

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 18, 2020



https://miro.medium.com/max/1200/1*ym0otz_asYWTLivRUkR4Q.png

AS WE GATHER

As the Lord speaks to us in His Word, He calls the righteous to live by faith and always gives reason why His people can do so through His continual presence, power, and providence. The Readings today urge us, in various ways, to live by faith in our confession and conviction. In Isaiah, He with great conviction reminds through the prophet, “I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides Me there is no God.” In the Epistle, Paul assures the Thessalonians, “He has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.” Finally, in today’s Gospel, Christ urges us to live by faith and as stewards of all He has provided, to “render . . . to God the things that are God’s.” Moved by His Spirit out of gratefulness for the salvation earned for us by Christ Jesus, we then give God our willing obedience, dedicated service, and the glory due His name as we in confession and conviction live by faith in and through Him.

PRESERVICE MUSIC “Before You, Lord, We Bow” (arr. Culli) & “Come, O Almighty King” (arr. Kosche)

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you. *Psalm 50:15*

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
G Amen.

966 BEFORE YOU, LORD, WE BOW

st. 1

1 Before You, Lord, we bow,
Our God who reigns above
And rules the world below,
Boundless in pow’r and love.
Our thanks we bring
In joy and praise,
Our hearts we raise
To You, our King!

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 96:1–9

P Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!
G Sing to the Lord, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day.
P Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples!
G For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods.
Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.

966 BEFORE YOU, LORD, WE BOW

sts. 2–3

2 The nation You have blest
May well Your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest,
Protected by Your care.
For this bright day,
For this fair land—
Gifts of Your hand—
Our thanks we pay.

3 May ev'ry mountain height,
Each vale and forest green,
Shine in Your Word's pure light,
And its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue
Be tuned to praise
And join to raise
A grateful song.

- P** For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens.
C **Splendor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.**
P Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!
C **Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come into His courts! Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.**

966 BEFORE YOU, LORD, WE BOW

st. 4

4 Earth, hear your Maker's voice;
Your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice,
And worship Him alone.
Cast down your pride,
Your sin deplore,
And bow before
The Crucified.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalm 51:1–3; 96:9–13; Isaiah 45:5, adapted

- P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;
C **according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**
P Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!
C **For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.**
P As we come and bow before the Lord to confess our sins, we admit that we have bowed down to other gods of this world and gods of our own choosing.
C **We confess we have trusted in ourselves and others rather than in You.**
P We have failed to rely on You in all times. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, and against others in what we have done and left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart
C **and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We confess we have trusted in ourselves and others rather than in You.**
P Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
C **let the field exult, and everything in it!**
P Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
C **before the Lord, for He comes,**
P for He comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in His faithfulness.
C **Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.**

966 BEFORE YOU, LORD, WE BOW

st. 5

5 And when in pow'r He comes,
Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs
Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng,
With joy to sing
To heav'n's high King
Salvation's song!

P Brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, God is a merciful and loving Father, of whom “there is no other, besides Him there is no God.” He has chosen you in the Gospel, which has come not only in word but with full conviction in power and in the Holy Spirit. Jesus died on the cross to redeem You. Through Him, in His stead, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 45:1–7

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: ²“I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, ⁶that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the LORD, who does all these things.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. ²We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to

God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SOLO 10 am "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)" (Tomlin) Rick Behrens

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 22:15–22

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. ¹⁶And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" ²¹They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

973 THY WORD IS A LAMP

Refrain Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path.

1 When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way,
Still You're there right beside me.
And nothing will I fear as long as You are near.
Please be near me to the end. **Refrain**

2 I will not forget Your love for me, and yet
My heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side;
And I will love You to the end. **Refrain**

Text: © 1984 Meadowgreen Music Company, admin. EMI. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005575

SERMON "The Great Debate"

