



**18th Sunday after Pentecost  
October 4, 2020**

## THE SERVICE at 11:00 a.m.

**Bold type** = congregational response

### – A TIME OF PREPARATION –

#### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Lied

Louis Vierne

#### \*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Faithful God,

**C: have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves.**

**We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.**

**We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.**

**Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God hears the cries of all who call out in need,  
and through his death and resurrection,  
Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness  
to do God's work in the world.

**C: Amen.**



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call  
 2 But if, for - get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;  
 3 We mar - vel how your saints be - come in hin - dranc - es more sure;  
 4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac - cord - ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re - freshed, re - stored,  
 if world - ly pres - sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un - wind  
 whose joy - ful vir - tues put to shame the ca - sual way we wear your name,  
 in old rou - tines or ven - tures new, may we not cease to look to you,



that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.  
 its tan - gled skein of care: our in - ward life re - pair.  
 and by our faults ob - scure your pow'r to cleanse and cure.  
 the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav - ored done.

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\*GREETING

**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.

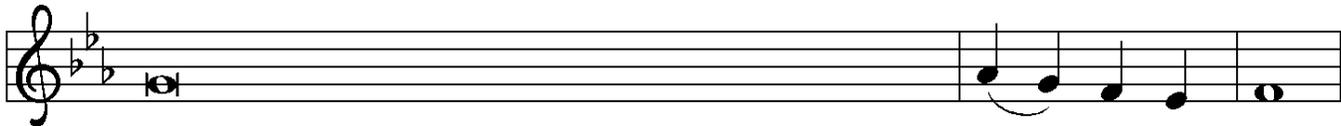
\*KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



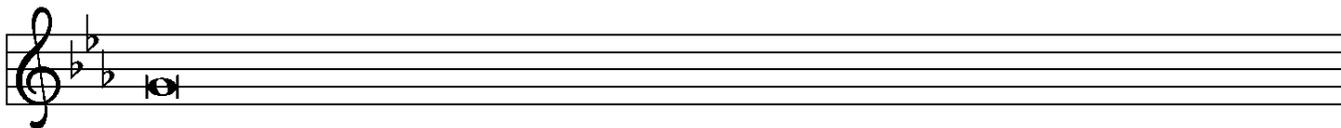
Lord, have mer - cy.



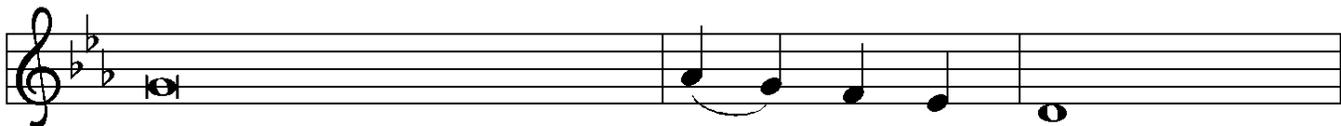
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



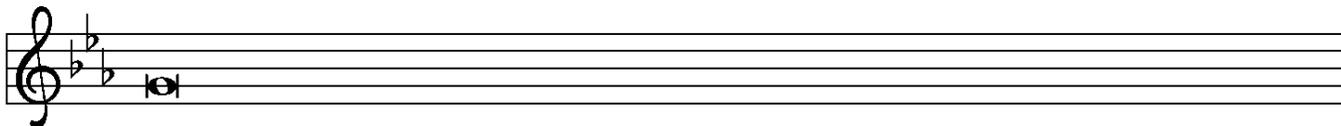
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



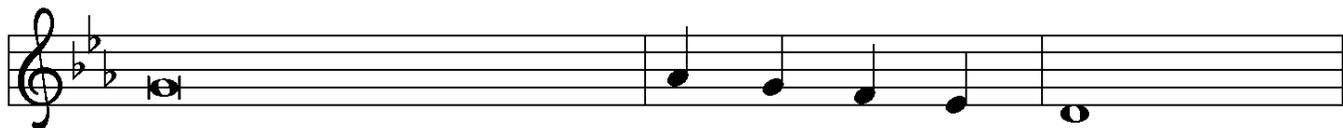
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

