

# Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2020



## Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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## SERVICE OF THE WORD

**TODAY'S THREAD:** *Don't expect God to treat you fair. He treats his servants better than that!*

### OPENING HYMN

**My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less | 382**



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus'  
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on  
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant and blood Sup - port me  
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I



blood and right - eous - ness; I dare to make no oth -  
his un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and storm -  
in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly prop  
then in him be found, Clothed in his right - eous - ness



er claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.  
gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.  
a - lone, Fault - less to stand be - fore his throne.



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; All



oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

**M:** The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

### CONFESSION OF SINS

**M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C:** **Amen.**

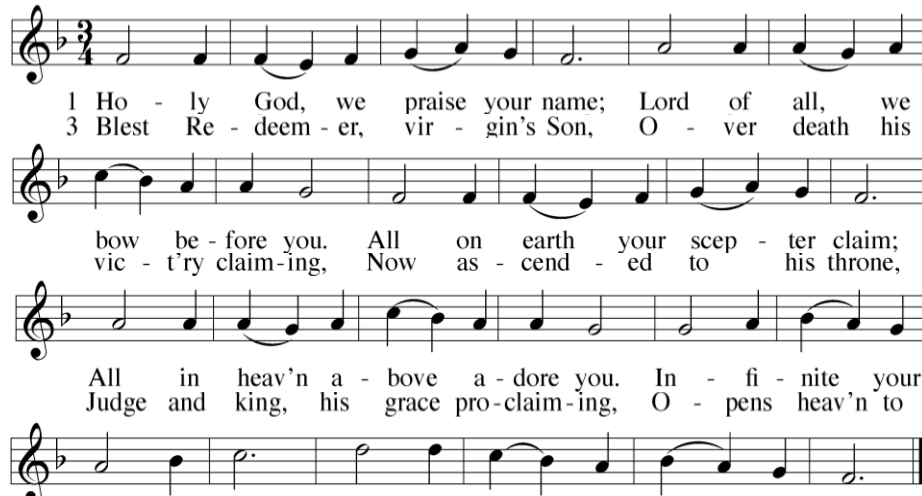
## PRAAYER AND PRAISE

**M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

### PENTECOST SONG OF PRAISE

**Holy God, We Praise Your Name | 278:1, 3**

*Te Deum*



1 Ho - ly God, we praise your name; Lord of all, we  
3 Blest Re - deem - er, vir - gin's Son, O - ver death his  
bow be - fore you. All on earth your scep - ter claim;  
vic - t'ry claim - ing, Now as - cend - ed to his throne,  
All in heav'n a - bove a - dore you. In - fi - nite your  
Judge and king, his grace pro - claim - ing, O - pens heav'n to  
vast do - main, Ev - er - last - ing is your reign.  
all his own. Praise and thanks to God a - lone!

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### PRAAYER OF THE DAY

**M:** Let us pray.

Lord God, you call us to work in your kingdom and leave no one standing idle. Help us to order our lives by your wisdom and to serve you in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON

**Isaiah 55:6-9 EHV**

*People who try to judge God's actions or ask why he allowed bad things to happen are definitely playing out of their league. Discover his mercy and pardon now, before he withdraws his offer.*

- 6 Seek the LORD while he may be found!  
Call on him while he is near!
- 7 Let the wicked man abandon his way.  
Let an evil man abandon his thoughts.  
Let him turn to the LORD,  
and he will show him mercy.  
Let him turn to our God,  
because he will abundantly pardon.
- 8 Certainly my plans are not your plans,  
and your ways are not my ways, declares the LORD.

9 Just as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so my ways are higher than your ways,  
and my plans are higher than your plans.

**M:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 27

*All who know the LORD is good confidently seek God's good, waiting on him and his perfect timing.*

### Refrain



### Psalm tone



Hear my voice when I call, O LORD;\*  
be merciful to me and answer me.

Do not hide your face from me,\*  
do not turn your servant away in anger;  
you have been my helper.

Do not reject me or forsake me,\*  
O God my Savior.

