TWENTIETH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 15, 2023
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH
Missouri Synod



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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/

Website:

Misionemanuel.com

Office Hrs, M-F 8 am to 12 pm CCLL # 2585510



"See, I have prepared my dinner;
My oxen and fatted calf are killed, and all things are ready.
Come to the wedding."
(Matthew 22:4)

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 15, 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 Merciful Father, in Your mercy You have visited me with Your Son that I might know the joy of His salvation. Grant that this joy I know in Christ may be with me in every circumstance and be fulfilled in me when I am delivered through death into everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.
- **AS WE GATHER** Food is at the center of our lives—we either live to eat or eat to live, but we always eat. In the parable of our Lord this morning, we hear the kingdom of God compared to a wedding feast. When those invited proved to be unworthy, God called every kind of person from the highways and byways of life and equipped them with a wedding garment as well as an honored place at His table. This feast is the promise of Isaiah the prophet, the joyful refrain of the beloved Psalm 23, and the

promise still given and kept by our Lord as we gather around His holy body and blood. But the Meal is not simply about the eating, but the food—Christ's flesh for the life of the world and His blood that cleanses us from all our sin. Because of this, it is the supper of our joy here on earth and the supper of our glory in heaven forevermore.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR

PAGE 203

WELCOME

PRELUDE

(A quiet time for prayer and meditation)

OPENING HYMN

Come unto Me, Ye Weary

LSB 684



- 1 "Come un to Me, ye wea ry, And I will give you rest."
- 2 "Come un to Me, ye wan d'rers, And I will give you light."
- 3 "Come un to Me, ye faint ing, And I will give you life."
- 4 "And who-so-ev-er com-eth, I will not cast him out."



- O bless ed voice of Je sus, Which comes to hearts op-pressed!
- O lov ing voice of Je sus, Which comes to cheer the night!
- O cheer-ing voice of Je sus, Which comes to aid our strife!
- O pa tient love of Je sus, Which drives a way our doubt,



tells ben - e - dic - tion, Of It of par-don, grace, and peace, hearts were filled with sad - ness, And we had lost our way; Our stern and ea - ger, The fight is fierce and long; The foe is Which, though we un - wor - thy Of love so be great and free,



Of joy that hath no end - ing, Of love that can - not cease. But Thou hast brought us glad - ness And songs at break of day. But Thou hast made us might - y And strong - er than the strong. In - vites us ver - y sin - ners To come, dear Lord, to Thee!

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,
- 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 Isaiah 61:10; antiphon: Psalm 146:2

- P While I live I will praise the Lord; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.
- C I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments, and as a

bride adorns herself with her jewels.

P While I live I will praise the Lord; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

KYRIE



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

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



In 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;



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.



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,



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—

3 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

- The Lord be with you. P
- C And with your spirit.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty God, You invite us to trust in You for our salvation. Deal with us not in the severity of Your judgment but by the greatness of Your mercy; 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 Isaiah 25:6-9

(On this mountain the Lord will make a feast for all peoples and will cast off the veil of death forever.)

6 And in this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all people a feast of choice pieces, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of well-refined wines on the lees. 7 And He will destroy on this mountain the surface of the covering cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations. 8 He will swallow up death forever, and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces; the rebuke of His people He will take away from all the earth; for the Lord has spoken. 9 And it will be said in that day: "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for Him, and He will save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for Him; we will be glad and rejoice in His salvation."

This is the Word of the Lord. P

\mathbf{C} Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 23; antiphon: v. 5a

("You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.")

 $\underset{\mathsf{6}}{\mathsf{P}}$ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

- C The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- P He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.
- C He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
- P Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
- C You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over.
- P Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord Forever.
- C 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 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

EPISTLE *Philippians 4:4–13*

("Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.")

