

17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
15 SEPTEMBER 2024

To
God
be the
GLORY



Great Things He Hath Done!

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP, SETTING 3 (PAGES 138-145)

*The liturgy is in the front of the ELW with numbers at the bottom of the pages.
The hymns begin in the middle of the ELW with numbers at the top of the pages.*

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

P: Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

C: Amen.

HYMN #806 “O GOD, MY FAITHFUL GOD”

GREETING (PAGE 138)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

♩ **KYRIE & CANTICLE OF PRAISE** (PAGE 138-141)

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the
church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and
praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

♩ **This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Sing with all the people of God
and join in the hymn of all creation.
Blessing, honor, glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**For the Lamb who was slain
has begun his reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. (*concluding...our Savior and Lord.*)

C: Amen

READINGS

ISAIAH 50:4-9A | PSALM 116:1-9 | JAMES 3:1-12

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (PAGE 142)

♫ **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

GOSPEL [MARK 8:27-38]

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 8th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

YOUTH SERMON – NOISY OFFERING

SERMON – REV. LEAH HOLLOWAY-NILSEN

HYMN #656 “BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS ”

CONFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES’ CREED

P: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

(Each petition ends: P: Hear us, O God. C: Your mercy is great.)

P: We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

PEACE (PAGE 143)

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(Greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray. *(concluding...our Savior and Lord.)*

C: Amen.

♩ **GREAT THANKSGIVING (PAGE 144)**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right....and join their unending hymn:

♩ **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna, Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER (PAGE 145)

**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.**

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*All who are baptized into Christ Jesus are invited to receive Holy Communion
Gluten-free wafers and white grape juice are available.*

**♫ Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.**

HYMN #800 "SPIRIT OF GOD, DESCEND UPON MY HEART"

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

POST-COMMUNION HYMN (HYMN #595 v.3)

**♫ Jesus loves me! He will stay
close beside me all the way;
when at last I come to die,
he will take me home on high.
Yes, Jesus loves me, yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. (*concluding...Jesus Christ our Lord.*)

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

HYMN #810 “O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED”

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God!

RINGING OF THE BELL

POSTLUDE

Pastor: Rev. Leah Holloway-Nilsen

Organist: Jason Boussetot or Linda Whitman

Acolyte: Rachel Burke

Lector: Rachel Burke

Communion Assistant: Deb Detlefs

Usher: David Burke

Cleaner: Amy and Shane Glover

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This Week At A Glance

Monday		October newsletter items are due
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Confirmation at Faith
	7:00 pm	Bible Jam at Faith
Sunday	8:00 am	Worship service at Our Savior's
	9:25 am	Sunday School at Faith
	10:30 am	Worship service at Faith

Those to keep in prayer: Mallory Boussetot, Cathy Goddard, Jade Jensen, Van Mickelson, Larry Schau, Diane Sievers,; the homebound: Carol Christensen, Ron Gasper, Delores Lahann, Myrna Kay Peterson, Rusty Porth, Vera St. John, Betty Schau and Bus Seastrand; and those serving in the military.

There are **Sunday School** classes for all ages at 9:25 am at Faith. A great staff is in place. However, there is a need for a **preschool class helper and substitutes for teachers and the music leader**. The lessons will be planned for you! Please contact Pastor Leah or any member of the Education Committee if you are willing to assist in these roles.

The **noisy offering** will be collected today, September 15th. The 2024 recipient is Calamus-Wheatland Schools.

Everyone enjoys a visit. Four of our parish members are not able to attend worship services on Sunday. If you would like to personally deliver a copy of *Today's Readings* and Pastor Leah's sermon to any of these people, you may collect the items at Sunday worship services. Addresses will be included with each packet.

Betty Schau and Delores Lahann reside at Wheatland Manor.

Carol Christensen lives at Grand Haven in Eldridge.

Vera St. John resides at her home in Calamus.

Membership Directory

The Calamus Lutheran Parish is creating a membership directory. You are respectfully requested to submit family information using a hard copy paper form **OR** an online Google Form.

- The **hard copy form** was included in the September newsletter. The form is available at each church. You may print a hard copy and submit the completed form to Pastor Leah, an usher, or place in the office at Faith.
- The **online Google Form** was sent by email to all members on September 1st. It will be resent every Wednesday in September. Please call 563-246-2622 for assistance.

