# THE LORD'S DAY 11:00 A.M. SEPTEMBER 24, 2023 THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Preservice Music/Announcements/Welcome

**THE CALL TO WORSHIP** Psalm 116:12–13, 15–17

Reader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

- C What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me?
- R I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.
- C Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.
- R O LORD, I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.
- C You have loosed my bonds. 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.
- R I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving,
- C And call on the name of the LORD.

#### SONG

"What A Friend We Have in Jesus"

What a friend we have in Jesus All our sins and griefs to bear What a privilege to carry Ev'rything to God in pray'r Oh what peace we often forfeit Oh what needless pain we bear All because we do not carry Ev'rything to god in pray'r

#### Chorus

What a friend we have in Jesus
What a friend we have in Him
For He knows us and He holds us in his hands
And his grace is never failing
And his love without an end
What a friend we have in Jesus
What a friend we have in Him

Have we trials and temptations is there trouble anywhere
We should never be discouraged
Take it to the lord in pray'r
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share
Jesus knows our every weakness
Take it to the lord in pray'r

Chorus

#### **ENDING:**

What a friend we have in Jesus,
What a friend we have in him.

## THE WORD

#### **OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 55:6–9

6"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; 7let 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.

8For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
9For as the heavens are higher than the earth,

For as the heavens are higher than the earth so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

- R This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

# **EPISTLE** Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

<sup>12</sup>I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, <sup>13</sup>so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. <sup>14</sup>And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

<sup>19</sup>for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, <sup>20</sup>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. <sup>21</sup>For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. <sup>24</sup>But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. <sup>25</sup>Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup>so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

<sup>27</sup>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, <sup>28</sup>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. <sup>29</sup>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, <sup>30</sup>engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

- R This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

People: Thanks be to God.

"I Will Glory In The Cross"
I will glory in the cross
Where my Jesus was crucified
Through His blood I stand forgiven
Cleansed from sin and justified
I will glory in the cross
I will ever lift it high
As the banner for salvation
As the standard for my life.

Hal-le-lu-jah for the cross
Where my Jesus was crucified
Through His blood I stand forgiven
Cleansed from sin and justified
Hal-le-lu-jah for the cross
I will ever lift it high
As the banner for salvation
As the standard for my life.

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### **HOLY GOSPEL** Matthew 20:1–16

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.
- C Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, 4 and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' 5So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. 6And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' 7They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' 8And 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.' 9And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. 10Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. 11 And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, <sup>12</sup>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.' 13But he replied to one of them, 'Friend. I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' 16So the last will be first, and the first last."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to You, O Christ.

#### **CONFESSION**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth. Psalm 124:8

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there if forgiveness; therefore You are feared. Psalm 130:3-4

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider

our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying, God, be merciful to me, a sinner. *Luke* 18:13

- C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:19-23*

C Amen.

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

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

- And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

(Sit)

**CHILDREN'S TALK** 

HYMN OF THE DAY LSB 705 The Man Is Ever Blessed

SERMON: There's a Place for You in the Lord's Vineyard, Matthew 20:1-16.

(Stand)

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

#### SHARING OF THE PEACE

(Sit)

#### OFFERING

(Stand)

# THE SACRAMENT

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

# WORDS OF INSTITUTION LORD'S PRAYER

(Sit)

# **DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

"Come And Behold Him"

Come and behold Him
Come see His glory
Come with an honest heart
To see all He is
We will discover
All of His beauty
His light will burn away
All the darkness we've known

#### Chorus:

Come and behold Him
Come and behold Him
Come with an honest heart
To see all He is
Come and behold Him
Wait now before Him
Come with an honest heart
To see all He is

Come and behold Him
Come see His mercy
Come find His tenderness
Reaching to you
Just as a mirror
Shows a reflection
His Word and Spirit come
Now reflecting His love Chorus

CCLI Song # 1322573

"The Power of Your Love"

Lord, I come to You, let my heart be changed, renewed, Flowing from the grace that I've found in You. And Lord, I've come to know the weaknesses I see in me Will be stripped away by the pow'r of Your love. *Chorus:* 

Hold me close, let Your love surround me; Bring me near, draw me to your side. And as I wait, I'll rise up like the eagle, and I will soar with You. Your Spirit leads me on in the pow'r of Your love.

Lord, unveil my eyes, let me see You face to face, The knowledge of Your love as You live in me. Lord, renew my mind, as Your will unfolds in my life, In living ev'ry day in the pow'r of Your love. Chorus. © 1992 Word Music, Inc. CCLI # 187269 BOB 214

"White As Snow"

White as snow, white as snow, though my sins were as scarlet; Lord, I know, Lord, I know, that I'm clean and forgiven. Thru the power of Your blood, Thru the wonder of Your love, Thru faith in You I know that I can be white as snow. Repeat: Isaiah 1:18 © 1990 Maranatha! Music (ASCAP) CCLI 187269 RMP 190

(Stand)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER BENEDICTION

#### **CLOSING SONG OF PRAISE**

"Shine, Jesus, Shine" Lord, the light of Your love is shining In the midst of the darkness shining: Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us, Set us free by the truth You now bring us, Shine on me, shine on me.

#### Refrain:

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory; Blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire. Flow, river flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy; Send forth Your Word, Lord, and let there be light. Lord, I come to Your awesome presence, From the shadows into Your radiance; By the blood I may enter Your brightness, Search me, try me, consume all my darkness, Shine on me, shine on me. Refrain:

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness, So our faces display Your likeness: Ever changing from glory to glory, Mirror'd here may our lives tell Your story, Shine on me. shine on me. Refrain: @1991, Make Way Music, Ltd. CCLI # 187269 RMP 2