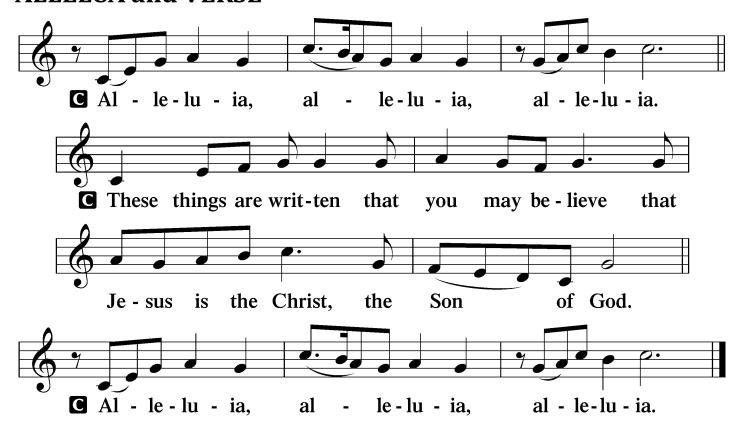
- 4 Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!
- 5 Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.
- 6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
- 8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. 9 The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.
- 10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity. 11 Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: 12 I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE 7

full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

ALLELUA and VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 22:1-14

(Many are called; few are chosen.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

1 And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: 2 "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, 3 and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. 4 Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding." '5 But

they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. 6 And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. 7 But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. 8 Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. 9 Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' 10 So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests.

11 "But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. 12 So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. 13 Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

14 "For many are called, but few are chosen."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

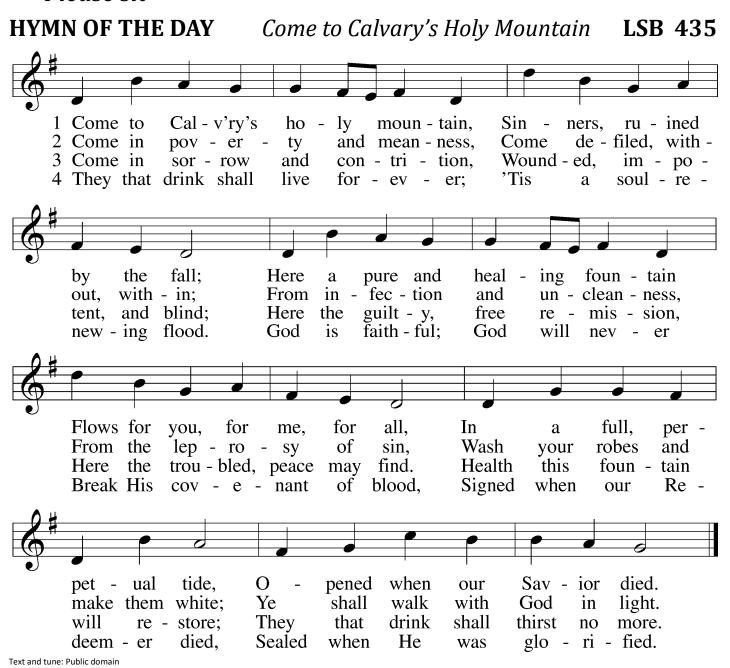
NICENE CREED

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



SERMON

"RSVP of RSVP's"

(Matthew 22:4)

OFFERTORY

Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

LSB 622; vs. 1,2,4,7



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 whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. In Your abundance, O Lord, You have supplied us with the rich food of the great feast in this blessed Eucharist and with the daily food that nourishes our bodies. Grant us grace so that we may receive these gifts with joy and respond with thanksgiving for the mighty acts by which Your Son has saved us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In Your Son, Jesus Christ, You have hidden the secret of contentment and the peace that surpasses all understanding. Give us this peace always and help us to learn contentment and joy by abiding in Your Word and Sacraments. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In Your Church, dear Father, You have brought together all nations and united us in the confession of Christ and the fellowship of His gifts. Keep us from presuming our worthiness, and help us to depend upon Your grace and to proclaim the Lord's welcome to all nations. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In Your wisdom, O Lord, You have set apart those who lead the nations and warned them of Your judgment. Awaken faith within our leaders so that they may serve us faithfully in Your name, preserve the precious gift of liberty, and encourage us to use its freedom for the holy purposes of honoring You and serving our neighbor in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In Your compassion, merciful Father, You behold the plight of all people, whether in the suffering of their bodies or in their troubled minds. Give to them healing and peace according to Your will, and comfort the grieving with Your promise of the resurrection and life to all who die in Christ, [especially . . .]. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In the grace of this communion, O Lord, Your Son has given us an