CREED Early Service – Nicene Creed Late Service – Apostles' Creed
(*Creeds can be found on the screens.*)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. We offer to You, Lord, the sacrifice of our prayer and praise. You have blessed us with the gift of life in Your Son, Jesus Christ. You provide for all our needs, even when we are unaware. Accept our humble

thanksgiving, and empower us to demonstrate our thanks in words, actions, and dedicated service to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We acknowledge that You are the Lord, and there is no other. Strengthen us to resist temptations to serve other gods, whether things of this world, others, or ourselves. Open our eyes to see Your presence in all of our lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Our Savior Jesus Christ, has reminded us to render to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to You what is Yours. As You have established all authority over us, we pray for our leaders in this world, nation, state, and community. Give them wisdom and courage to act with justice and mercy for all lives, including the unborn and aged, the vulnerable and needful. Bless also those who serve our Church as elected and called officials, and the leaders within our own congregation, that all actions bring glory to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We lift up all those in need, the hungry and homeless, the mourning and grieving, and all who seek healing, [*especially* . . .]. Give peace, hope, and healing according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Bless all who commune at this altar today, that through the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus, they be strengthened in Your forgiveness, enabled to withstand temptations of the devil, and empowered to lovingly serve neighbors in Your name.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Late service please continue with the Lord's Prayer & Benediction

+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

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 Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

P 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. 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

LSB 161

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:**

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LORD'S PRAYER

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

SOLO "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)" (Tomlin) Rick Behrens

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

830 SPREAD THE REIGN OF GOD THE LORD

- 1 Spread the reign of God the Lord,
Spoken, written, mighty Word;
Ev'rywhere His creatures call
To His heav'nly banquet hall.
- 2 Tell how God the Father's will
Made the world, upholds it still,
How His own dear Son He gave
Us from sin and death to save.
- 3 Tell of our Redeemer's grace,
Who, to save our human race
And to pay rebellion's price,
Gave Himself as sacrifice.
- 4 Tell of God the Spirit giv'n
Now to guide us on to heav'n,
Strong and holy, just and true,
Working both to will and do.

- 5 Enter, mighty Word, the field;
Ripe the promise of its yield.
But the reapers, oh, how few
For the work there is to do!
- 6 Lord of harvest, great and kind,
Rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gath'ring nations all
See Your light and heed Your call.

POSTLUDE "This Little Light of Mine" (arr. Behnke)

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 4. Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2018 Concordia Publishing House.

Thank you, Pastor Szeto, for leading us in worship today.

Congregation at Prayer and Devotions for the Week

Invocation In the name of the Father, and of the Son † , and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Introit (found on front page)

Catechism Review (found on front page)

Meditation: Portals of Prayer, www.lhm.org/dailydevotions, Other

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday: Deuteronomy 17:1-20; Matthew 14:1-21
Monday: Deuteronomy 18:1-22; Matthew 14:22-36
Tuesday: Deuteronomy 19:1-20; Matthew 15:1-20
Wednesday: Deuteronomy 20:1-20; Matthew 15:21-39
Thursday: Deuteronomy 21:1-23; Matthew 16:1-12
Friday: Deuteronomy 24:10-25:10; Matthew 16:13-28
Saturday: Deuteronomy 25:17-26:19; Matthew 17:1-13

In Our Prayers This Week (as of Thursday morning)

Roger, health issues	Al, health issues
Bill, recovery	Linda, brain cancer
Larry, heart issues	Marilyn, recovering
Becky, back pain	Jean, health issues
Camilla, 7-year-old with brain cancer	Sue, recovery
Jack, ongoing health issues	Denise, addictions
Beth, health issues	Lauren's mother
Eunice, Health Issues	Jackie's mother
Jim, Alzheimer's	Sharron's father
Roger, recovering	Vonna's mother
Lois, recovering	Carol, recovering
David, recovering	Ross, Covid
Terry, Health	
Sidney, granddaughter of Steinke's with medical issues	

For those in nursing homes, medical professionals, those whose employment is in question, and that the Lord would miraculously make all signs of this virus disappear so all may know it is by His merciful hand. For peace and humility to dwell in the hearts of the people of our land.

Our Savior Families: Autumn, Ronald & Paula, Keith & Diane, Willie & Debbie,
Michael and family, Erich

Hymn of the Week "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name" LSB 940

Collect (found on front page)

Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction