

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 13, 2026

Christ's blessings to all! **To our visitors**, we rejoice to have you gathered together with us in our Lord's House this day & look forward to having you with us again. If you are searching for a Church home, **please introduce yourself to Pastor** afterwards, or indicate such together **with your contact information** in the red 'Fellowship Booklets' located in each pew.

The Order of Service without Holy Communion

Prelude

Hymn – #324 v. 1, 2, 7, 8

"Jesus Sinners Doth Receive"

Stand

Invocation

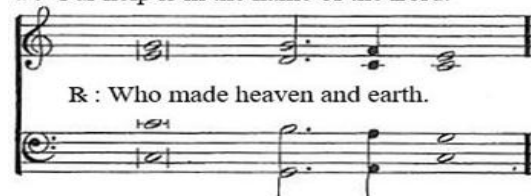
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.



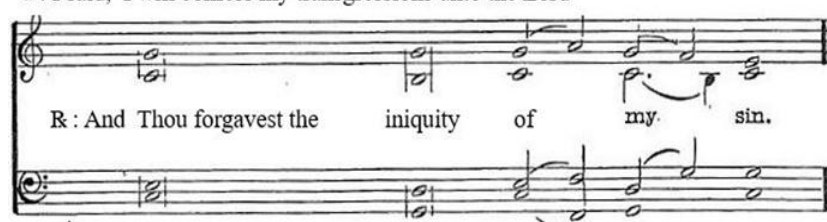
The Confession of Sins

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.

V: Our help is in the name of the Lord.



V: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord



Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us and hath given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgiveth us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He giveth power to become the sons of God and hath promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this Lord, unto us all.



Introit Psalm 143:1-2; v. 9

Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD!

I have fled to you for refuge!

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!

In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!

*Enter not into judgment with your servant,
for no one living is righteous before you.*

Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD!

I have fled to you for refuge!

Gloria Patri

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The musical score for Gloria Patri is written for two staves (treble and bass clef) in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The first line of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and the second line corresponds to the second line of lyrics.

Kyrie

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Ohrist, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The musical score for Kyrie is written for two staves (treble and bass clef) in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The first line of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and the second line corresponds to the second line of lyrics.

The Gloria in Excelsis

Glory be to God on high: And on earth peace; good will toward

men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

The musical score for The Gloria in Excelsis is written for two staves (treble and bass clef) in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The first line of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and the second line corresponds to the second line of lyrics.

That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-on us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Ohrist, with the Ho-ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

The Salutation

V: The Lord be with you.

R: And with thy Spir-it.

Let us pray.

The Collect for The Day

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

R: A-men.

Sit

The Catechism Review – The Lord's Prayer

What is The Seventh Petition?

But deliver us from evil.

What does this mean? We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.

What is The Conclusion? For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

What does this mean? This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means “yes, yes, it shall be so.”

Old Testament Reading Genesis 50:15–21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, “It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him.” ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.” And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your servants.” ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

Epistle Romans 14:1–12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

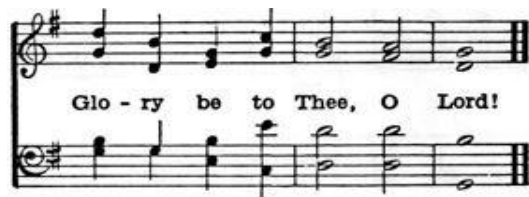
¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Stand



Holy Gospel Matthew 18:21–35

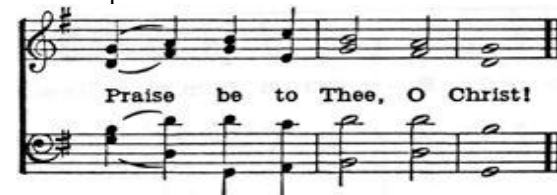
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.



