

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2026

Divine Service Setting Three

Confession and Absolution

555 Salvation unto Us Has Come

sts. 1–4

1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come By God's free grace and
2 What God did in His Law de - mand And none to Him could
3 It was a false, mis - lead - ing dream That God His Law had
4 From sin our flesh could not ab - stain, Sin held its sway un -

fa - vor; Good works can - not a - vert our doom, They
ren - der Caused wrath and woe on ev - 'ry hand For
giv - en That sin - ners could them - selves re - deem And
ceas - ing; The task was use - less and in vain, Our

help and save us nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus
man, the vile of - fend - er. Our flesh has not those
by their works gain heav - en. The Law is but a
guilt was e'er in - creas - ing. None can re - move sin's

Christ a - lone, Who did for all the
pure de - sires The spir - it of the
mir - ror bright To bring the in - bred
poi - soned dart Or pu - ri - fy our

world a - tone; He is our one Re - deem - er.
Law re - quires, And lost is our con - di - tion.
sin to light That lurks with - in our na - ture.
guile - ful heart— So deep is our cor - rup - tion.

Text: Paul Speratus, 1484–1551; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Etlich Cristlich liden, 1524, Wittenberg
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

- C **who made heaven and earth.**
 P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
 C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalms 116:12–13, 15–16; antiphon: v. 17

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving*
 and call on the name | of the LORD.
 What shall I render | to the LORD*
 for all his bene- | fits to me?
 I will lift up the cup of sal- | vation*
 and call on the name | of the LORD.
 Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
 is the death | of his saints.
 O LORD, I am your | servant*;
 I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have | loosed my bonds.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
 I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving*
 and call on the name | of the LORD.

- C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;**
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Kyrie

LSB 186

- C **Lord, have mercy upon us.**
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

- P Glory be to God on high:
 C **and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.**

**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
 we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
 O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
 O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
 For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

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.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:6–9

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found;
 call upon him while he is near;
⁷let 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.
⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
 neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
⁹For 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.**

Gradual

Psalms 34:9, 19, alt.

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

Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.
¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .
¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as 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. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only 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, ²⁸and 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. ²⁹For 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, ³⁰engaged 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.**

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190

C **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1–16

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

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹[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. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ ⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ ⁸And 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.’ ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, ‘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.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

C **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.

Sit

557 Seek Where You May to Find a Way



1 Seek where you may To find a way That
 2 Seek whom you may To be your stay, None
 3 Seek Him a - lone Who did a - tone, Who
 4 My heart's de - light, My crown most bright, O

leads to your sal - va - tion. My heart is stilled,
 can re - deem his broth - er. All help - ers failed;
 did your souls de - liv - er. O seek Him first,
 Christ, my joy for - ev - er. Not wealth nor pride

On Christ I build, He is the one foun - da - tion.
 This man pre - vailed, The God - man and none oth - er,
 All you who thirst For grace that fails you nev - er.
 Nor for - tune's tide Our bonds of love shall sev - er.

His Word is sure, His works en - dure; He o - ver - throws
 Our Ser - vant - King Of whom we sing. We're jus - ti - fied
 In ev - 'ry need Seek Him in - deed; To ev - 'ry heart
 You are my Lord; Your pre - cious Word Shall guide my way

All e - vil foes; Through Him I more than con - quer.
 Be - cause He died, The guilt - y be - ing guilt - less.
 He will im - part His bless - ings with - out mea - sure.
 And help me stay For - ev - er in Your pres - ence.

Sermon *Unthinkable Text Isaiah 55:6-9*

- P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
C **Amen.**

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

- C **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

Sit

Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**
- P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
- P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
C **It is meet and right so to do.**
- P It is truly meet, 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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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

LSB 195

- C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

- 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

LSB 197

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 T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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 T 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