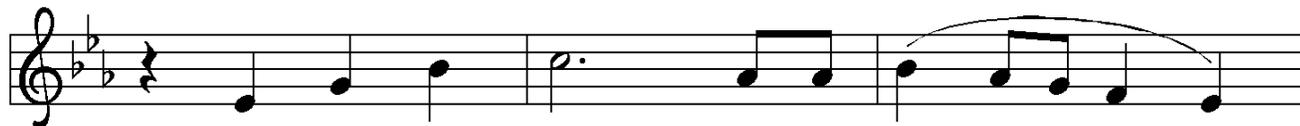


Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



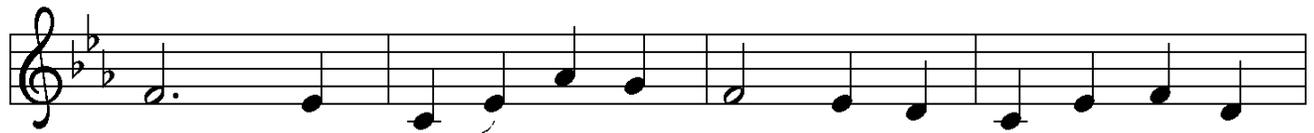
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus



Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -



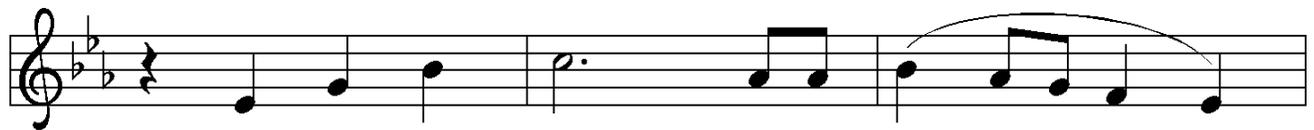
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



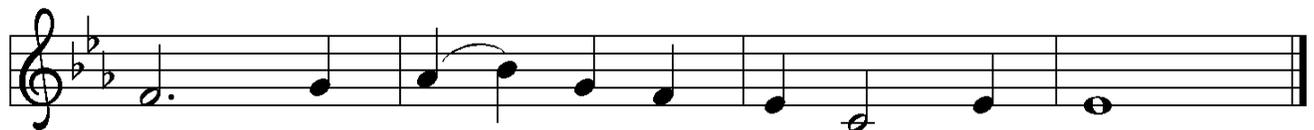
Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** Let us pray. Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON**

Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning my beloved's vineyard: "My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. <sup>2</sup>My beloved dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it and expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes."

<sup>3</sup>And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. <sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

<sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. <sup>6</sup>I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

<sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are God's pleasant planting; for the LORD expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

**L:** Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 80:7-15



<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O | God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

<sup>8</sup>**You have brought a vine | out of Egypt;  
you cast out the nations and | planted it.**

<sup>9</sup>You cleared the | ground for it;  
it took root and | filled the land.

<sup>10</sup>**The mountains were covered | by its shadow  
and the towering cedar trees | by its boughs.**

<sup>11</sup>You stretched out its tendrils | to the sea  
and its branches | to the river.

<sup>12</sup>**Why have you broken | down its wall,  
so that all who pass by pluck | off its grapes?**

<sup>13</sup>The wild boar of the forest has | ravaged it,  
and the beasts of the field have | grazed upon it.

<sup>14</sup>**Turn now, O | God of hosts,  
look | down from heaven;**

<sup>15</sup>behold and | tend this vine;  
preserve what your right | hand has planted.

SECOND LESSON

Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul writes: If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith.

<sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

L: Word of God, word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*  
 Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

\*HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33-46 NRSV, emended

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

*[Jesus is speaking to the chief priests and the elders in Jerusalem.]* "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, built a watchtower, then leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, the landowner sent slaves to the tenants to collect the produce. But the tenants seized the slaves; beat one, killed another, and stoned the third. Again the owner sent other

slaves— more than the first time, and they were treated in the same way. Finally the owner sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.

Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" The priests and elders said to Jesus, "The owner will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants—ones that will surrender the produce at harvest time."

Jesus then said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of it. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

P: The Gospel of Our Lord!