Please submit the hard copy paper form **OR** the online Google Form by September 20th. The goal is to publish the directory online October 1st. Once the directory is active, members will have access to the directory, be able to edit their information, and print a hard copy. If you have any questions, contact the church office 563-246-2622. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Way of the Disciple

Mark 8:34-35 He called the crowd to him, together with his disciples, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself, and let him take up his cross, and let him follow me."

This part of Mark's gospel is so near the heart and centre of the Christian faith that we must take it almost sentence by sentence. If each day a man could go out with only one of these sentences locked in his heart and dominating his life, it would be far more than enough to be going on with.

Two things stand out here even at first sight.

(i) There is the almost startling honesty of Jesus. No one could ever say that he was induced to follow Jesus by false pretences. Jesus never tried to bribe men by the offer of an easy way. He did not offer men peace; he offered them glory. To tell a man he must be ready to take up a cross was to tell him he must be ready to be regarded as a criminal and to die.

The honesty of great leaders has always been one of their characteristics. In the days of the Second World War, when Sir Winston Churchill took over the leadership of the country, all that he offered men was "blood, toil, tears and sweat." Garibaldi, the great Italian patriot, appealed for recruits in these terms: "I offer neither pay, nor quarters, nor provisions; I offer hunger, thirst, forced marches, battles and death. Let him who loves his country in his heart, and not with his lips only, follow me." "Soldiers, all our efforts against superior forces have been unavailing. I have nothing to offer you but hunger and thirst, hardship and death; but I call on all who love their country to join with me."

Jesus never sought to lure men to him by the offer of an easy way; he sought to challenge them, to waken the sleeping chivalry in

their souls, by the offer of a way than which none could be higher and harder. He came not to make life easy but to make men great.

(ii) There is the fact that Jesus never called on men to do or face anything which he was not prepared to do and face himself. That indeed is the characteristic of the leader whom men will follow.

When Alexander the Great set out in pursuit of Darius, he made one of the wonder marches of history. In eleven days he marched his men thirty-three hundred furlongs. They were very nearly giving up, mainly because of thirst, for there was no water. Plutarch relates the story. "While they were in this distress, it happened that some Macedonians who had fetched water in skins upon their mules from a river they had found out came about noon to the place where Alexander was, and seeing him almost choked with thirst, presently fined an helmet and offered it to him. He asked them to whom they were carrying the water; they told him to their children, adding, that if his life were but saved, it was no matter for them, they should be well enough able to repair that loss, though they all perished. Then he took the helmet into his hands, and looking round about, when he saw all those who were near him stretching their heads out and looking earnestly after the drink, he returned it again with thanks without tasting a drop of it. 'For,' he said, 'if I alone should drink, the rest would be out of heart.' The soldiers no sooner took notice of his temperance and magnanimity upon this occasion, but they, one and all, cried out to him to lead them forward boldly, and began whipping on their horses. For while they had such a king they said they defied both weariness and thirst, and looked upon themselves to be little less than immortal." It was easy to follow a leader who never demanded from his men what he would not endure himself.

There was a famous Roman general, Quintus Fabius Cunctator. He was discussing with his staff how to take a difficult position. Someone suggested a certain course of action. "It will only cost the lives of a few men," this counsellor said. Fabius looked at him. "Are you," he said, "willing to be one of the few?"

Jesus was not the kind of leader who sat remote and played with the lives of men like expendable pawns. What he demanded that they should face, he, too, was ready to face. Jesus had a right to call on us to take up a cross, for he himself first bore one.

(iii) Jesus said of the man who would be his disciple, “Let him deny himself.” We will understand the meaning of this demand best if we take it very simply and literally. “Let him say no to himself.” If a man will follow Jesus Christ he must ever say no to himself and yes to Christ. He must say no to his own natural love of ease and comfort. He must say no to every course of action based on self-seeking and self-will. He must say no to the instincts and the desires which prompt him to touch and taste and handle the forbidden things. He must unhesitatingly say yes to the voice and the command of Jesus Christ. He must be able to say with Paul that it is no longer he who lives but Christ who lives in him. He lives no longer to follow his own will, but to follow the will of Christ, and in that service he finds his perfect freedom.

Barclay's Daily Study Bible (NT) – Public Domain