LSB 197

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

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

C **O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

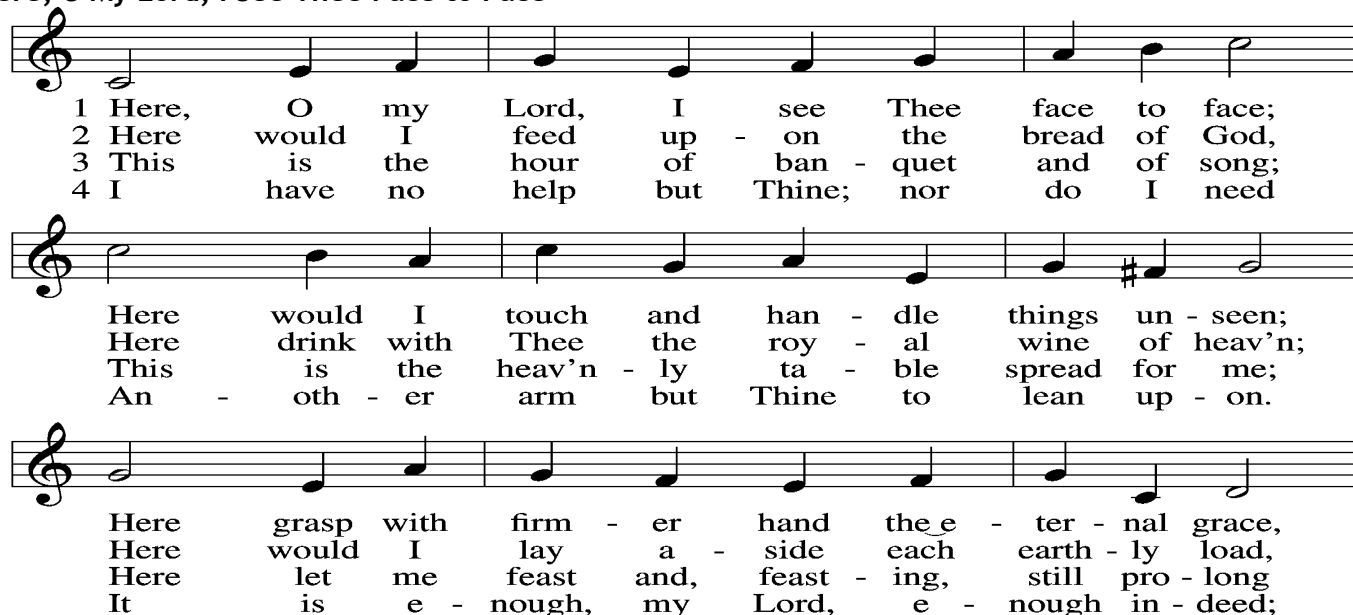
Sit

Distribution

In dismissing the communicants, 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 T in peace.
C **Amen.**

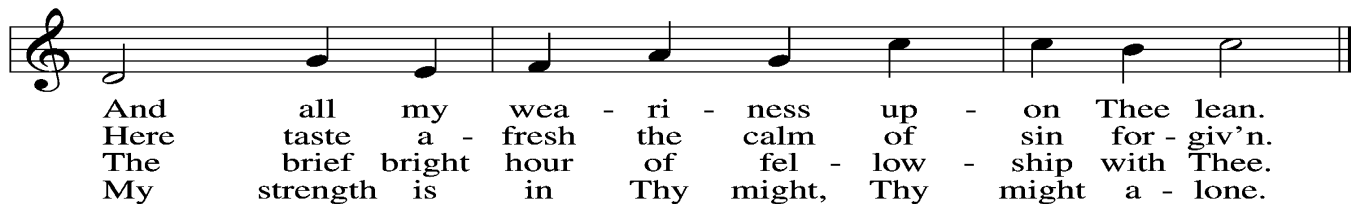
631 Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face



1 Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;
2 Here would I feed up - on the bread of God;
3 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;
4 I have no help but Thine; nor do I need

Here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen;
Here drink with Thee and the roy - al wine of heav'n;
This is the heav'n - ly ta - ble spread for me;
An - oth - er arm but Thine to lean up - on.

Here grasp with firm - er a - hand the e - ter - nal grace,
Here would I lay a - side each earth - ly load,
Here let me feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long
It is e - nough, my Lord, e - nough in - deed;



- 5 Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;
 Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
 Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
 Thy blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God.
- 6 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
 The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
 The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;
 Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.
- 7 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
 Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
 Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
 The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89, alt.
 Tune: Henry Lawes, 1595–1662
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

- C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
 for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
 a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

- A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.
- 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.**
- P** The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

- A** Bless we the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.
C Amen, amen, amen.

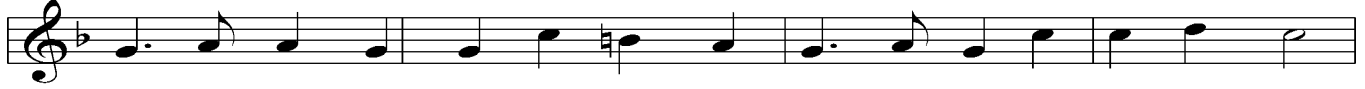
827 Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling



1 Hark, the voice of Je - sus call - ing, “Who will go and work to - day?
2 Some take up His task in morn - ing, To their Lord re - spond - ing soon;
3 For as rain and snow from heav - en Wa - ter seeds in dust - y soil,
4 Hear - ken to the Lord whose com - ing Marks the time when grace shall end,



Fields are white and har - vests wait - ing— Who will bear the sheaves a - way?”
Some are called in heat of mid - day, Oth - ers late in af - ter - noon;
Caus - ing them to bud and flow - er, Giv - ing bread to those who toil;
When with His an - gel - ic reap - ers He in glo - ry shall de - scend.



Loud and long the Mas - ter call - eth; Rich re - ward He of - fers thee.
E - ven as the sun is set - ting, Some are sent in - to the fields,
So the Lord sends forth His prom - ise, Words of life and joy and peace—
Soon the night, the fi - nal har - vest; Soon the time for work shall cease.



Who will an - swer, glad - ly say - ing, “Here am I, send me, send me”?
There to gath - er in the boun - ty That God’s Word so rich - ly yields.
Nev - er void to Him re - turn - ing, Bear - ing fruit with great in - crease.
Then the souls His grace has gar - nered Shall en - joy His Sab - bath peace.

Text (st. 1): Daniel March, 1816–1909, alt.; (sts. 2–4): Stephen P. Starke, 1955
Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838–96

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