

September 17, 2023
The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

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St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church exists by the grace of God to be the body of Christ in Holbrook. Therefore, we proclaim God's word to the world, teach the faithful, administer the sacraments, and show the love of Christ in care for our community. Welcome! Every person who comes to worship is a special gift from God. Thank you for being with us today!

Serving in God's house

Presiding Minister: Rev. George Kirkup
Reader: Lennox Debra
Organist: Doreen Leonard

Stand

Chief of Sinners Though I Be

LSB 611:1-5

- 1 Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high, lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
- 2 Oh, the height of Jesus' love, higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea, lasting as eternity!
Love that found me—wondrous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
- 3 Only Jesus can impart balm to heal the wounded heart,
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n, joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
Faith and hope to walk with God in the way that Enoch trod.
- 4 Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known, all my sorrows are His own.
He sustains the hidden life safe with Him from earthly strife.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

p.184

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ 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.

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... 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 143

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.



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



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

Deliver me from my enemies, O LORD!

I have fled to you for refuge!

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

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

Sit

A The Old Testament Reading for the Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost is from Genesis, chapter fifty.

When 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.” So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, “Your father gave this command before he died, ‘Say 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. His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your servants.” But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As 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. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 103:1–12

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

**Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,**
who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
**who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**
who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.

**The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.

**The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.

**He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
**as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

A The Epistle is from Romans, chapter fourteen.

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. Let 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. Who 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. One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. The 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. For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. If 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. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

Why 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; for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA

p.190

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21–35

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

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

Then Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven. "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And 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. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But 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.' So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When 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. Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So 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.

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

Sit

Come Down, O Love Divine

LSB 501

- 1 Come down, O Love divine; seek Thou this soul of mine,
And visit it with Thine own ardor glowing; O Comforter, draw near;
Within my heart appear, and kindle it, Thy holy flame bestowing.
- 2 O let it freely burn, till worldly passions turn
To dust and ashes in its heat consuming; and let Thy glorious light
Shine ever on my sight, and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
- 3 Let holy charity mine outward vesture be
And lowliness become mine inner clothing—true lowliness of heart,
Which takes the humbler part, and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.
- 4 And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
Shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling; no soul can guess His grace
Till it become the place wherein the Holy Spirit makes His dwelling.

SERMON

“Loan Forgiveness”

Stand

OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

COLLECT TO RECEIVE THE WORD

BENEDICTION

p.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 ✠ give you peace.
C Amen, amen, amen.

I Lay My Sins on Jesus

LSB 606

- 1 I lay my sins on Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us from the accursèd load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus to wash my crimson stains
Clean in His blood most precious till not a spot remains.
- 2 I lay my wants on Jesus; all fullness dwells in Him;
He heals all my diseases; my soul He does redeem.
I lay my griefs on Jesus, my burdens and my cares;
He from them all releases; He all my sorrows shares.
- 3 I rest my soul on Jesus, this weary soul of mine;
His right hand me embraces; I on His breast recline.
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;
Like fragrance on the breezes His name abroad is poured.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.
The Lord bless you. The Lord keep you. Alleluia. Amen

In Holy Communion, our Lord invites us to eat and drink His true body and blood. In preparation for this sacrament, each communicant will examine himself and come to the Lord's Table seeking forgiveness of sins. As the catechism says, "a person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: 'Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.'" Therefore, we expect all communicants to have been baptized, instructed in the Christian faith, repent of their sins, and believe that Jesus here offers His true body and blood for their forgiveness.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

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 ... evermore praising God and saying:

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

p.197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Sit

AGNUS DEI

p.198

DISTRIBUTION

Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

LSB 623

Your Table I Approach

LSB 628

NUNC DIMITTIS

p.199

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C **and His mercy endureth forever.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

p.201

PAULINE BENEDICTION



IN OUR PRAYERS: Joyce Barbagallo, Barbara, Terry Stapleton, Melissa Krause, Kathy Cecere, Richie & Tara Grey, Bruce, Richie LaPresti, Lenora Debra, Linda Konecny, Patricia DiBrico, Barbara Gerke, Zachary Pompee

CHURCH MEMBERS: Paul Cataldo, John Wimmer, Rich & Betty Kuerner, Gene Maceiko, MaryAnne Boucher, Arlene Enz

OUR SHUT-INS: Charles & Ethel Nenstiel

THOSE IN THE MILITARY: Jonathan Swedborg (Rangers), Mark Kummer (USN), Kristine Broger (USA), Michael Deck (USAF), Patrick Ullrich (USA)

OUR CHILDREN: Andrew Zeo, Liam Balroop, Thomas Cataldo, Mars Crowley

FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S: Millie Laub, Ciece Laub, Esther Laub, Nancy Cataldo, Valerie Lake, Rebecca Shannon, Erin Nicole Kuerner, Ken Skjeveland, Bonnie Krumsiek, Jacquelyn Berntsen, Frank Sandmeyer, Balmick Persaud, Beth Laine Mattarella, Bob Selkirk, Carolyn Gronlund, Shirley Koenig

TODAY: Church Picnic at 12PM.

Tuesday (9/19): Bible Study 10AM-12PM

Tuesday (9/19): Confirmation Class 6:30-8PM.

Saturday 9/23: Annual Ladies' Aide Fall Auction

Please pick up shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child