



BLESSED TO SHARE THE BLESSING IN THE SMOKY MOUNTAINS

## 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 9/27

Philippians 2:4, NRSV



### Pastor

Robert M. Portier

### Pastor Emeritus

Linsey H. Dettmer

### Choir Director

Gary McCaffity

### Organists

Barbara Jones &

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Sunday School 9:45 AM

### Worship

Saturday 6 PM

Sunday: 8:30 & 11 AM

Wednesday: 6 PM

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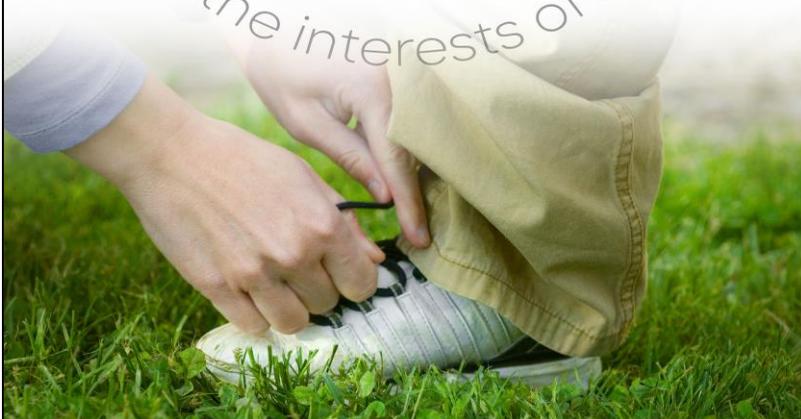
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Let each of you look not to your OWN  
*interests,*  
but to the interests of others.



## Hymn of Invocation

### 549 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name LSB 549

- 1 All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!  
Let angels prostrate fall;  
Bring forth the royal diadem  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
Bring forth the royal diadem  
And crown Him Lord of all.
  
- 2 Crown Him, ye martyrs of our God,  
Who from His altar call;  
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod  
And crown Him Lord of all.
  
- 3 Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,  
Ye ransomed from the fall,  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace  
And crown Him Lord of all.
  
- 4 Hail Him, ye heirs of David's line,  
Whom David Lord did call,  
The God incarnate, man divine,  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
The God incarnate, man divine,  
And crown Him Lord of all.
  
- 5 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget  
The wormwood and the gall,  
Go, spread your trophies at His feet  
And crown Him Lord of all.  
Go, spread your trophies at His feet  
And crown Him Lord of all.

- 6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,  
 On this terrestrial ball  
 To Him all majesty ascribe  
 And crown Him Lord of all.  
 To Him all majesty ascribe  
 And crown Him Lord of all.
- 7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng  
 We at His feet may fall!  
 We'll join the everlasting song  
 And crown Him Lord of all.  
 We'll join the everlasting song  
 And crown Him Lord of all.

Confession and Absolution *Setting 4 begins on page 203*

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

**C** Amen.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

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

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**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.

**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.

**C** Amen.

Service of the Word

**Introit** *Responsively Read*

The LORD lifts up the | humble;\*  
he casts the wicked | to the ground.

**Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our God;\*  
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.**

The LORD builds up Je- | rusalem;\*  
he gathers the outcasts of | Israel.

**He heals the broken- | hearted\*  
and binds | up their wounds.**

He determines the number | of the stars;\*  
he gives to all of | them their names.

**Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power;\*  
his understanding is beyond | measure.**

**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.**

The LORD lifts up the | humble;\*  
he casts the wicked | to the ground.

 **Kyrie** (*Lord*)

 **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Refrain*  
Leader All

Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing Through the Word in - vit - ing,  
Of - fer - ing for - give - ness, Com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All

1 Je - sus gave His man - date: Share the good news  
2 Let none be for - got - ten Through - out the world.  
3 Help us to be faith - ful, Stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All *Refrain*

That He came to save us \_\_\_\_\_ And set us free.  
In the tri - une name of God Go and bap - tize.  
Walk - ing in Your pre - cepts, \_\_\_\_\_ Led by Your Word.

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### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Old Testament Reading Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

The word of the LORD came to me: “What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .

“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?”

