



September 15, 2024

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Ken Bersche

*Janis Lapham, Organist  
Maggie Kent, Secretary*

## Prelude

### Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“How Firm a Foundation”

- ♪ How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
What more can He say than to you He has said  
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?
- ♪ “Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,  
For I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.
- ♪ “The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose  
I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no never, no never, forsake!
- ♪ “When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,  
My grace, all-sufficient, will be your supply.  
The flames will not hurt you; I only design  
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.
- ♪ “Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove  
My sov’ reign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,  
Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.”

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 728-Text: A Selection of Hymns, London 1787; Tune: Genuine Church Music, Winchester 1832;  
Setting: Joseph Herl b.1959; ©2006 Concordia Publishing House; Used by permission; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

## Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

*Matthew 28:19b*

## Confession and Absolution

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**Who made heaven and earth.**

*Psalms 124:8*

If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
**But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

*Psalms 32:5*

Since we are gathered to have our faith strengthened by hearing God's Word and by receiving our Lord's body and blood in the fellowship of this altar, but cannot come before God in our sinful condition, let us seek His infinite mercy and ask our heavenly Father's forgiveness.

**Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive the weakness of our faith and our many sins, and restore us to fellowship with You and one another, now and forever.**

*A Time of Silence*

In Holy Baptism our heavenly Father declared us to be His children and united us to His Son, by whose death and resurrection all our sins are forgiven. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, our support and defense in every need, continue to preserve Your church in safety, govern her by Your goodness, and bless her with Your peace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **Hymn of Praise** *Please Be Seated*

“Beautiful Savior”

♪ Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love Thee, Truly I'd serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

♪ Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

♪ Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky.

♪ Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration Now and forevermore be Thine!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 537- Text: Munsterisch Gesangbuch, Munster, 1677, tr. Joseph A. Seiss 1823-1904  
Tune: Silesian, 19<sup>th</sup> cent., setting: Service Book and Hymnal 1958; Public Domain.

## **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 50:4–10

<sup>4</sup>The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught,  
that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary.

Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.

<sup>5</sup>The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward.

<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who strike, and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;  
I hid not my face from disgrace and spitting.

<sup>7</sup>But the Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced;

therefore I have set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

<sup>8</sup>He who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together.

Who is my adversary? Let him come near to me.

<sup>9</sup>Behold, the Lord God helps me; who will declare me guilty?  
Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment; the moth will eat them up.  
<sup>10</sup>Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the voice of his servant?  
Let him who walks in darkness and has no light  
trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God.  
This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Epistle

James 3:1–12

<sup>1</sup>Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. <sup>4</sup>Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, <sup>8</sup>but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual Hymn

“Take My Life and Let It Be”

- ♪ Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee; Take my moments and my days,  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
- ♪ Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love; Take my feet and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for Thee, Swift and beautiful for Thee.
- ♪ Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King; Take my lips and let them be  
Filled with messages from Thee, Filled with messages from Thee.
- ♪ Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold; Take my intellect and use  
Ev’ry pow’r as Thou shalt choose, Ev’ry pow’r as Thou shalt choose.
- ♪ Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine; Take my heart, it is Thine own,  
It shall be Thy royal throne, It shall be Thy royal throne.
- ♪ Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store; Take myself, and I will be  
Ever, only, all for Thee, Ever, only, all for Thee.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 784-Text: Frances R. Havergal 1836-79;  
Tune: Henri A.C. Malan 1787-1864; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

## **Holy Gospel** *Please Stand*

Mark 9:14–29

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

### **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup>And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. <sup>15</sup>And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. <sup>16</sup>And he asked them, “What are you arguing about with them?” <sup>17</sup>And someone from the crowd answered him, “Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. <sup>18</sup>And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able.” <sup>19</sup>And he answered them, “O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me.” <sup>20</sup>And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. <sup>21</sup>And Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood. <sup>22</sup>And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.” <sup>23</sup>And Jesus said to him, “‘If you can’! All things are possible for one who believes.” <sup>24</sup>Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, “I believe; help my unbelief!” <sup>25</sup>And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” <sup>26</sup>And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, “He is dead.” <sup>27</sup>But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. <sup>28</sup>And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” <sup>29</sup>And he said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

