THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH Missouri Synod



703 W 3RD Street Mercedes, TX 78570 956.565.1518 Immanuelmercedes @gmail.com

Website: lutheranmercedes.com

Rev. Ed Weber, Pastor 956.463.1305 eweber10@aol.com

> Sunday 9:00 A.M. Worship Service

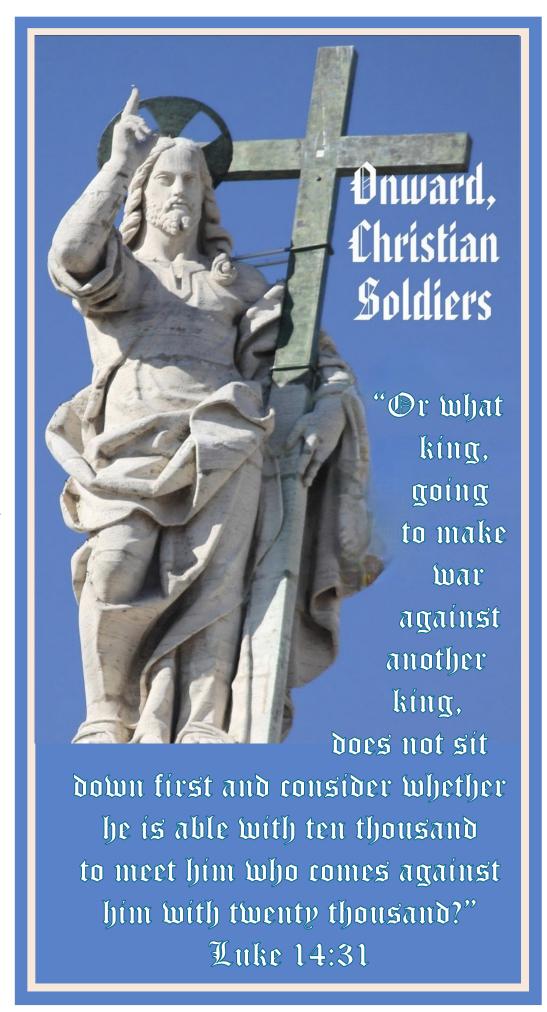
> > 10:30 A.M.

Adult Bible Class/ Sunday School

Holy Communion: Every Sunday

www.facebook.com/lutheranmercedes/

Website:
Misionemanuel.com
Office Hrs., M-F
8 am to 12 pm



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 7, 2025

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.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated every Sunday at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as Christ our Lord says, He gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-29). And through this sacrament, He strengthens us for new life in Him (Romans 8:10;1 Peter 2:4). Jesus personally invites weak sinners (Mark 9:24) who trust His words, "This is My body which is given for you... this cup is the new covenant in My blood which is shed for you" (Luke 22:19-20), to receive His blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. (Romans 8:31-32). Because "he who eats and drinks our Lord's body and blood in an unworthy manner drinks judgement to oneself" (1 Corinthians 11:29), and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith by those gathered at this altar (1 Cor.10:17;11:26), any who have not been instructed, or who hold a confession and church fellowship differing from that of this congregation, and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and desire to receive the Sacrament, should first arrange to speak with the pastor. For further study, see Matthew 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:14-20; Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 10:14-21;11:17-34.

A Prayer Upon Entering Church - O almighty God, You have promised grace sufficient for me to hear the call of the Holy Spirit, believe in Jesus who You have sent to be my Savior, and walk in the way of salvation. Give me courage and strength that I may deny myself and follow Christ in the way of the cross; through Him who died that I may live and who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one