### Refrain

Though my father and mother forsake me,\*  
the LORD will receive me.

I am still confident of this:\*  
I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

Wait for the LORD;\*  
be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### Refrain

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## SECOND LESSON

Philippians 1:17-27 EHV

*Service in the Lord's vineyard is such a blessing! While Paul desires to be called home through death, he equally delights in sticking around to help these believers grow in their faith and service of Jesus.*

<sup>17</sup>The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, but thinking they can cause trouble for me while I am in chains. <sup>18</sup>What does it matter? Only this, that in every way, whether for outward appearance or for the truth, Christ is being proclaimed, and in this I rejoice.

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, <sup>19</sup> because I know that this will turn out for my deliverance, through your prayer and the support of the Spirit of Jesus Christ. <sup>20</sup> This matches my earnest expectation and hope that I will in no way be put to shame, but with all boldness, as always, so even now, Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup> Yes, for me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup> But if I am to go on living in the flesh, that will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet which should I prefer? I do not know. <sup>23</sup> I am pulled in two directions, because I have the desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far. <sup>24</sup> But, it is more necessary for your sake that I remain in the flesh. <sup>25</sup> And since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and will continue with all of you, for your progress and joy in the faith. <sup>26</sup> And so by my coming to you again, my goal is to give you even more reason to boast in Christ Jesus.

<sup>27</sup> Just conduct yourselves in a way that is worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come to see you or am absent, I may hear about you that you are standing firm in one spirit, contending together with one soul for the faith of the gospel,

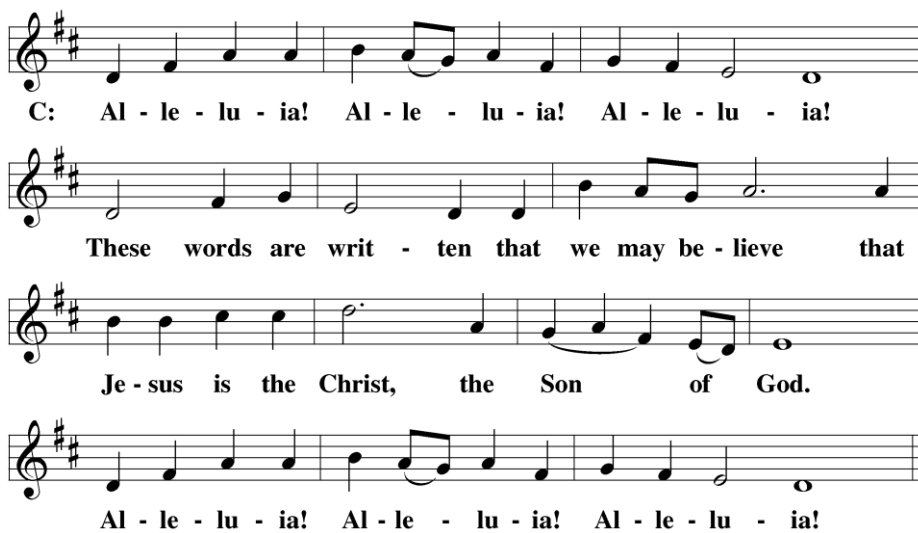
**M:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God.

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

**2 Corinthians 12:9a**

**M:** Alleluia. My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. Alleluia.



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

**GOSPEL**

**Matthew 20:1-16 EHV**

*God's kingdom doesn't operate in a way that people consider "fair." It operates on God's goodness, his generosity - thank God! Those who obsess on God being "fair" don't belong in his kingdom of grace.*

**M:** The Gospel, Matthew Chapter 16

<sup>1</sup> "Indeed the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> After agreeing to pay the workers a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup> He also went out about the third hour and saw others standing unemployed in the marketplace. <sup>4</sup> To these he said, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will give you whatever is right.' So they went. <sup>5</sup> Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour and did the same thing. <sup>6</sup> When he went out about the eleventh hour, he found others standing unemployed. He said to them, 'Why have you stood here all day unemployed?'

<sup>7</sup> "They said to him, 'Because no one hired us.'