“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### **Psalm 25:1-10** *Responsively Read*

To you, | O LORD,\*

I lift | up my soul.

**O my God, in you I trust;**

**let me not be | put to shame;\***

**let not my enemies exult | over me.**

Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame;\*

they shall be ashamed who are wantonly | treacherous.

**Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;\***

**teach me | your paths.**

Lead me in your truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my sal- | vation;\*

for you I wait all the | day long.

**Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your | steadfast love,\***

**for they have been | from of old.**

Remember not the sins of my youth or my trans- | gressions;\*

according to your steadfast love remember me,

for the sake of your goodness, | O LORD!

**Good and upright | is the LORD;\***

**therefore he instructs sinners | in the way.**

He leads the humble in | what is right,\*

and teaches the humble | his way.

All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and | faithfulness,\*  
for those who keep his covenant and his testi- | monies.

**Epistle**      **Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18**

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . .

Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

♪ **Alleluia and Verse**

**C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Holy Gospel** **Matthew 21:23-27**

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

**C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Apostles' Creed

**C** 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.

## Hymn of the Day

### 848 Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service      LSB 848

- 1 Lord, whose love through humble service  
Bore the weight of human need,  
Who upon the cross, forsaken,  
Offered mercy's perfect deed,  
We, Your servants, bring the worship  
Not of voice alone, but heart,  
Consecrating to Your purpose  
Ev'ry gift that You impart.
  
- 2 Still Your children wander homeless;  
Still the hungry cry for bread;  
Still the captives long for freedom;  
Still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As, O Lord, Your deep compassion  
Healed the sick and freed the soul,  
Use the love Your Spirit kindles  
Still to save and make us whole.

3 As we worship, grant us vision,  
Till Your love's revealing light  
In its height and depth and greatness,  
Dawns upon our quickened sight,  
Making known the needs and burdens  
Your compassion bids us bear,  
Stirring us to tireless striving,  
Your abundant life to share.

4 Called by worship to Your service,  
Forth in Your dear name we go,  
To the child, the youth, the aged,  
Love in living deeds to show;  
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort,  
Counsel, aid, and peace we give,  
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom  
May Your mercy know and live.

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## Sermon

## Pre-communion Litany

*Inside front cover*

## Prayer of the Church

**Offering (Please place your offering in the white box as you enter or depart)**  
*(As we sing the offertory pastor raises the offering plate as a wave offering for all of our tithes and offerings given in person or by mail or via the internet)*

♪ **Offertory** *(Sing as the offering is brought forward)*

### **955 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful**

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; Unite them with the prayers we offer now.  
Grace our table with Your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

## Service of the 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.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary ..... evermore praising You and saying:

♩ **Sanctus** (*Holy*)

**C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

### Lord's Prayer

### The Words of Our Lord

**Pax Domini** (*Peace of the Lord*)

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

♩ **Agnus Dei** (*Lamb of God*)

**C** O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

### Distribution

♩ **Post Communion Canticle: O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee 632**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee<br>My heartfelt thanks forever be,<br>Who hast so lovingly bestowed<br>On me Thy body and Thy blood. | 2 Break forth, my soul, for joy and say:<br>What wealth is come to me this day!<br>My Savior dwells within my heart:<br>How blessed am I! How good Thou art! |
|---|--|

**Post-Communion Collect**

**A** 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 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.**

**Benedicamus and Benediction** (*We Bless & Blessing*)

**A** Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**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.**

**Closing Hymn**

**345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding**                      **LSB 345**

- 1 Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding!  
“Christ is near,” we hear it say.  
“Cast away the works of darkness,  
All you children of the day!”
  
- 2 Startled at the solemn warning,  
Let the earthbound soul arise;  
Christ, its sun, all sloth dispelling,  
Shines upon the morning skies.
  
- 3 See, the Lamb, so long expected,  
Comes with pardon down from heav’n.  
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,  
One and all, to be forgiv’n;

4    So, when next He comes in glory  
      And the world is wrapped in fear,  
      He will shield us with His mercy  
      And with words of love draw near.

△ 5    Honor, glory, might, dominion  
      To the Father and the Son  
      With the ever-living Spirit  
      While eternal ages run!

**Acknowledgments** Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.  
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