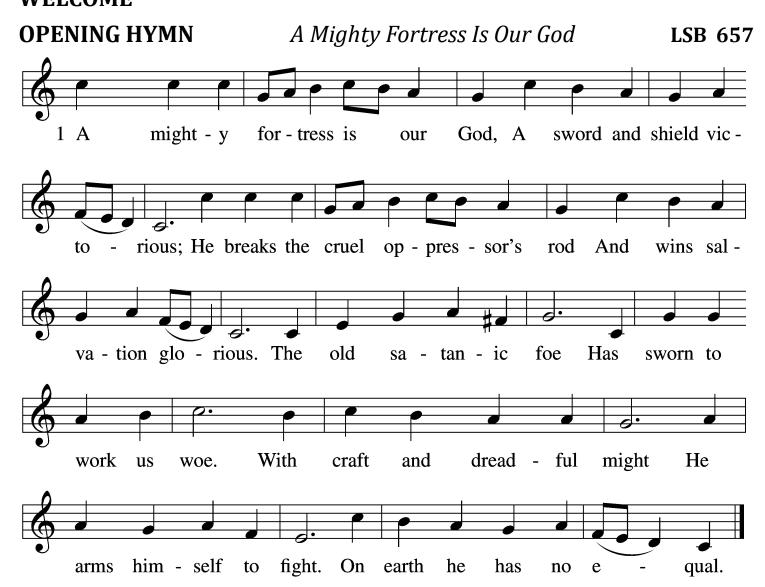
God, now and forever. Amen.

AS WE GATHER - Jesus is blunt about the cost of discipleship. He does not sugarcoat the life He calls us to in the baptismal waters but neither does He diminish His promises, gifts, and blessings that accompany this life of faith. Today He calls us to count the cost, knowing that the way of the Christian is constantly tested and tried by our affection for the things of this life, our vulnerability to the enemies of the faith, and the weakness of our own sinful flesh. Part of that cost is not just in what you desire but also in what you are willing to surrender for the sake of Christ and His kingdom.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE

PAGE 184

PRELUDE (a quiet time for prayer and meditation in preparation for worship) **WELCOME**





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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 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.
 (Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination)
- 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 *Psalm 119:28–32; antiphon: v. 27*

- P Make me understand the way of Your precepts; so shall I meditate on Your wonderful works.
- C My soul melts from heaviness; strengthen me according to Your word.
- P Remove from me the way of lying, and grant me Your law graciously.
- C I have chosen the way of truth; Your judgments I have laid before me.
- P I cling to Your testimonies; O Lord, do not put me to shame!
- C I will run the course of Your commandments, for You shall enlarge my heart.
- P Make me understand the way of Your precepts; so shall I meditate on Your wonderful works.

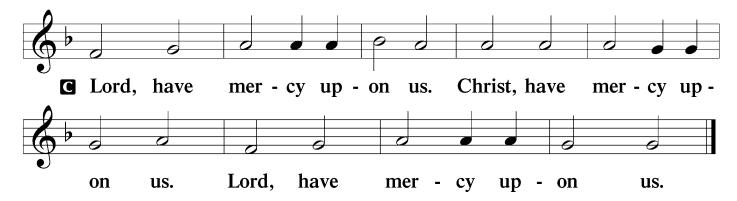
GLORIA PATRI



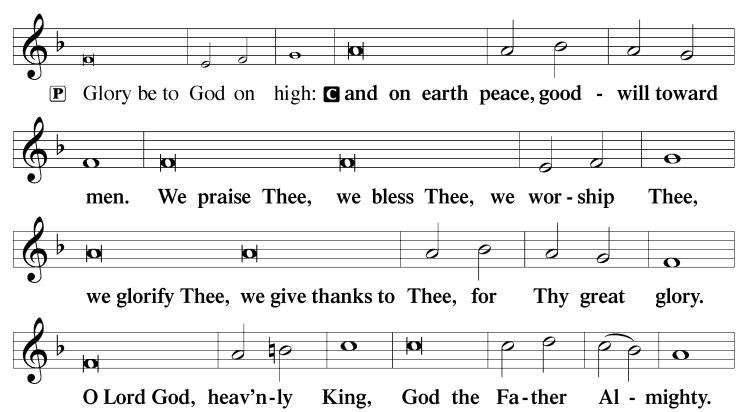


as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

KYRIE

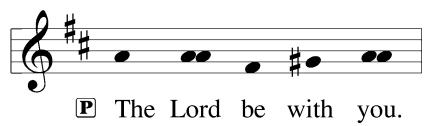


GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



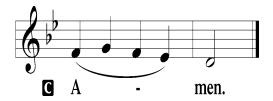


SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY





P O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Please sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING Deuteronomy 30:15–20

(I have set before you this day life and good, death and evil.)

