

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Faith Lutheran Church

Many Are Called, Few Are Chosen

October 15, 2023



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.



Invocation

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

C Amen.

God's Kids Song "Our Hears are Overflowing"

God's Kids Message and Prayer

Exhortation

LSB 151

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.

Kneel/Stand

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

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

Absolution

LSB 151

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Sit

Hymn Almighty Father, Bless the Word #923



1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, bless the Word Which through Your
2 We praise You for the means of grace As home - ward
 Δ 3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all



grace we now have heard. Oh, may the pre - cious
 now our steps we trace. Grant, Lord, that we who
 crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye



seed take root, Spring up, and bear a - bun - dant fruit!
 wor - shipped here May all at last in heav'n ap - pear.
 heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text (sts. 1–2): Church Poetry, 1823, Philadelphia, alt.; (st. 3): Thomas Ken, 1637–1711. Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois. Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Opening Versicles

Common

LSB 260

- L** This is the day which the Lord has made;
- C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.

- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

- L** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
- C** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

- L** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
- C** Teach me Your paths.

- L** Sanctify us in Your truth.
- C** Your Word is truth.

- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

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.

Old Testament Canticle

LSB 261



Refrain

C The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



With joy will you draw wa - ter from the



wells of sal - va - tion.

And you will say in that



day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,



make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -



claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."



Refrain

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done
 glo - rious-ly; let this be made known in all the
 earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -
 hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the
 Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

Refrain
 The Lord God is my strength and my song, and
 He has be - come my sal - va - tion.
 Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son
 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will
 be for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain



The Lord God is my strength and my song, and
He has become my sal - va - tion.

Sit

Readings From Holy Scripture

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.)

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations.

⁸He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

⁹It will be said on that day, “Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

Reading Response

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading *Philippians 4:4–13* (“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.”)

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and

supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Reading Response

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading *Matthew 22:1–14* (Many are called; few are chosen.)

¹Again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, ³and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, ‘See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.’ ⁵But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. ⁷The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not

worthy. ⁹Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.' ¹⁰And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹"But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. ¹²And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen."

Reading Response

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

Responsory

Common

LSB 263

- Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
- Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

- Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
- Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

Stand

Catechism

Ten Commandments

- C** You shall have no other gods.
You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
Honor your father and your mother.
You shall not murder.
You shall not commit adultery.
You shall not steal.
You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Apostles' Creed

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

- 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.

Sermon Hymn Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us #711



1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we
 2 We are Yours; in love be - friend us, Be the
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and
 4 Ear - ly let us seek Your fa - vor, Ear - ly



need Your ten - der care. In Your pleas - ant pas - tures
 guard - ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de -
 sin - ful though we be; You have mer - cy to re -
 let us do Your will; Bless - ed Lord and on - ly



feed us, For our use Your fold pre - pare.
 fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray.
 lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 Sav - ior, With Your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have



bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,



bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.
 bless - ed Je - sus, You have loved us, love us still.

Sermon "All are called; few are chosen" - Matthew 22:1-14

Offering and Hymn Sent Forth by God's Blessing #643

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks - giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,
The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.
The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face.
The Sup-per is end-ed, O now be ex-tend-ed
Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,
The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
Em-brac-ing His chil-dren of each tribe and race.
The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;
Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
U-nite us as one in this life that we share.
His grace did in-vite us, His love shall u-nite us
Then may all the liv-ing With praise and thanks-giv-ing
To work for God's king-dom and an-swer His call.
Give hon-or to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916-97, alt. Tune: Welsh. Text: © 1964 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110006139. Tune: Public domain

Prayer

L In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L For . . . *additional bids for prayer may be inserted here* . . .
let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

L Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us
pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

Collect of the Day

L 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.**

Collect for the Word

L Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be
written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read,
mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and
comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold
fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ,
Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Morning Prayer

C **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ,
Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all
harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this
day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and
life may please You. For into Your hands I commend
myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy
angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over
me.**

New Testament Canticle

LSB 266



C Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



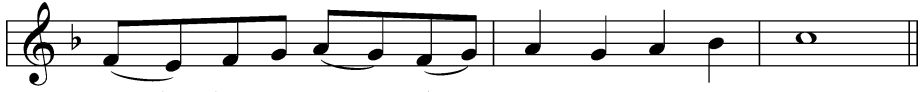
lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.



Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.



Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.



Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Dy - ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv - ing, He



lives to God. Count your - selves as dead to



sin and a - live to God in Christ Je - sus, our Lord.

Refrain

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -
lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Blessing

LSB 267

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 267

- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
- C** Amen.

Closing Hymn Abide, O Dearest Jesus #919

- 1 A - bide, O dear - est Je - sus, A - mong us with Your grace
- 2 A - bide, O dear Re - deem - er, A - mong us with Your Word,
- 3 A - bide with heav'n - ly bright - ness A - mong us, pre - cious Light;
- 4 A - bide with rich - est bless - ings A - mong us, boun - teous Lord;

That Sa - tan may not harm us Nor we to sin give place.
And thus now and here - af - ter True peace and joy af - ford.
Your truth di - rect and keep us From er - ror's gloom - y night.
Let us in grace and wis - dom Grow dai - ly through Your Word.

- 5 Abide with Your protection
Among us, Lord, our strength,
Lest world and Satan fell us
And overcome at length.
- 6 Abide, O faithful Savior,
Among us with Your love;

Grant steadfastness and help us To reach our home above.

Text: Josua Stegmann, 1588–1632; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615
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