### **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Nicene Creed**

## **Children’s Message** *Please Be Seated*

### **The Hymn**

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

- ♪ What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry Ev’rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit; Oh, what needless pain we bear—  
All because we do not carry Ev’rything to God in prayer!
- ♪ Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged—Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev’ry weakness- Take it to the Lord in prayer.
- ♪ Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge—Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In His arms He’ll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a solace there.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 770 - Text: Joseph M. Scriven 1819-86; Tune: Charles C. Converse 1832-1918;  
Setting: The Hymn Book 1971; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

## Proclamation of the Word

“If ‘ifs’ and ‘buts’ Were Candy and Nuts”

Mark 9:14–29

## Offering and Musical Offering

**Prayer of the Church** *Please Stand Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord, in Your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

**Admonition to Communicants** *Please Stand*

## Sanctus

*Alternate Tune: “Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name” Hymn 917*

“Isaiah, Mighty Seer”

♪ Isaiah, mighty seer in days of old, The Lord of all in spirit did behold  
High on a lofty throne, in splendor bright,  
With robes that filled the temple courts with light.

♪ Above the throne were flaming seraphim; Six wings had they, these messengers of Him.  
With two they veiled their faces as was right,  
With two they humbly hid their feet from sight.

♪ And with the other two aloft they soared; One to the other called and praised the Lord:  
“Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!  
Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth!

♪ Holy is God, the Lord of Sabaoth! His glory fills the heavens and the earth!”  
The beams and lintels trembled at the cry.  
And clouds of smoke enwrapped the throne on high.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 960-Text: Martin Luther 1483-1546; ©1941 Concordia Publishing House;  
Tune: Edward J. Hopkins 1818-1901; Used by permission; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

## Words of Our Lord

## The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## Lord’s Prayer

**Distribution Hymns** *Please Be Seated*

“God Himself Is Present”

♪ God Himself is present: Let us now adore Him And with awe appear before Him.  
God is in His temple; All within keep silence; Humbly kneel in deepest rev’rence.  
He alone On His throne Is our God and Savior; Praise His name forever!

♪ God Himself is present: Hear the harps resounding; See the hosts the throne surrounding.  
“Holy, holy, holy!” Hear the hymn ascending, Songs of saints and angels blending.  
Bow Your ear To us here: Hear, O Christ, the praises That Your Church now raises.

♪ Fount of ev'ry blessing, Purify my spirit, Trusting only in Your merit.  
Like the holy angels, Worshiping before You, May I ceaselessly adore You.  
Let Your will Ever still Rule Your Church terrestrial As the hosts celestial.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 907-Text: Gerhard Tersteegen 1697-1769; tr. Frederick W. Foster 1760-1835 and John Miller 1756-90; Tune: Joachim Neander 1650-80;  
Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

### “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

♪ Let all mortal flesh keep silence And with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly-minded, For with blessing in His hand  
Christ our God to earth descending Comes our homage to demand.

♪ King of kings yet born of Mary, As of old on earth He stood,  
Lord of lords in human vesture, In the body and the blood,  
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heav'nly food.

♪ Rank on rank the host of heaven Spreads its vanguard on the way  
As the Light of Light, descending From the realms of endless day,  
Comes the pow'rs of hell to vanquish As the darkness clears away.

♪ At His feet the six-winged seraph, Cherubim with sleepless eye,  
Veil their faces to the presence As with ceaseless voice they cry:  
“Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!”

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 621-Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5<sup>th</sup> cent.; tr. Gerard Moultrie 1829-85;  
Tune: French 17<sup>th</sup> cent.; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

## Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on You with favor and + give You peace.

*Numbers 6:24-26*

**Amen.**

## Recessional Hymn

### “Great is Thy Faithfulness”

♪ Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; There is no shadow of turning with Thee.  
Thou changest not; Thy compassions, they fail not;  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

~Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

♪ Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. ~Great is...

♪ Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside. ~Great is....

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 809 - Text: Thomas O. Chisholm 1866-1960; Tune: William M. Runyan 1870-1957  
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## Postlude