15 "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil, 16 in that I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in His ways, and to keep His commandments, His statutes, and His judgments, that you may live and multiply; and the Lord your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess. 17 But if your heart turns away so that you do not hear, and are drawn away, and worship other gods and serve them, 18 I announce to you today that you shall surely perish; you shall not prolong your days in the land which you cross over the Jordan to go in and possess. 19 I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live; 20 that you may love the Lord your God, that you may obey His voice, and that you may cling to Him, for He is your life and the length of your days; and that you may dwell in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them."

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

PSALM *Psalm 1; antiphon: v. 6*

(Blessed is the one who walks in the way of righteousness.)

- P For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish.
- C Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful;
- P But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night.
- C He shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever he does shall prosper.
- P The ungodly are not so, but are like the chaff which the wind drives away.
- C Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.
- P For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

EPISTLE *Philemon 1–21*

(Paul's letter commending the slave Onesimus back to his master, not only as a slave but as a brother in the Lord.)

- 1 Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon our beloved friend and fellow laborer, 2 to the beloved Apphia, Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house:
- 3 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 4 I thank my God, making mention of you always in my prayers, 5 hearing of your love and faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints, 6 that the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. 7 For we have great joy and consolation in your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed by you, brother.

8 Therefore, though I might be very bold in Christ to command you what is fitting, 9 yet for love's sake I rather appeal to you—being such a one as Paul, the aged, and now also a prisoner of Jesus Christ— 10 I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten while in my chains, 11 who once was unprofitable to you, but now is profitable to you and to me.

12 I am sending him back. You therefore receive him, that is, my own heart, 13 whom I wished to keep with me, that on your behalf he might minister to me in my chains for the gospel. 14 But without your consent I wanted to do nothing, that your good deed might not be by compulsion, as it were, but voluntary.

15 For perhaps he departed for a while for this purpose, that you might receive him forever,

16 no longer as a slave but more than a slave—a beloved brother, especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

17 If then you count me as a partner, receive him as you would me. 18 But if he has wronged you or owes anything, put that on my account. 19 I, Paul, am writing with my own hand. I will repay—not to mention to you that you owe me even your own self besides. 20 Yes, brother, let me have joy from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in the Lord.

21 Having confidence in your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say. 22 But, meanwhile, also prepare a guest room for me, for I trust that through your prayers I shall be granted to you.

23 Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, greets you, 24 as do Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, Luke, my fellow laborers.

25 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

ALLELUIA

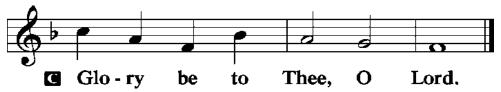


HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 14:25-35

(Jesus speaks of the cost of discipleship and calls on those who would follow Him to deny themselves and take up the cross.)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter. P



25 Now great multitudes went with Him. And He turned and said to them, 26 "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. 27 And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. 28 For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it—29 lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, 30 saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish'? 31 Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? 32 Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. 33 So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple. 34 "Salt is good; but if the salt has lost its flavor, how shall it be seasoned?35 It is neither fit for the land nor for the dunghill, but men throw it out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" This is the Gospel of the Lord.