invitation and a place. Keep us from esteeming anything more important than this blessed Holy Communion in His body and blood, and fill us with repentance so that no sin may harm us as we approach His altar. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In the mercies daily and richly supplied, O Lord, You have granted us all things needful for this body and this life and supplied us with an abundance with which to aid our neighbor in need. Receive also the tithes and offerings we bring before You in gratitude for all Your gifts. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Recalling the saints who have gone before us and now rest from their labors, we pray You, Father, to bring us at last with them into the joy of Your presence and into the blessed marriage feast of the Lamb, which knows no end. Help us to fight the good fight and keep the faith so that we may look forward with joy to the reunion with all those who have gone before through Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whom, with whom, and by whom all honor and glory is Yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

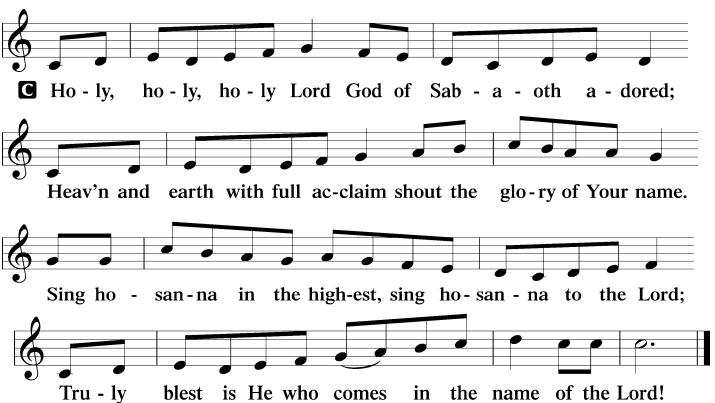
+SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

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, ever lasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross₁₃ *CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE*

Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. 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



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.

C 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.

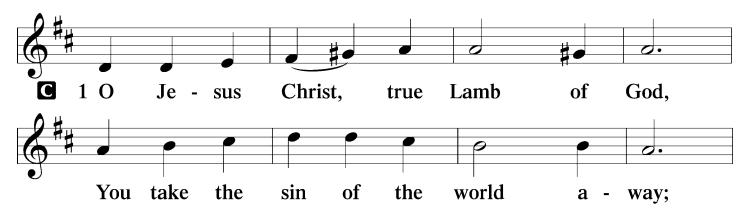
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

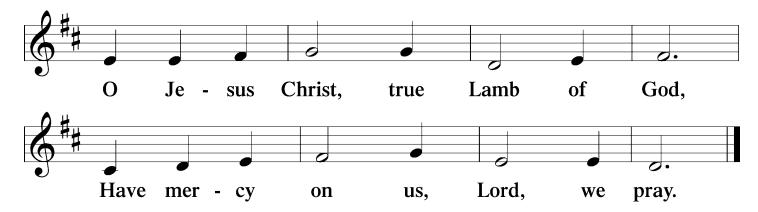
- P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when 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





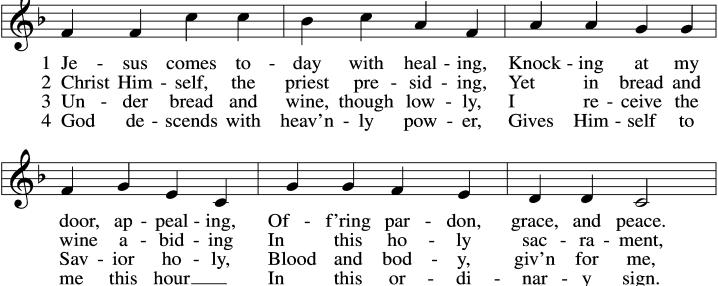
2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

