

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 10, 2023

10:30a

Morning Prayer p. 235

725 Children of the Heavenly Father



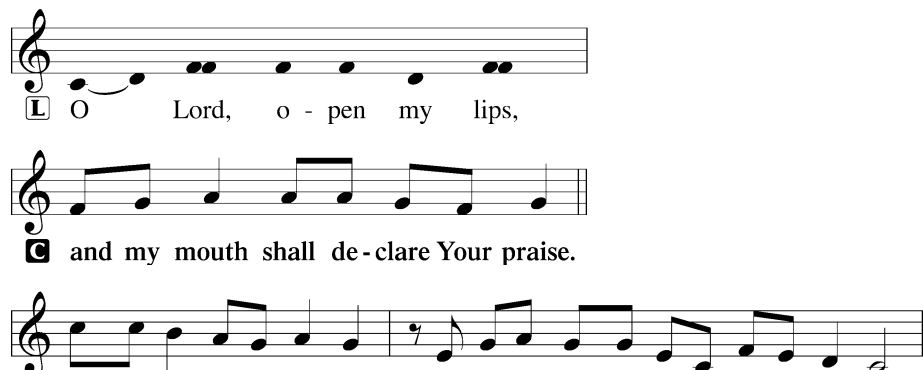
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His

in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose

heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.


Text: Public domain
Tune: Public domain

Versicles



L O Lord, o - pen my lips,
C and my mouth shall de - clare Your praise.
C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

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



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

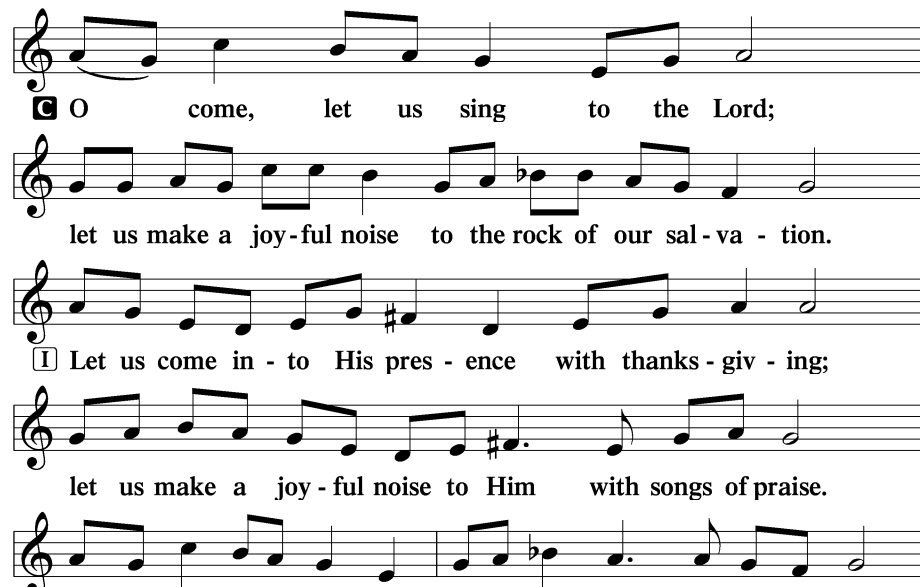
Psalmody



L Give glory to God, our light and our life.
C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Venite

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C O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joy - ful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
I Let us come in - to His pres - ence with thanks - giv - ing;
let us make a joy - ful noise to Him with songs of praise.
II For the Lord is a great God and a great king a - bove all gods.



I In His hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the moun - tains are His al - so.

II The sea is His, for He made it;
and His hand formed the dry land.

I O come, let us wor - ship and bow down;
let us kneel be - fore the Lord, our mak - er.

II For He is our God, and we are the peo - ple
of His pas - ture and the sheep of His hand.

C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;
as it was in the be-gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.

L Give glory to God, our light and our life.



C O come, let us wor - ship Him.

Psalm

Psalm 32:1–7; antiphon: v. 1

- P** Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
- C** Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- P** For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.
- C** For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.
- P** I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity;
- C** I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- P** Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;
- C** surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him.
- P** You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- C** 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.
- P** Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

902 Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; Our hearts in
 2 Un - seal our lips to sing Your praise In end - less
 3 Then shall we join the hosts that cry, "O ho - ly,
 △ 4 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly
 true de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with
 hymns through all our days. In - crease our faith and
 ho - ly Lord Most High!" And in the light of
 Spir - it, Three in One! To You, O bless - ed
 light di - vine, And let Your truth with - in us shine.
 light our minds; And set us free from doubt that blinds.
 that blest place We then shall see You face to face.
 Trin - i - ty, Be praise through - out e - ter - ni - ty!

