

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Altamont, Illinois
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 20, 8:30 AM
Order of Matins, LSB page 219

Disciples Live in Their Vocations by Grace through Faith in Christ

Those who are sent as “laborers for his vineyard” (Matt. 20:1) depict the wide diversity of vocations to which the disciples of Christ Jesus are called. Whatever our particular stations in life may be, we are called to live and serve by faith in His promises. Our labors do not merit anything before Him, for He is already generous to one and all without partiality. In mercy, He has chosen to bear “the burden of the day and the scorching heat” on our behalf, to make us equal to Himself and to give us what belongs to Him, that is, the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 20:12–15). This way of the Lord is foolishness to the world and foreign to our thoughts, but He draws near, so that “he may be found” (Is. 55:6), “have compassion” and “abundantly pardon” (Is. 55:7). So it is that we are found in Christ Jesus, and He is honored in our bodies, “whether by life or by death” (Phil. 1:20), by “fruitful labor” (Phil. 1:22) or by suffering. It is by faith in His forgiveness that our works are “worthy of the gospel” (Phil. 1:27).

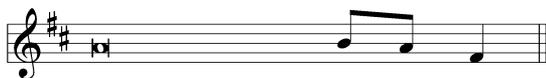
Welcome

(Stand)

VERSICLES

LSB 219

L O Lord, open my lips,



C and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.

L Make haste, O God, to deliver me;



C make haste to help me, O Lord.



C Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

+ PSALMODY +

ANTIPHON (COMMON)

LSB 220

L Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

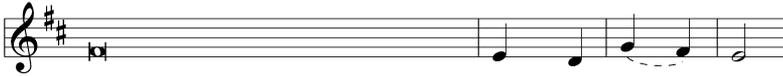
VENITE

LSB 220



C 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a great God
3 The sea is His, for He made it,

5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son



1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
3 and His hand formed the dry land.

5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
4 For He is our God,
5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

ANTIPHON (COMMON)

LSB 221

L Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

PROPER

Psalm 116:12–13, 15–16; antiphon: v. 17

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving*

and call on the name | of the LORD.

What shall I render | to the LORD*

for all his bene- | fits to me?

I will lift up the cup of sal- | vation*

Matins 2

and call on the name | of the LORD.
Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
is the death | of his saints.
O LORD, I am your | servant;*
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have |
loosed my bonds.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving*
and call on the name | of the LORD.

(Sit)

Office Hymn 699 I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY

- 1 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Come unto Me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down
Thy head upon My breast.”
I came to Jesus as I was,
So weary, worn, and sad;
I found in Him a resting place,
And He has made me glad.
- 2 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one,
Stoop down and drink and live.”
I came to Jesus, and I drank
Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in Him.
- 3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“I am this dark world’s light.
Look unto Me; thy morn shall rise
And all thy day be bright.”
I looked to Jesus, and I found
In Him my star, my sun;
And in that light of life I’ll walk
Till trav’ling days are done.

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+ READINGS +

Isaiah 55:6–9

“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

R: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Philippians 1:12–14, 19-30

I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. For I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

R: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Matthew 20:1–16

Laborers in the Vineyard

Jesus said: “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his

vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' So the last will be first, and the first last."

R: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY

LSB 221

L Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.



C Lord, I love
the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

L Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.



C Lord, I love
the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.



C Lord, I love
the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glo-ry dwells.

SERMON HYMN 786 LORD OF ALL GOOD

- 1 Lord of all good, our gifts we bring You now;
Use them Your holy purpose to fulfill.
Tokens of love and pledges they shall be
That our whole life is offered to Your will.**

- 2 We give our minds to understand Your ways;
Hands, eyes, and voice to serve Your great design;
Hearts with the flame of Your own love ablaze—
Thus for Your glory all our pow'rs combine.**

- △ 3 Father, whose bounty all creation shows;
Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live;
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows:
To You with grateful hearts ourselves we give.**

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**SERMON: TAKE WHAT IS YOURS AND GO! We Are
Called to Live and to Serve by Faith in God's
Promises, Matthew 20:14**

