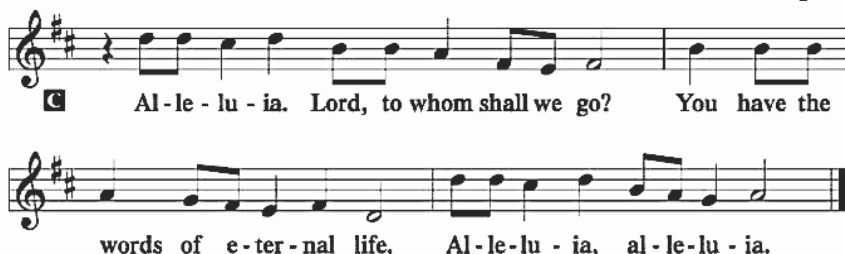
8 So never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord. And don't be ashamed of me, either, even though I'm in prison for Him. With the strength God gives you, be ready to suffer with me for the sake of the Good News. 9 For God saved us and called us to live a holy life. He did this, not because we deserved it, but because that was His plan from before the beginning of time — to show us his grace through Christ Jesus. 10 And now He has made all of this plain to us by the appearing of Christ Jesus, our Savior. He broke the power of death and illuminated the way to life and immortality through the Good News. 11 And God chose me to be a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of this Good News.

12 That is why I am suffering here in prison. But I am not ashamed of it, for I know the one in whom I trust, and I am sure that He is able to guard what I have entrusted to Him until the day of His return.

13 Hold on to the pattern of wholesome teaching you learned from me – a pattern shaped by the faith and love that you have in Christ Jesus. 14 Through the power of the Holy Spirit who lives within us, carefully guard the precious truth that has been entrusted to you.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

p. 62



## HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 17:1-10

L: The Holy Gospel according to St Luke, the 17<sup>th</sup> chapter.



17 One day Jesus said to his disciples, "There will always be temptations to sin, but what sorrow awaits the person who does the tempting! 2 It would be better to be thrown into the sea with a millstone hung around your neck than to cause one of these little ones to fall into sin. 3 So watch yourselves!

"If another believer sins, rebuke that person; then if there is repentance, forgive. 4 Even if that person wrongs you seven times a day and each time turns again and asks forgiveness, you must forgive."

5 The apostles said to the Lord, "Show us how to increase our faith."

6 The Lord answered, "If you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'May you be uprooted and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you!

7 "When a servant comes in from plowing or taking care of sheep, does his master say, 'Come in and eat with me'? 8 No, he says, 'Prepare my meal, put on your apron, and serve me while I eat.



Then you can eat later.’ 9 And does the master thank the servant for doing what he was told to do? Of course not. 10 In the same way, when you obey me you should say, ‘We are unworthy servants who have simply done our duty.’”

L: The gospel of the Lord.



## CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON: Pastor David Kramer

*"God and Evil"*

SONG AFTER SERMON: *Heal Our Land*

## NICENE CREED

p. 64

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became Incarnate from the Virgin Mary  
and was made man**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius  
Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge  
the living and the dead,  
and his Kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the  
giver of life, who proceeds from the Father  
and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshipped  
and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy Christian the Apostolic  
Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the  
forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and  
the life of the world to come Amen**

#### **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

p. 75-76

**L:** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

**L:** Lord, in your mercy

**C: hear our prayer.**

**L:** Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

#### **RECEIVE OFFERING**

#### **OFFERTORY**

*("Thank You")*

**Thank you for giving me the morning.**

**Thank you for ev'ry day that's new.**

**Thank you that I can know my worries**

**Can be cast on you.**

**Thank you, O Lord, your love is boundless.**

**Thank you that I am full of you.  
Thank you, you made me feel so glad  
and thankful as I do.**

## OFFERING PRAYER

L: Let us pray,

**C: Father, we come before you with joyful hearts, eager to give back a portion of what you have given us. May our tithes be a blessing to others as they have been to us. Amen**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

p.68

The musical score for 'The Great Thanksgiving' is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a 'P' time signature and contains the lyrics 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.' The second staff begins with a 'P' time signature and contains the lyrics 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff begins with a 'P' time signature and contains the lyrics 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff begins with a 'C' time signature and contains the lyrics 'It is right to give him thanks and praise.' The music consists of simple, flowing lines with various note values and rests, ending with a double bar line.

**P** The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

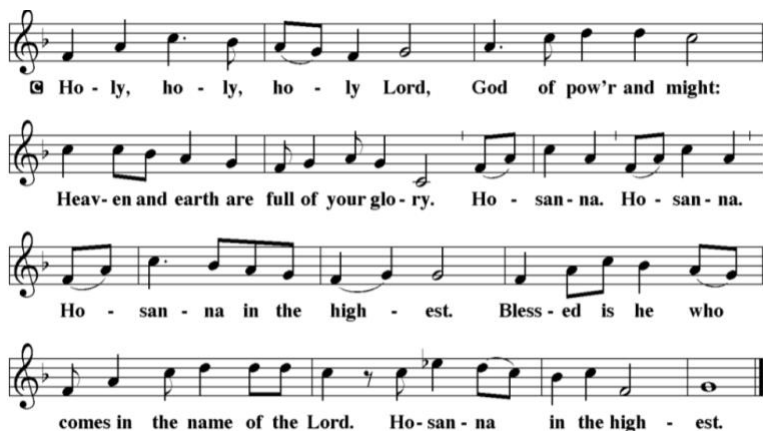
**P** Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

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

**C** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## PREFACE

L: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

L: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

p. 76

L: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray...

**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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

## COMMUNION

### SONGS DURING COMMUNION

*I Believe In Jesus*

*Hope Has A Name*

*My Only Hope Is You*

### POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

p. 72



**G** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

### BENEDICTION & AMEN

p. 74

L: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord made his face shine on you

And be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

HYMN: *The Blessing*

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Memory Verse:** 2 Chronicles 7:14 If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from Heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**