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

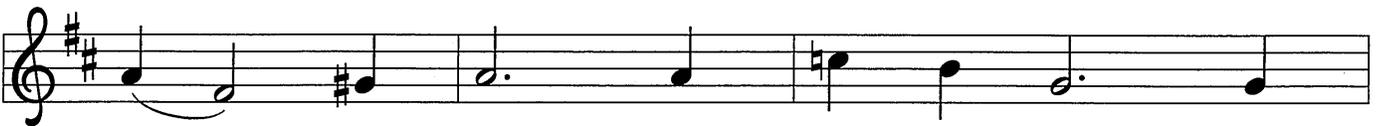
Pr. Adrienne Meier



1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to  
 2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be -  
 3 Some - times we strew his way and his sweet prais - es  
 4 We cry out, we will have our dear Lord made a -



me, love to the love - less shown that they might  
 stow; the world that was his own would not its  
 sing; re - sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas  
 way, a mur - der - er to save, the prince of



love - ly be. Oh, who am I that  
 Sav - ior know. But, oh, my friend, my  
 to our king. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" is  
 life to slay. Yet cheer - ful he to



for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?  
 friend in - deed, who at my need his life did spend!  
 all our breath, and for his death we thirst and cry.  
 suf - f'ring goes that he his foes from thence might free.

5 In life no house, no home  
 my Lord on earth might have;  
 in death no friendly tomb  
 but what a stranger gave.  
 What may I say? Heav'n was his home  
 but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

6 Here might I stay and sing—  
 no story so divine!  
 Never was love, dear King,  
 never was grief like thine.  
 This is my friend, in whose sweet praise  
 I all my days could gladly spend!

– RESPONSES TO THE WORD –

\*APOSTLES' CREED

A: Let us 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 THE CHURCH

A: With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Holy God, you call us to work for peace and justice in your vineyard.  
Refresh the church with your life, that we may bear fruit through work and service. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Thank you for the abundant harvest of the earth. Bless and care for those whose hands bring the fruits of the earth to the tables of all who hunger. May we be inspired by your servants who cared deeply for your creation. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Curb the impulses of greed and pride that lead us to take advantage of others. Grant that world leaders seek the fruits of the kingdom for the good and welfare of all people. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Sustain all who suffer with the promise of new life. Assured of your presence, heal our pain and suffering, and equip us to embrace all bodies aching for wholeness of mind, body, and soul. We call to mind those who are struggling today, especially Jim, Bruce, Carole, Tim, Roger, Paula, Erica, Bev, Liz, Audrey, JoAnne, Deborah, and Casey-Marie. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: We pray for all managers in our community and for all who seek employment. Give hope and a future to those who lack meaningful work, those who have been marginalized or abused in the workplace, and those who desire new opportunities. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Thank you for the saints who teach us to live faithfully in your vineyard. May our chorus join theirs until our labor is complete. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

#### \*SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

#### OFFERING

[Click here](#) to visit the St. Thomas website and click the green Give button to provide your offering digitally. Offerings may also be mailed to our address found on the last page of this bulletin.

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

A: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

**– LITURGY OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST –**

**\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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.**

**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

A: Let us pray as our Lord has taught us.

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

**\*INVITATION TO COMMUNION:**

P: Come to the banquet table where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

## Christ, Our Peace

Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The lyrics are: "Christ, our peace, you break down the walls that di - vide us;".

Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod - y in you.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Christ, our peace, come, make us one bod - y in you.". The system ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

\*EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING

**C: Amen.**

\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

\*BENEDICTION

P: Mothering God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

**C: Amen.**

1 Lord our God, with praise we come be - fore you.  
 2 God is God, though lands were all for - sak - en.  
 3 Vales and hills shall move from their foun - da - tions;

Let all na - tions hum - bly now im - plore you.  
 God is God, though all by death were tak - en.  
 heav'n and earth shall crash in con - ster - na - tion;

May we en - deav - or to praise you ev - er, and  
 Al - though all rac - es had left no trac - es, in  
 moun - tains tran - scend - ing will have their end - ing. Then

ceas - ing nev - er, may we for - ev - er a - dore you.  
 star - ry spac - es God's love embrac - es cre - a - tion.  
 Christ de - scend - ing shall bring un - end - ing sal - va - tion.

**\*DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**\*POSTLUDE**

Fugue

Felix Mendelssohn

\*\*\*

*We depart in peace to continue our worship in lives of witness  
to Christ's love in work, play, service, and care for creation.*

**MINISTERS SERVING TODAY:** Sandy Arnold; Dennis Baurle and Kim Filiatrault;  
Sacha Arterberry; Sharon Fawbush and Dante Fawbush

**The altar flowers** are given to the glory of God by Dean and Sandy Arnold in  
celebration of son Bailey's birthday.

**We are a Christ-centered community that lives, shares and  
celebrates God's grace with all people!**

**ST. THOMAS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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Mike Powell, Director of Music and Organist

Katie Gardiner, Adult Choir Director

Melissa de Graaf, Children's Choir Director

in covenant with

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