Text and tune: Public domain

Presentation of Bibles

Readings

Reading

Ezekiel 33:7–9

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

Romans 13:1–10

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Reading

Matthew 18:1–20

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

⁵“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

⁷“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

¹⁰“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

¹⁵“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

L In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

820 My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker



1 My soul, now praise your Mak - er! Let all with - in me
2 He of - fers all His trea - sure Of jus - tice, truth, and
3 For as a ten - der fa - ther Has pit - y on his
4 His grace re - mains for - ev - er, And chil - dren's chil - dren



bless His name Who makes you full par - tak - er Of
righ - teous-ness, His love be - yond all mea - sure, His
chil - dren here, God in His arms will gath - er All
yet shall prove That God for-sakes them nev - er Who



mer - cies more than you dare claim. For - get Him not whose
yearn - ing pit - y o'er dis - tress; Nor treats us as we
who are His in child - like fear. He knows how frail our
in true fear shall seek His love. In heav'n is fixed His



meek - ness Still bears with all your sin, Who heals your ev - 'ry
mer - it But sets His an - ger by. The poor and con - trite
pow - ers, Who but from dust are made. We flour - ish like the
dwell - ing, His rule is o - ver all; O hosts with might ex -



weak - ness, Re - news your life with - in; Whose grace and
spir - it Finds His com - pas - sion nigh; And high as
flow - ers, And e - ven so we fade; The wind but
cel - ling, With praise be - fore Him fall. Praise Him for -



care are end - less And saved you through the past; Who
heav'n a - bove us, As dawn from close of day, So
through them pass - es, And all their bloom is o'er. We
ev - er reign - ing, All you who hear His Word— Our



leaves no suf - f'rer friend - less But rights the wronged at last.
far, since He has loved us, He puts our sins a - way.
with - er like the grass - es; Our place knows us no more.
life and all sus - tain - ing. My soul, O praise the Lord!

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Sermon

Theme: “The Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven”

Text: Matthew 18:1-20

Canticle

Benedictus (L part sung by Pastor)

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C Bless - ed be the Lord, the God of Is - ra - el;



He has come to His peo - ple and re-deemed them.



He has raised up for us a might - y Sav - ior,

born of the house of His ser - vant Da - vid.

Through His ho - ly proph - ets He prom - ised of old

that He would save us from our en - e - mies, from the hands of all who

hate us. He prom - ised to show mer - cy to our fa - thers

and to re - mem - ber His ho - ly cov - e - nant.

This was the oath He swore to our fa - ther A - bra - ham:

to set us free from the hands of our en - e - mies,

free to wor - ship Him with - out fear, ho - ly and

right - teous in His sight all the days of our life.

L You, my child, shall be called the proph - et of the Most High,

for you will go be - fore the Lord to pre - pare His way,

to give His peo - ple knowl - edge of sal - va - tion by the for - give - ness

of their sins. In the ten - der com - pas - sion of our God,

the dawn from on high shall break up - on us

to shine on those who dwell in dark - ness and the shad - ow of death

and to guide our feet in - to the way of peace.


C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the

Ho - ly Spir - it; as it was in the be - gin - ning,

is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Presentation of our Offerings & Gifts to the Lord

781 We Give Thee But Thine Own



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive

All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

Text and Tune: Public domain

Installation of Sunday School Teachers and Helpers

Prayer

Collects

Petitions ending in...

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Collect of the Day

- L** Let us pray.
O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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.

C Amen.


Lord's Prayer

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- L** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
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.

Benedicamus

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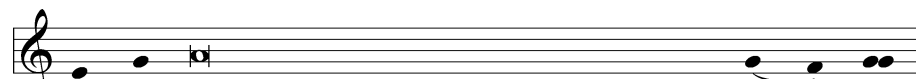
L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

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P The al - mighty and merciful Lord, the Father,
the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve you.




C A - men.

707 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His stat - utes still!
2 Or - der my foot - steps by Thy Word And make my heart sin - cere;
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict - er watch to keep;
4 Make me to walk in Thy com - mands—'Tis a de - light - ful road—



Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!
Let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, But keep my con - science clear.
And should I e'er for - get Thy way, Re - store Thy wan - d'ring sheep.
Nor let my head or heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.

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Acknowledgments

Morning Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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