NICENE CREED

All: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

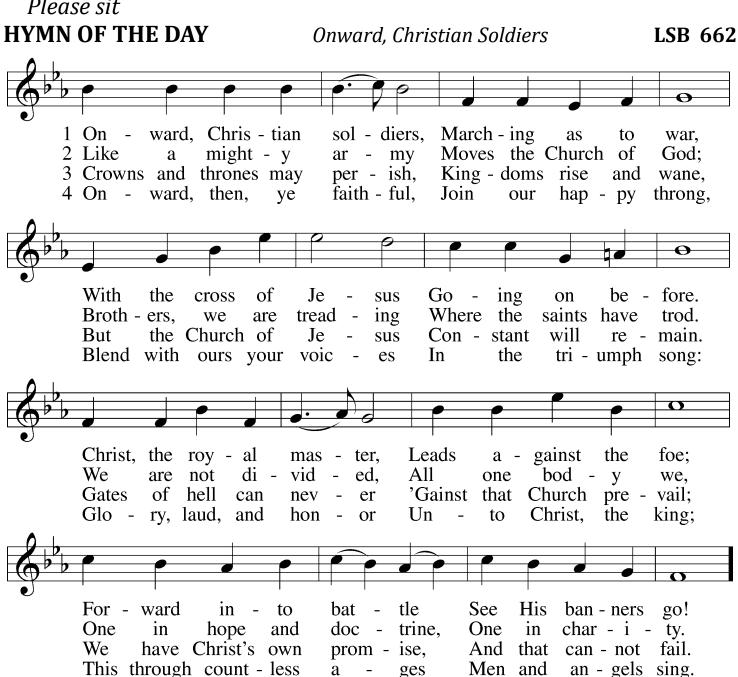
And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and (Continue on next page)

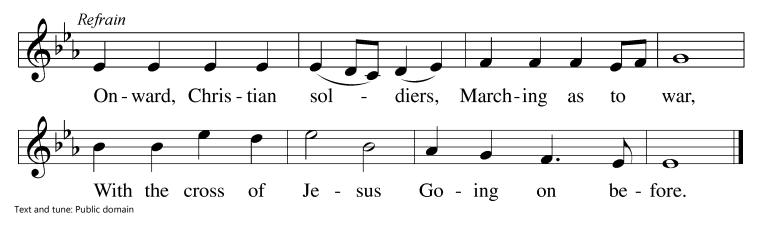
for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right 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

12

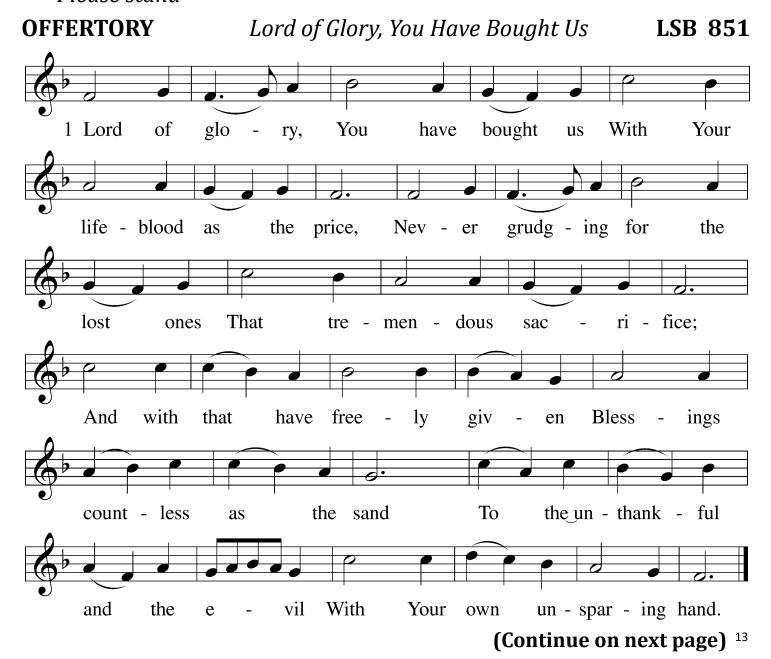




SERMON "Going to spiritual battle with the right resource – the Luke 14:31-33

OFFERING

Please stand





SHARING OF THE PEACE "Peace be with you" [American Sign Language]
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ and for all people according to their needs.

