

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

“Our mission is to proclaim, learn, live and share God’s grace through Christ.”

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2021



AS WE GATHER—

Those who teach the Word of God *“will be judged with greater strictness”* (James 3:1) because it is by the Word that saving faith is obtained, whereas false doctrine always threatens to destroy Christian faith and life. The tongue *“boasts of great things,”* whether for good or evil (James 3:5). In fallen man, *“it is a restless evil, full of deadly poison”* (James 3:8). But anyone who bridles his tongue with the Word of God, who *“does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man”* (James 3:2). It is Christ who opens His ear to the voice of His Father, so that, with *“the tongue of those who are taught,”* He is able to sustain the weary *“with a word”* (Is. 50:4–5). Entrusting Himself to His Father, even to death, He is not put to shame but is vindicated in His resurrection (Is. 50:6–9). By His faith and faithfulness, He casts out the *“mute and deaf spirit”* from us (Mark 9:25). He has compassion on us and helps us, so that we are not destroyed but cleansed from every evil and raised up from death to life (Mark 9:22–27).

Welcome Visitors!

We pray your time with us be blessed. We welcome each of you this day in the name of our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Pastor Meier is eager to meet with each visitor. Please fill out the "Friendship Register" that is located in each pew and visit the Ministry Center located off the narthex and take a "Welcome" packet to learn more about Peace Lutheran Church.

Moms and Dads, if your young child becomes restless, feel free to use the nursery located off of the Narthex (the gathering space as you enter the church). It is a great resource to parents for staying connected to worship while they are attending to a young child's needs.

What we believe about Holy Communion

Our faith is not exclusive, but God says we should have unity in faith which communion expresses (see 1 Corinthians 10: 16-17). *Therefore, we kindly ask that those who are not confirmed members of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation not commune with us today.* Thank you for respecting our position of love in this matter of pastoral care. If you would like to learn more about what we believe the Lord's Supper is based on God's Word, please speak to one of the pastors. *We welcome baptized adults and children to come to the communion rail to receive a baptismal blessing, if you so desire.* To indicate you would like to receive a blessing, cross your arms over your chest or keep your hands folded when you come to the communion rail.

For those who are communing today: In order to receive the full blessing of the Sacrament, namely, the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation, God's Word instructs that we each examine ourselves in our preparation to receive the Sacrament (see 1 Corinthians 11: 27-29). Ask yourself these questions:

1. Am I truly sorry (contrite) for my sins? (Psalm 50:17)
2. Do I truly believe that I am receiving the very body and blood of the resurrected Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine and, as a result, the forgiveness of sins?
3. Do I intend, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to amend my sinful life and be more obedient to Jesus, my Savior?

SERVING THE LORD THIS DAY:

PREACHER/LITURGIST: REV. BRUCE MEIER

ORGANIST: KRISTIN BONILLA

SUNDAY 8:00 & 10:30 AM AND

2ND & 4TH THURSDAY OF THE MONTH, 7:00 PM

Welcome and Ringing of the Bell

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN

537 Beautiful Savior
(Please Stand)

LSB 537

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: I called on the name of the LORD:

People: **O LORD, I believe. Help my unbelief!**

Pastor: The LORD has dealt bountifully with us.

People: **The LORD has opened our ears.**

Pastor: The LORD has delivered us from death.

People: **He wipes away tears from all faces.**

Pastor: He rescues our feet from stumbling

People: **and restores our tongues to proclaim His good news.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Despite all of God's actions on our behalf, we still struggle with sin in our lives. Our tongues still curse. Our feet still stumble. Our ears still listen to lies and vicious gossip. But our heavenly Father invites us to come to Him lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Silence for reflection.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: **we have sinned against You and our neighbors in what we have said and what we have left unsaid. We have neglected opportunities to love our neighbors. We have stumbled and fallen again and again. We ask that You restore us, renew us, and forgive us on account of Jesus. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God, in His boundless love sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise for our forgiveness and eternal life. Because of Jesus, we are restored, body and soul. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, and 3

by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People:
Amen.

Amen. We are forgiven in Christ. We are renewed and restored.

† **WORD** †

INTROIT

Psalm 31:14–16; antiphon: v. 24

Pastor: Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord!

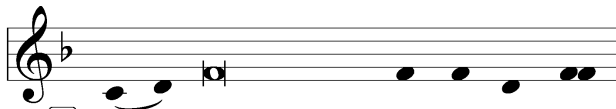
People: But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, "You are my God."

Pastor: My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my persecutors!

People: Make your face shine on your servant; save me in your steadfast love!

Pastor: Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord!

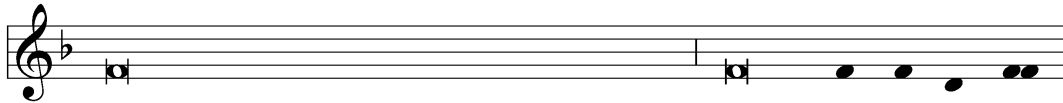
KYRIE



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



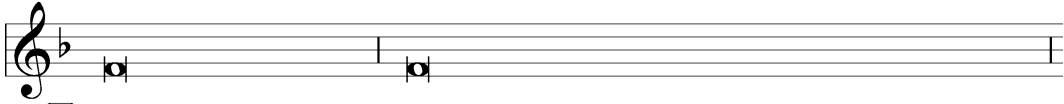
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



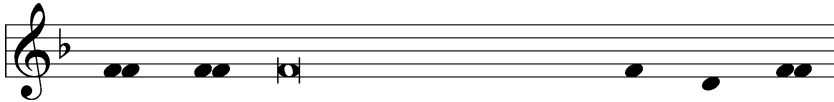
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Gloria in Excelsis



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C 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.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your Word You spoke creation into being. Tame our tongues and guide our words so that we would proclaim Your promises to the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 50:4–10

4The 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.

5The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious;
I turned not backward.

6I 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.

7But 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.

8He 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.

9Behold, 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.

10Who 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.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

James 3:1–12

1Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. 2For 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. 3If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. 4Look 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. 5So 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! 6And 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. 7For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, 8but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. 9With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. 10From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. 11Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? 12Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

VERSE

Mark 9:23b

23And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible for one who believes."

All: Alleluia. All things are possible for one who believes. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9:14–29

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

14 When they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them.

15And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to [Jesus] and greeted him.

16And he asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" 17And someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. 18And 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." 19And 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." 20And 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. 21And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. 22And 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." 23And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible for one who believes." 24Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" 25And 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." 26And 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." 27But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. 28And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" 29And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(Please Be Seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY

685 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

LSB 685

SERMON— "Help My Unbelief" *Mark 9:14-21*

(Please Stand)

NICENE CREED

People: **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,**

**being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and
the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified, who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs... For pastors, missionaries, teachers, and all who proclaim Your Word, O Lord, that the sinfulness of their tongues may not hinder Your message of grace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all those who celebrate the good news of births and birthdays, weddings and anniversaries, [*especially . . .*], let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all those who grieve [*especially . . .*], that they find hope in the resurrection, which brings us eternal life and defeats the enemy of death, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all those who govern in this nation and throughout the world, that their tongues would be kept from lying and slander, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all those who struggle with spiritual oppression, that God would deliver them from evil and restore them body and soul, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all those who have wandered from the Church, that the Holy Spirit would call them by the Gospel and gather them back to Your flock, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially . . .*], that God would grant them healing according to His good and gracious will, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Lord, we offer all these prayers, knowing that You hear us and bless us with what we need.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE

Pastor: Gracious God, You are the source of every lasting security. We bless You for the continuance of stability in a time of great national trial and ask that our nation be spared from any such act of terrorism and destruction in times to come. We remember those innocent victims of terrorism whose earthly lives ended on September 11th, 2001. Grant that their memories among us remain and their lives not be forgotten. We also remember the rescue workers who gave their lives that day seeking to assist the victims of the tragedy. Grant that their examples of bravery and sacrificial concern for others serve to inspire each of us as we live out our lives in these times.