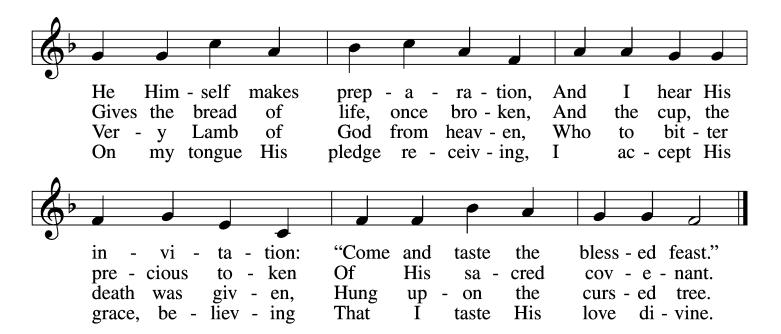
Please sit

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



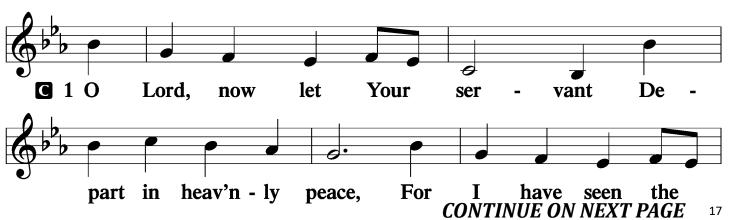


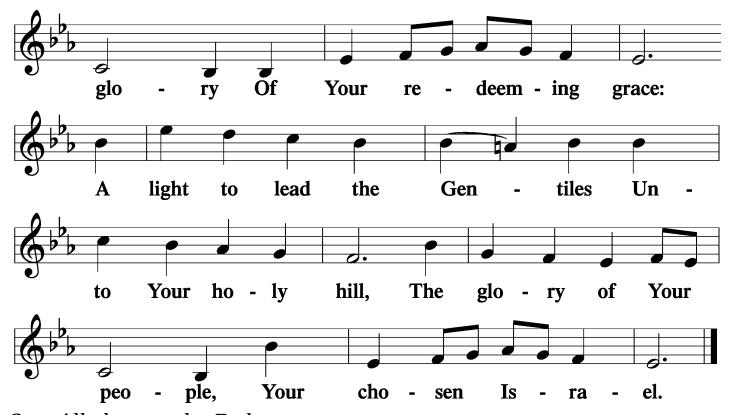
- 5 Let me praise God's boundless favor, Whose own feast of love I savor, Bidden by His gracious call. Wedding garments He provides me, With a robe of white He hides me, Fits me for the royal hall.
- 6 Now have I found consolation, Comfort in my tribulation, Balm to heal the troubled soul. God, my shield from ev'ry terror, Cleanses me from sin and error, Makes my wounded spirit whole.

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Please stand

NUNC DIMITTIS





2 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 THANKSGIVING

- Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; P
- \mathbf{C} for His steadfast love endures forever!
- P Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

On Galilee's High Mountain

LSB 835



- 1 On Gal i lee's high moun-tain Christ gave the great com mand 2 The Lord who, born of Mar y, Came down as man and died,
- 3 His strength with in my weak-ness Will make me bold to say
- 4 And not a lone to na tions In far a way re treats,



In words of strength and prom-ise Which all can un - der-stand: Who preached to all who lis-tened, For us was cru - ci - fied—How His re - deem - ing pow - er Trans-forms my stub-born clay; But ev - 'ry-where I broad-cast His love through crowd-ed streets:



"All pow'r to Me is To giv - en do what I shall choose: This Lord, our liv-ing broth-er, In pow'r at God's right hand, His touch of fire ig - nites me, With cour - age I am sent. lives that my life touch - es, How - ev - er great or small—



send My chil-dren, Their wit - ness There - fore Ι I will use." Has cho - sen to car - ry His truth to ev - 'rv us tongue - tied bro - ken, With grace made el - o - quent. si - lence My them through me Je - sus, Who served and saved us Let see

5 That ev'ryone He chooses,
For reasons of His own,
Will find in Christ his calling
To live His love alone.
His presence always leads us
Till time no more shall be;
Christ's strength, His love, His comfort
Give us His victory.