That we walk with Christ the heavenly way and follow Him where He has led, that by His obedient life, His life-giving death, and His victorious resurrection we receive the crown of everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That we be wise unto salvation, counting the cost of following Jesus, and by His grace and favor be sustained upon the path of life against all temptations and doubt, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy. C

P That all the nations and their leaders work for peace, that the elected and appointed leaders of our own land act with integrity in the protection of our liberty and in the pursuit of justice, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

That the Lord bless the proclamation of His Word here and in every place and that pastors serve us faithfully in Christ's name, distributing to us the gifts of His grace in the Holy Sacraments, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

That all those afflicted in body or mind find healing and relief and those near death and the grieving find comfort, [especially . . .], and for all whom we name in our hearts, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy. C

P That we learn gratitude for the manifold and rich gifts which God supplies every day and that we learn generosity to share with those in need, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy. C

P That we receive in repentance and with faith the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given to us in this Holy Communion and that we manifest the unity of heart and mind in all the doctrines taught us by His Word, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

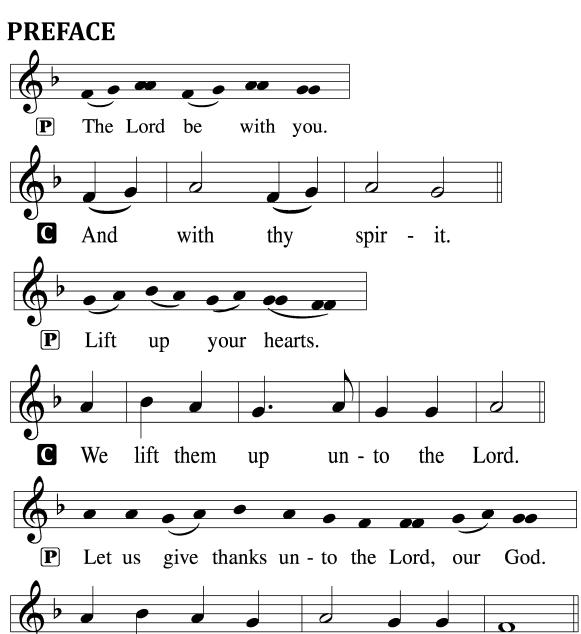
That we be kept holy and blameless until the day of Christ's coming P and be received by the mercy of God into the place of everlasting light and life in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

Silence for meditation.

- P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +



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,

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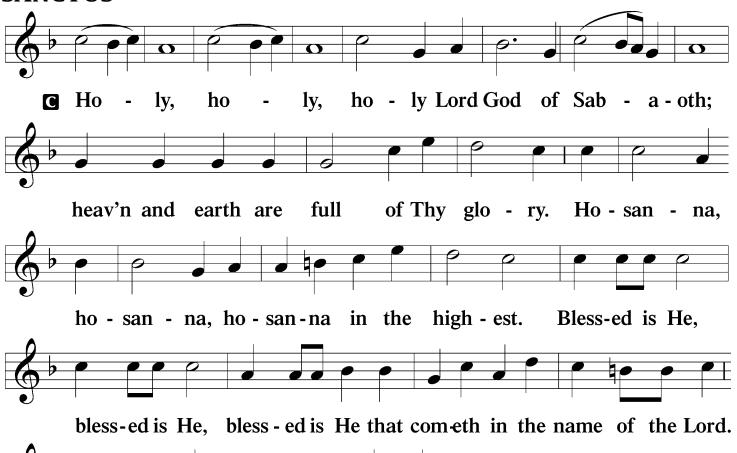
is

meet

and

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:

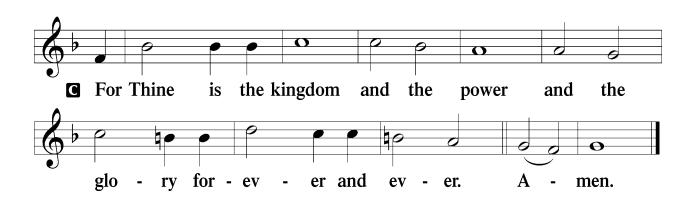
SANCTUS



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9–13*)

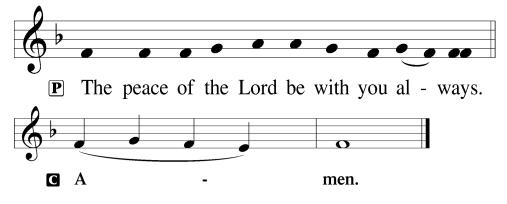
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.



