



Faith Lutheran Church

***Faithfully Growing, Welcoming,
and Caring through Christ***

September 15, 2019

The 14th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God,
the strength of our ancestors, the host
of this meal, the builder of the city that is
to come.

C: Amen.

P: If we have died with Christ, we will also live with Christ. Let us confess our sin to the one who is faithful. *(A brief silence.)*
God our helper,

C: We confess the many ways we have failed to live as your disciples. We have not finished what we began. We have feasted with friends but ignored strangers. We have been captivated by our possessions.

**Lift our burdens, gracious God.
Refresh our hearts and forgive our sin.
Raise us to the new life you have chosen
for us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord. Amen.**

P: There is rejoicing in heaven when sinners repent. Put your trust in these promises: God will never leave you or forsake you. You who were lost have been found. For the sake of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Rejoice with the angels at this good news.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting,
 thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of
 goodness and love.**

**To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish
 like leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish,
 but naught changeth thee.**

**Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render; oh, help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!**

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

C: And also with you.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P: The grumbling of the Pharisees and the scribes in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God wills to seek and to save the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As Paul's first letter to Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. (*A brief silence.*) O God,

C: overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



CHILDREN'S
CHURCH

FIRST READING: Exodus 32:7-14

A reading from Exodus, the 32nd chapter.

The LORD said to Moses, “Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, ‘These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!’ ”

The LORD said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.” But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, “O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth’?”

Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' ” And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A RESPONSIVE READING FROM PSALM 51

R: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

C: **Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.**

R: For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

C: Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.

R: Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.

**C: Indeed, you delight in truth deep within
me, and would have me know wisdom
deep within.**

R: Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

C: Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.

R: Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

C: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

A reading from 1 Timothy, the 1st chapter.

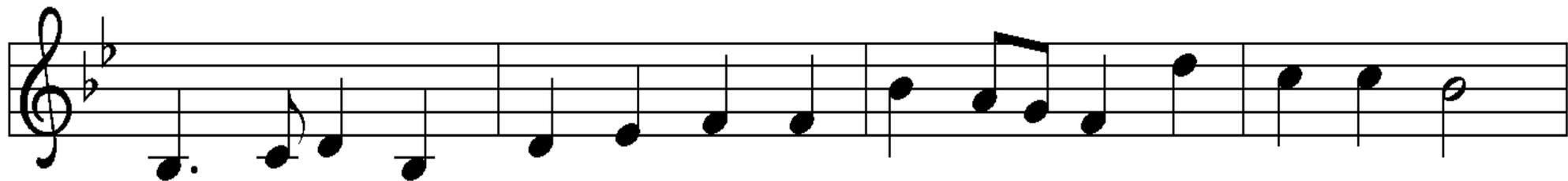
I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners - of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

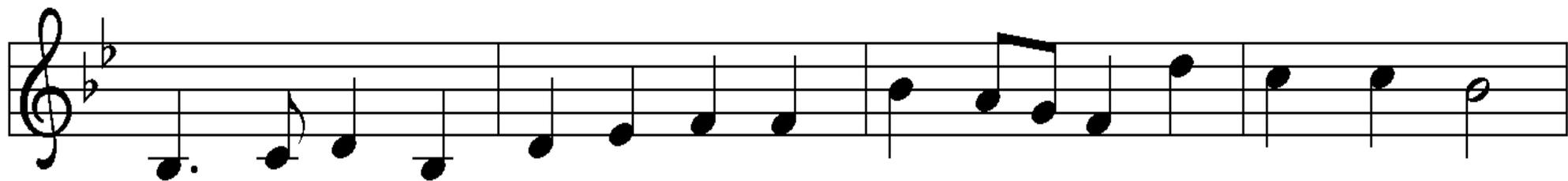
R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-10

P: The holy gospel according to Luke,
the 15th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” So he told them this parable:

“Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON
“Joy In Heaven”

HYMN OF THE DAY “Amazing Grace”

**Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.**

**'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.**

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the
dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Sustained and nurtured by our generous God, we gather as one to pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation. *(A brief silence.)* Bless pastors, deacons, and all church leaders in their ministries, so that your gospel is shared through their faithful leadership and living.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Protect and preserve habitats and biospheres, especially in places damaged by natural disaster or human alteration. Restore balance to deserts, oceans, polar regions, and temperate areas. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Instruct all the world's people, nations, and governments in ways of justice, mercy, and peace. Lead us away from the idols of power, war, self-centeredness, and fear.
Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Show mercy to the lost, welcome to the outsiders, and comfort to the suffering and dying. We pray for all who need your healing and constant presence (*especially*).
Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: Strengthen those who work with people in crisis: firefighters, police officers, hospital staff, chaplains, nurses, doctors, emergency responders, staff and counselors in rehab centers and women's shelters. Give them wisdom and compassion, so that those in need are well-supported and cared for.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We give thanks for the beloved sheep of your fold who have died and who now find life in your eternal glory. Embrace us as we hope and rejoice in your unfailing redemption. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Assured by your promise to hear us, we lay our prayers before your throne of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

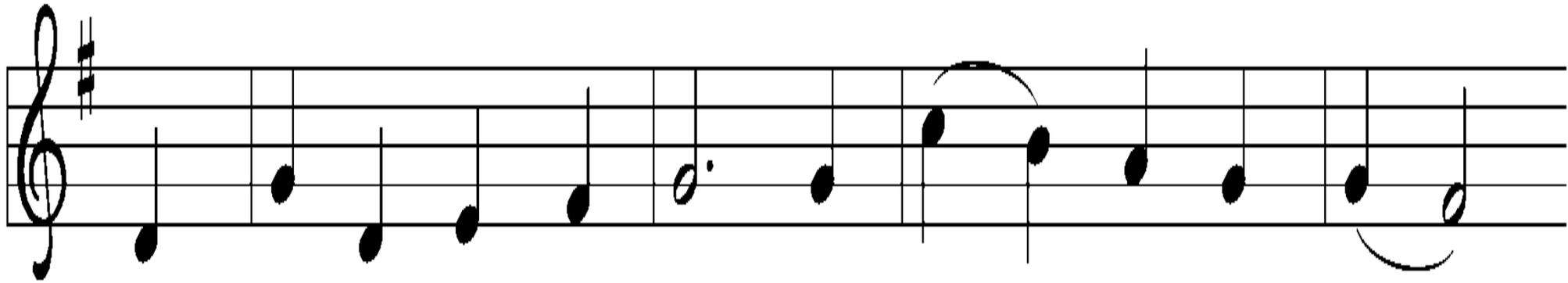
C: **And also with you.**

OFFERING

~VIDEO DURING OFFERING ~

***“Til The Storm Passes By”
by Gaither Vocal Band***

Offertory Response



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.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God our provider, we bring nothing into this world and we can take nothing out of it. Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table, and with them the offering of our lives. Nourish us now with the life that really is life, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

DIALOGUE

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 and praise to
the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give God thanks
and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us. Almighty God + bless you with grace, mercy, and peace, now and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

**Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee;
may I still thy goodness prove.**

Here I raise my Ebenezer:

**"Hither by thy help I've come";
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.**

**Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wand'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.**

**Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fether
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.**

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us.

C: **Thanks be to God.**