Almighty God, You have given us this good land as our heritage. Grant that we remember Your generosity and constantly do Your will. Bless our land with honest industry, truthful education, and an honorable way of life. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion, from pride and arrogance, and from every evil course of action. Grant that we, who came from many nations with many different languages, may become a united people. Support us in defending our liberties, and give those to whom we have entrusted the authority of government the spirit of wisdom, that there may be justice and peace in our land. When times are prosperous,¹¹

may our hearts be thankful, and in troubled times do not let our trust in You fail; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

(Please Be Seated)

OFFERING

(Please Stand)

OFFERTORY



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, 13

Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Hear us now as we pray as you have taught us:

**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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

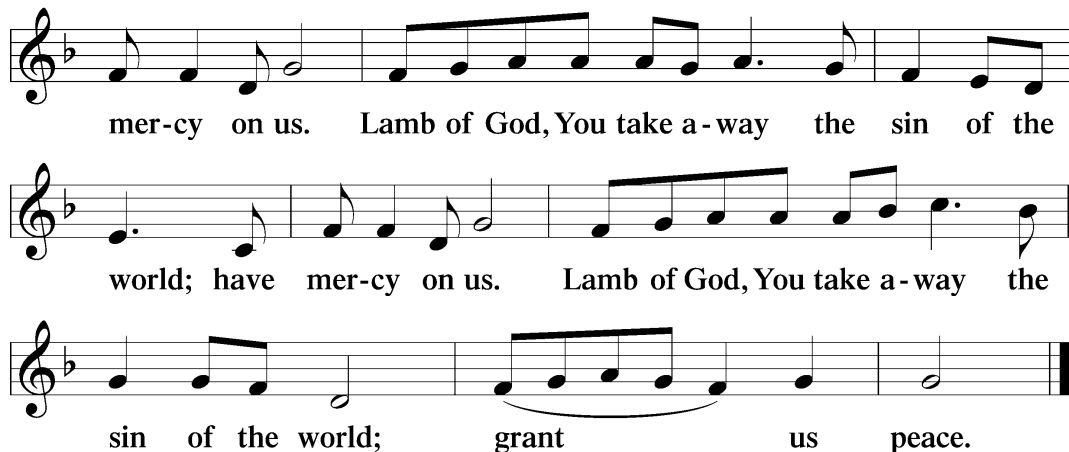
Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI



© Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Please Be Seated)

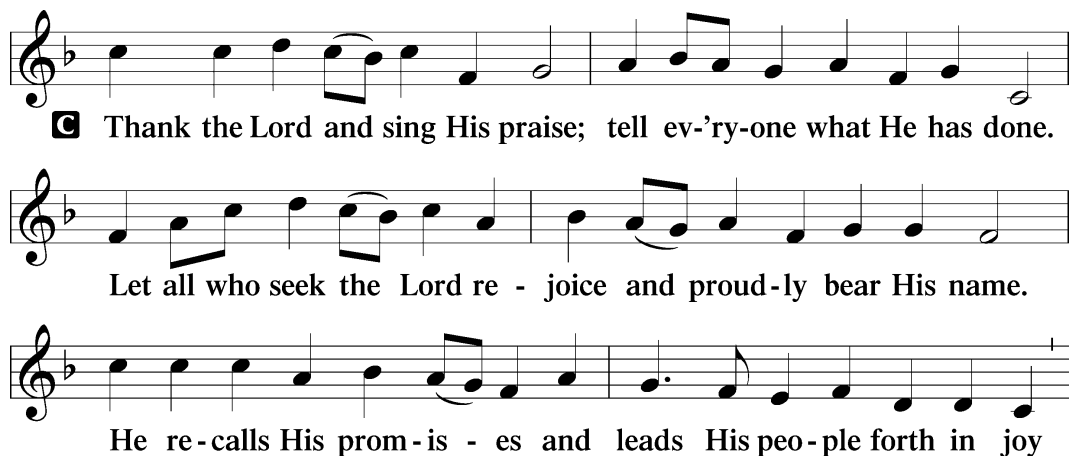
THE DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

621 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence	<i>LSB 621</i>
628 Your Table I Approach	<i>LSB 628</i>
637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord	<i>LSB 637</i>

(Please Stand)

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.
 Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.
 He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have placed Christ's body and blood upon our tongues to renew and restore us once again. We ask that You would strengthen us to proclaim Your promises to all the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

(Please Be Seated)

DEPARTING HYMN

784 Take My Life and Let It Be

LSB 784