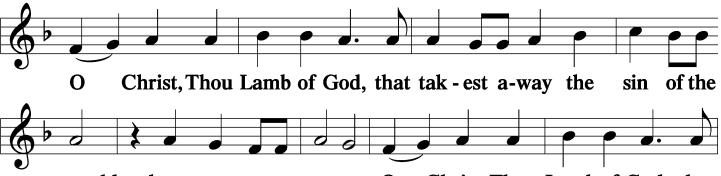
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- 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."

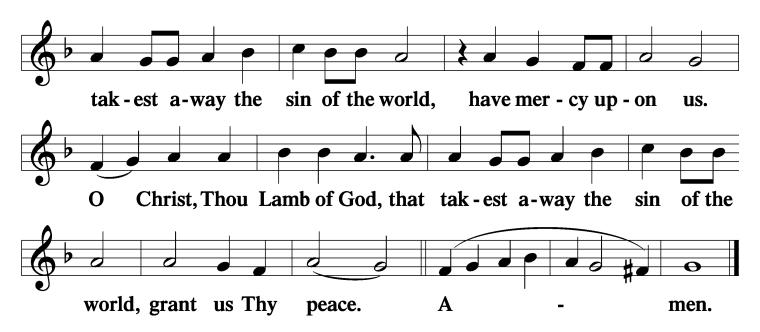
PAX DOMINI



AGNUS DEI



world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that

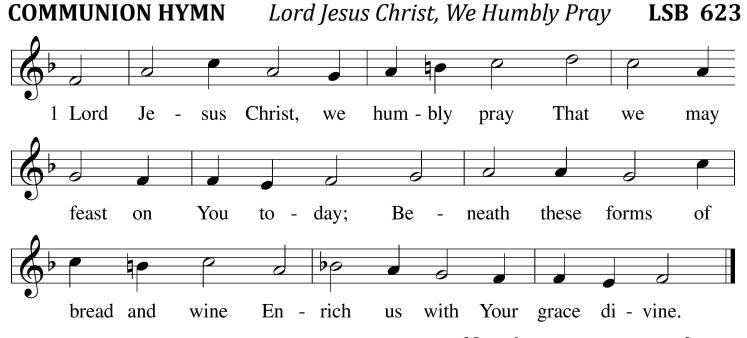


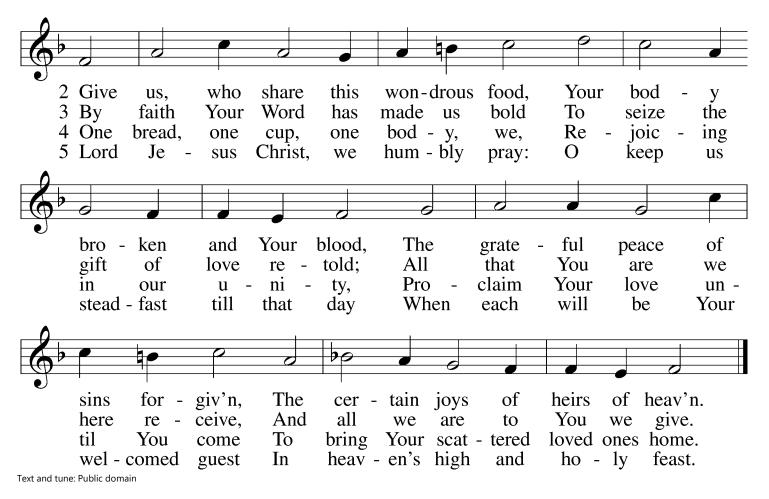
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DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

SILENT PRAYER before COMMUNING

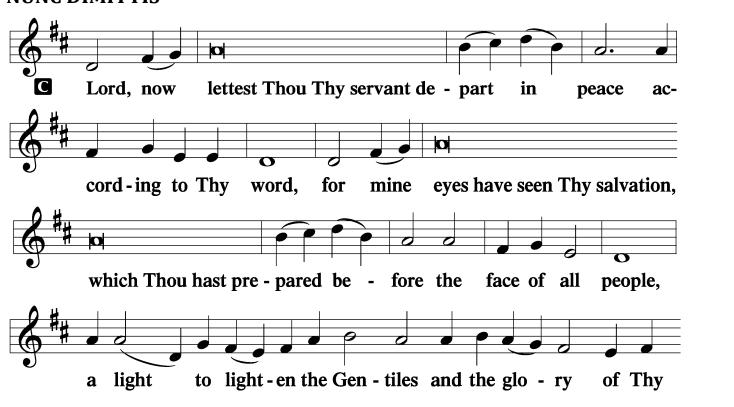
Heavenly Father, in my Holy Baptism you have called me to be Your own possession. Prepare my heart to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and assure me a place at Your heavenly table, where I will eat eternal 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.