+ CANTICLE +

(Stand)

TE DEUM, HYMN 941

WE PRAISE YOU AND ACKNOWLEDGE YOU, O GOD



1 We praise You and ac-knowl-edge You, O God, to be the Lord,
2 The band of the a - pos - tles in glo - ry sing Your praise;
3 You, Christ, are King of glo - ry, the ev - er - last - ing Son,
4 You sit in splen-did glo - ry, en-throned at God's right hand,



The Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing, by all the earth a - dored.
The fel - low - ship of proph - ets their death-less voic - es raise.
Yet You, with bound-less love, sought to res - cue ev - 'ry - one:
Up - hold - ing earth and heav - en by forc - es You com-mand.



To You all an - gel pow - ers cry a - loud, the heav - ens sing,
The mar - tyrs of Your king - dom, a great and no - ble throng,
You laid a - side Your glo - ry, were born of vir - gin's womb,
We know that You will come as our Judge that fi - nal day,



The cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim their prais - es to You bring:
Sing with the ho - ly Church through-out all the world this song:
Were cru - ci - fied for us and were placed in - to a tomb;
So help Your ser - vants You have re - deemed by blood, we pray;



“O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
“O all - ma - jes - tic Fa - ther, Your true and on - ly Son,
Then by Your res - ur - rec - tion You won for us re - prieve—
May we with saints be num - bered where prais - es nev - er end,



Your maj - es - ty and glo - ry fill the heav - ens and the earth!”
And Ho - ly Spir - it, Com - fort - er— for - ev - er Three in One!”
You o - pened heav - en's king - dom to all who would be - lieve.
In glo - ry ev - er - last - ing, A - men, O Lord, a - men!

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OFFERING

+ PRAYER +

KYRIE

LSB 227



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

INTRODUCTION TO COLLECTS

LSB 227

L O Lord, hear my prayer.



C And let my cry come to You.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

ADDITIONAL COLLECTS (Amen to each.)

COLLECT FOR GRACE

L O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BENEDICAMUS

LSB 228

L Let us bless the Lord.



BENEDICTION

LSB 228

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



HYMN 742 FOR ME TO LIVE IS JESUS

- 1 For me to live is Jesus,
To die is gain for me;
So when my Savior pleases,
I meet death willingly.
- 2 For Christ, my Lord, my brother,
I leave this world so dim
And gladly seek another,
Where I shall be with Him.
- 3 My woes are nearly over,
Though long and dark the road;
My sin His merits cover,
And I have peace with God.
- 4 Lord, when my pow'rs are failing,
My breath comes heavily,
And words are unavailing,
O hear my sighs to Thee.
- 5 In my last hour, O grant me
A slumber soft and still,
No doubts to vex or haunt me,
Safe anchored in Thy will;

**6 And so to Thee still cleaving
When death shall come to me,
I fall asleep believing
And wake in heav'n with Thee!**

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Matins from Lutheran Service Book

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**A Reading from the Book of Concord
Luther's Large Catechism
The Apostles' Creed**

The word Church really means nothing other than a common gathering. It ought to be called "a Christian congregation or gathering" or "holy Christendom."

So also the word *communio*, which is added, ought not to be translated "communion," but "congregation." It is nothing else than an interpretation or explanation to show what the Christian Church is. It ought to be "a congregation of saints"; that is, a congregation made up purely of saints, or, to speak yet more plainly, "a holy congregation." I say this in order that the words "communion of saints" may be understood. The expression has become so established by custom that it cannot be cast aside easily.

But this is the meaning and substance of this addition: I believe that there is upon earth a little holy group and congregation of pure saints, under one head, even Christ. This group is called together by the Holy Spirit in one faith, one mind, and understanding, with many different gifts, yet agreeing in love, without sects or schisms. I am also a part and member of this same group, a sharer and joint owner of all the goods it possesses. I am brought to it and incorporated into it by the Holy Spirit through having heard and continuing to hear God's Word, which is the beginning of entering it. In the past, before we had attained to this, we were altogether of the devil, knowing nothing about God and about Christ. (paragraphs 48-52)