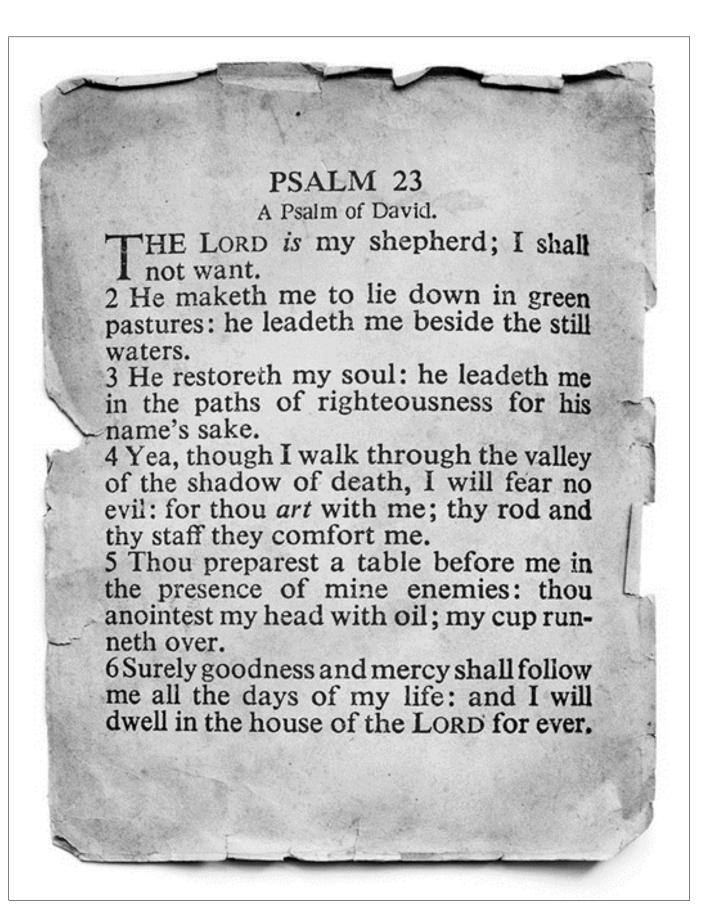
△6 Lord, gather all Your children,
Wherever they may be,
And lead them on to heaven
To live eternally
With You, our loving Father,
And Christ, our brother dear,
Whose Spirit guards and gives us
The joy to persevere.

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DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace as you serve the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE



Sermon Notes				

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Portals of Prayer for October to December 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.

October Activities

Third Quarterly Voters' Meeting

Tuesday, October 17th 7:30 p.m.

Immanuel Lutheran School

It's kettle popcorn time, place your order now til the 20th of October. Popcorn will be delivered between Oct. 27th and 30th.

Fall Market

Saturday, November 4th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., school grounds. (Vendor space available, text Lorri for more details @ 956-472-4313.)

Trunk or Treat

Tuesday, October 31st from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.; church parking spaces around the building.

(Church members and Winter Texans participation welcome)

Memory Verse Challenge

This week's memory verse: **John 8:31–32**

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Clothed in the Righteousness of Christ, We Partake of His Wedding Feast

By His cross and resurrection, the Lord has swallowed up death forever, and by His Gospel He "will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth" (Is. 25:8). Therefore, "let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation" (Is. 25:9). On the mountain of the Lord of hosts — in His Church on earth, as in the kingdom of heaven — He has made "for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine" (Is. 25:6). It is the royal "wedding feast" of the Son of God, "and everything is ready" (Matt. 22:1, 4). Thus, His servants are sent into the highways and byways to invite and gather as many as they find, "both good and bad," to fill the wedding hall with guests (Matt. 22:8–10). In Holy Baptism, He clothes them all in the "wedding garment" of His own perfect righteousness (Matt. 22:11). Therefore, "do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God," and "rejoice in the Lord always" (Phil. 4:4–6).

11

10/8/2023				
Sunday Worship	3	34	Twenty-first Sunday after	
Plate:		\$ 145.00	Pentecost Readings:	
Envelopes:		\$ 1,630.00	Ingiah 15.1 7	
On-line			Isaiah 45:1-7	
Donation: Dorm Project		\$ 100.00	Psalm 96:1-9(10-13)	
			1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	
	Total:	\$ 1,875.00	Matthew 22:15-22	
Bible Class:	13	\$ 12.00		
	Bi-Weekly	y Church Activi	ty Schedule	
	October Sunday Servants:			
Elder:	Dan Wehling			
Altar Guild:	Suzanne Wehling/Rose Ann Cisneros			
Music:	Doris Pickering			
This Week	Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost			
Usher:	Don Vogel			
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service 9:00 am			
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 am			
Next Week	Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost			
Usher:	Dan Wehling			
Sunday:	Worship Service 9:00 am			
24	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30 am			