

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

2107 Three Oaks Rd, Cary, IL

September 27, 2020

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Inspired by Christ • Serving under Christ • Growing in Christ

Order of Service from Setting Four, page 203 in the Lutheran Service Book

OPENING HYMN

“Renew Me, O Eternal Light”

LSB 704

**Renew me, O eternal Light, and let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace that issues from Your holy face.**

**Remove the pow'r of sin from me and cleanse all my impurity
That I may have the strength and will temptations of the flesh to still.**

**Create in me a new heart, Lord, that gladly I obey Your Word.
Let what You will be my desire, and with new life my soul inspire.**

**Grant that I only You may love and seek those things which are above
Till I behold You face to face, O Light eternal, through Your grace.**

2 Cor. 3:18; Col. 3:1-10; Ps. 51:10-12

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

C: Amen. *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

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

C: who made heaven and earth. *Psalms 124:8*

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.

Psalms 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. *John 20:19-23*

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

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 Jerusalem; He gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted 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 abundant 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 beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen. The Lord lifts up the humble; He casts the wicked to the ground. *Psalms 147:1-6*

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

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *Luke 2:14; John 1:29*

**To God on high be glory and peace to all the earth;
goodwill from God in heaven proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name we sing--
our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heavenly King.**

**To you, O sole-begotten, the Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us Jesus; receive our heart-felt cry,
Where you in pow'r are seated at God's right hand on high--**

**For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.**

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, Your Son, 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."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING: Philippians 2:1-18

So 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 selfish ambition 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. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with

God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Do all things without grumbling or disputing, 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.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE ALLELUIA

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. *John 20:31*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 21st chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:23-32

And when he 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. What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen!

**Lord whose love in 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.**

**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.**

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

**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, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom may Your mercy know and live.**

Matt. 25:34-40; Gal. 6:10; Rom 12:1

SERMON: "Your Noble Calling" *Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord. *Colossians 3:1*

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise. *Psalms 136*

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto You O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

THE SANCTUS *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabaoth adored, heaven 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.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give you thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Here us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

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

C: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI *John 1:29*

**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

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"The Lamb"

LSB 547

**The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb, let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**The Lamb, the Lamb, as wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still, His will on our behalf the Law to fill.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**He rose, He rose, my heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong till ev'ry heart to Him belong.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**
Rev. 5:12-13; Gen. 22:7-8; 1 Peter 2:24-25

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

NUNC DIMITTIS *Luke 2:29-32*

**O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heav'nly peace, for I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill, the glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son, all glory to the Spirit, forever Three in One;
for as in the beginning, is now, shall ever be, God's triune name resounding through all eternity.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: 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.

BENEDICAMUS

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

"We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God"

LSB 941

**We praise You and acknowledge You, O God, to be the Lord,
The Father everlasting, by all the earth adored.
To You all angel powers cry aloud, the heavens sing,
The cherubim and seraphim their praises to You bring:**

"O holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; Your majesty and glory fill the heavens and the earth!"

**The band of the apostles in glory sing Your praise;
The fellowship of prophets their deathless voices raise.
The martyrs of Your kingdom, a great and noble throng,
Sing with the holy Church throughout all the world this song:**

"O all-majestic Father, Your true and only Son, and Holy Spirit, Comforter – forever Three in One!"

**You, Christ, are King of glory, the everlasting Son,
Yet, You, with boundless love, sought to rescue ev'ry one:
You laid aside Your glory, were born of virgin's womb,
Were crucified for us and were placed into a tomb; then by Your resurrection You won for us reprieve—
You opened heaven's kingdom to all who would believe.**

**You sit in splendid glory, enthroned at God's right hand,
Upholding earth and heaven by forces You command.**

**We know that You will come as our Judge that final day,
So help Your servants You have redeemed by blood, we pray;**

May we with saints be numbered where praises never end, in glory everlasting. Amen, O Lord, amen!

Rev. 7:9-17; Phil. 2:5-11; Ps. 89:26