"He told them, 'You also go into the vineyard.'<sup>8</sup> When it was evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last group and ending with the first.'

<sup>9</sup> "When those who were hired around the eleventh hour came, they each received a denarius. <sup>10</sup> When those who were hired first came, they thought they would receive more. But they each received a denarius too. <sup>11</sup> After they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner: <sup>12</sup> 'Those who were last worked one hour, and you made them equal to us who have endured the burden of the day and the scorching heat!'

<sup>13</sup> “But he answered one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not make an agreement with me for a denarius? <sup>14</sup> Take what is yours and go. I want to give to the last one hired the same as I also gave to you. <sup>15</sup> Can’t I do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ <sup>16</sup> In the same way, the last will be first, and the first, last.”

**M:** This is the Gospel.

**C:** Praise be to you, O Christ!

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come By God's free grace  
 2 What God does in his law de - mand And none to him  
 3 It is a false, mis - lead - ing dream That God his law  
 4 Yet as the law must be ful - filled Or we must die  
 5 Since Christ has full a - tone - ment made And brought to us

and fa - vor. Good works can - not a - vert our doom;  
 can ren - der Brings wrath and woe on ev - 'ry hand  
 has giv - en That sin - ners can them - selves re - deem  
 de - spair - ing, Christ came and has God's an - ger stilled,  
 sal - va - tion, Each Chris - tian there - fore may be glad

They help and save us nev - er. Faith looks to  
 For man, the vile of - fend - er. Our flesh has  
 And by their works gain heav - en. The law is  
 Our hu - man na - ture shar - ing. He has for  
 And build on this foun - da - tion. Your grace a -

Je - sus Christ a - lone, Who did for all the  
 not those pure de - sires The spir - it of the  
 but a mir - ror bright To bring the in - bred  
 us the law o - beyed And thus the Fa - ther's  
 lone, dear Lord, I plead; Your death is now my

world a - tone; He is the one Re - deem - er.  
 law re - quires, And lost is our con - di - tion.  
 sin to light That lurks with - in our na - ture.  
 venge - ance stayed Which o - ver us im - pend - ed.  
 life in - deed, For you have paid my ran - som.

6 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise  
 To Father, Son, and Spirit,  
 The God who saved us by his grace—  
 All glory to his merit!  
 O Triune God in heav'n above,  
 You have revealed your saving love;  
 Your blessed name be hallowed!

**SERMON** – See the separate sheet for the Sermon Road Map.

## APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## THANKSGIVING

**OFFERING** – *The mail at church is being collected. Offerings may be mailed to:  
Peace Ev. Lutheran Church, 200 E. Beidler Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR PENTECOST

**M:** O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

**C:** **We praise you for every grace and blessing.**

**M:** Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

**C:** **Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.**

**M:** We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

**C:** **Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.**

**M:** Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

**C:** **Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.**

**M:** Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

**C:** **Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.**

**M:** Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

**C:** **Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

**M:** ... Lord, in your mercy,

**C:** **Hear our prayer.**

**M:** Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

**M:** Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

**C:** **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

**All: 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.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

**M:** Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. 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.



**CLOSING HYMN**

**Lord of the Living Harvest | 559**

1 Lord of the liv - ing har - vest That rip - ens  
 2 As la - b'ers in your vine - yard, Lord, give us  
 3 Be with us, God the Fa - ther; Be with us,  
 o'er the plain, Where an - gels soon will gath - er  
 work to do, Con - tent to bear the bur - den  
 God the Son And God the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
 Their sheaves of gold - en grain, Ac - cept our hands to  
 Of wea - ry days for you, To ask no oth - er  
 Most bless - ed Three in One. Make us your faith - ful  
 la - bor, Our hearts to trust and love, And be with  
 wa - ges When you will call us home Than to have  
 ser - vants You right - ly to a - dore, And fill us  
 us to has - ten Your king - dom from a - bove.  
 shared the la - bor That makes your king - dom come.  
 with your bless - ing Both now and ev - er - more.

*Silent prayer - Announcements after the close of Service*

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