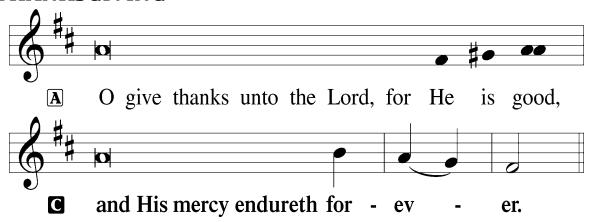
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NUNC DIMITTIS





THANKSGIVING



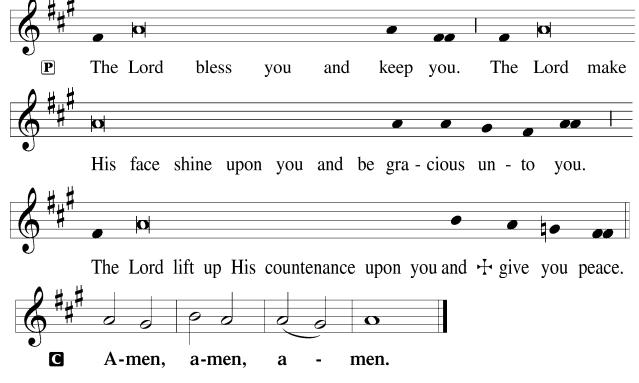
P Let us pray. O holy and most merciful God, You have taught us the way of Your commandments. We implore You to pour out Your grace into our hearts. Cause it to bear fruit in us that, being ever mindful of Your mercies and Your laws, we may always be directed to Your will and daily increase in love toward You and one another. Enable us to resist all evil and to live a godly life. Help us to follow the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to walk in His steps until we shall possess the kingdom that has been prepared for us in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.



BENEDICAMUS



BENEDICTION



Please sit





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DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Memory Verse Challenge: Psalm 37:5

Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

Christ Jesus Has Paid the Cost of Discipleship for You

A disciple of Jesus Christ will "bear his own cross" (Luke 14:27) and follow the Lord through death into life. Discipleship is costly because it crucifies the old man with "all that he has" (Luke 14:33), in order to raise up the new man in Christ. The disciple disavows "his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life" (Luke 14:26), in deference to Christ. That way of the cross is impossible, except that Christ Jesus has already paid the cost. His cross is set before you as "life and good, death and evil" (Deut. 30:15). Taking up His cross is to "choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him" (Deut. 30:19 -20). To live that life in Christ is also to bear His cross in love, "that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord" (Philemon 14).

| 8/31/2025 | |
|----------------|----|
| Sunday Worship | 43 |

Plate: \$ 175.00

Envelopes: \$ 1,985.00

Envelopes-Other:

Donation:

On Line \$ 750.00

Memorial:

Total: \$ 2,910.00

Bible Class: **N/A** \$.00

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(Proper 19)

Ezekiel 34:11–24 Psalm 119:169-176 1 Timothy 1:(5–11) 12–17

Luke 15:1-10

| | Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|----------|
| | September Sunday Servants: | |
| Elder: | Byron Terral | |
| Altar Guild: | Billie Jo Neuhaus/ Maggie Weber | |
| Music: | Doris Pickering | |
| This Week | Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost | |
| Usher: | Earl Neuhaus | |
| Sunday: | Holy Communion Worship Service | 9:00 am |
| | Sunday School & Adult Bible Study | 10:30 am |
| Next Week | Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost | |
| Usher: | Ken Eilers | |
| Sunday: | Holy Communion Worship Service | 9:00 am |
| | Sunday School & Adult Bible Study | 10:30 am |