²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



The Apostles' Creed

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 Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

Sit

Sermon Hymn LSB #842

“Son of God, Eternal Savior”



1 “For - give our sins as we for - give,”
2 How can Your par - don reach and bless
3 In blaz - ing light Your cross re - veals
4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls



You taught us, Lord, to pray; But You a - lone can
The un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and
The truth we dim - ly knew: What triv - ial debts are
And bid re - sent - ment cease; Then, bound to all in



grant us grace To live the words we say.
will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?
owed to us, How great our debt to You!
bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.

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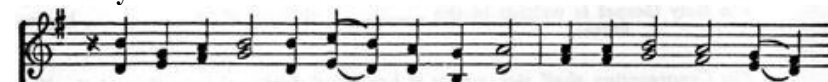
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Sermon “The Comprehensive Life of Forgiveness”

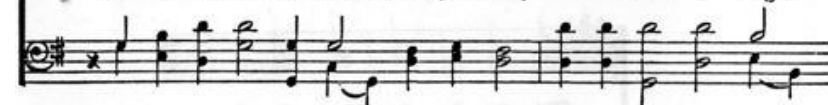
Matthew 18:21-35

Stand

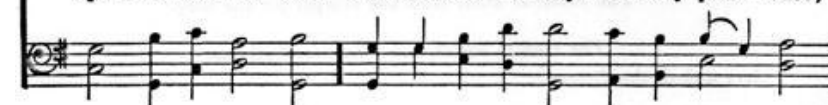
Offertory



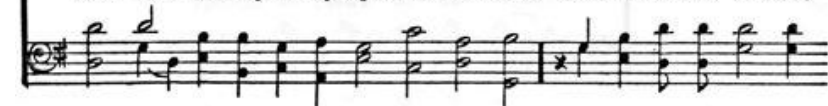
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



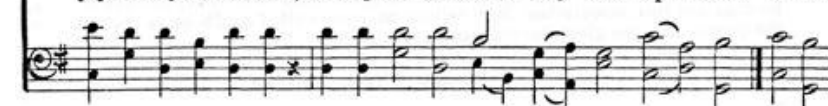
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Thy pres - ence;



and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the



joy of Thy sal - va - tion; and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.



Sit

The Offering

Stand

The General Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

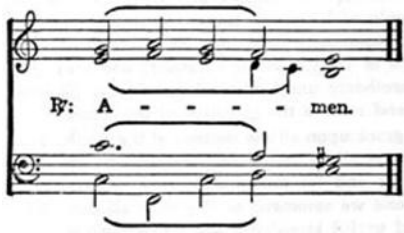
Sit

Hymn #375

“If Thy Beloved Son, O God”

Stand

The Collect for the Word / Church

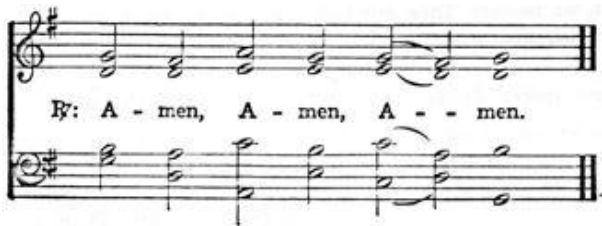


The Benediction

The Lord bless thee and keep thee.

The Lord make His face shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee and give thee peace.



Sit

Closing Hymn #652

“I Lay My Sins on Jesus”

Silent Prayer & Postlude

Daily Readings September 13: 2 Chron. 32:1–22; Col. 1:1–23; **14:** 2 Chron. 33:1–25; Col. 1:24–2:7; **15:** 2 Chron. 34:1–4, 8–11, 14–33; Col. 2:8–23; **16:** 2 Chron. 35:1–7, 16–25; Col. 3:1–25; **17:** 2 Chron. 36:1–23; Col. 4:1–18; **18:** Neh. 1:1–2:10; 1 Tim. 1:1–20; **19:** Neh. 2:11–20; 4:1–6; 1 Tim. 2:1–15.

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