

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
LITTLETON, COLORADO

September 2, 2018

10:00 am



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Tell Your Children and Your Children's Children

AS WE GATHER

It has been said, "The Church is never more than one generation away from extinction." This bold statement perhaps finds support in the admonition found in today's Old Testament Reading. There Moses writes this concerning the works of the Lord, "Make them known to your children and your children's children" (Deuteronomy 4:9). Each generation has the responsibility, and privilege, of passing on the works of God to the next generation. While much of this teaching happens in the setting of a local congregation, the Christian instruction that happens in the home, in our own family, is key. This teaching is always centered in Jesus Christ, the one through whom our Lord has worked the mightiest work of all—our salvation. That same Savior promises that even the gates of hell will not prevail against His Church!

GATHERING SONGS

PRELUDE "The Water is Wide"

arr. Ron Harris
Ann Westra, flute

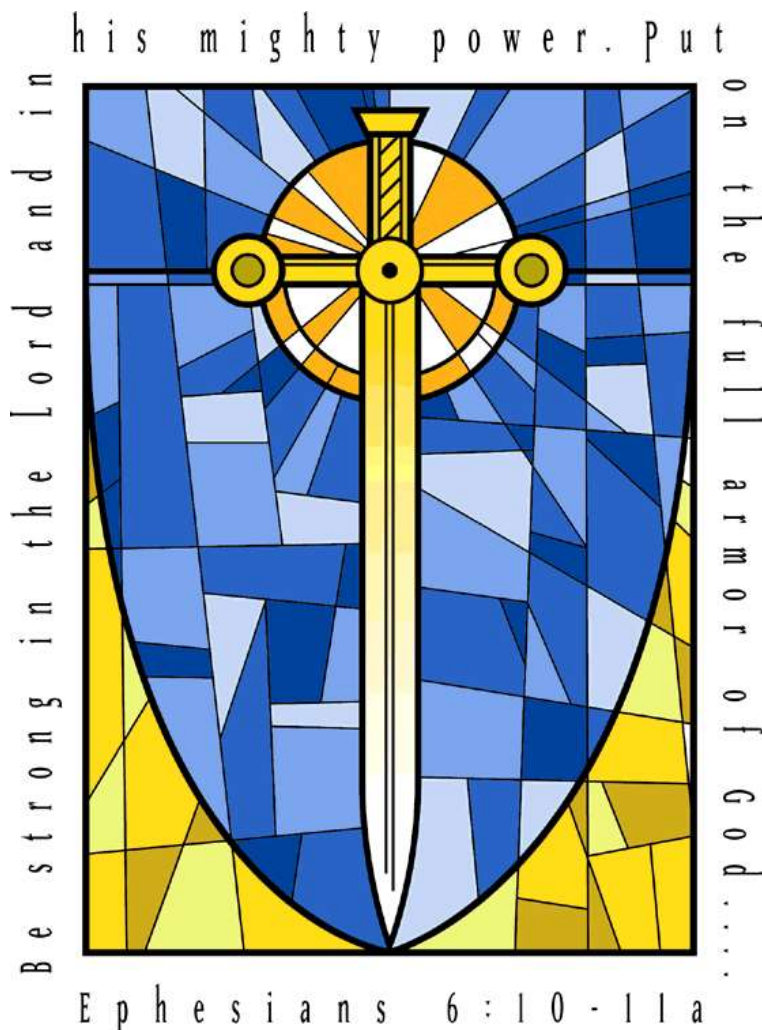
COME, NOW IS THE TIME TO WORSHIP

Doerksen

Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship.
Come, just as you are before your God.

One day ev'ry tongue will confess You are God.
One day ev'ry knee will bow.
Still, the greatest treasure remains for those
who gladly choose You now.

Come, now is the time to worship.
Come, now is the time to give your heart.
Come, just as you are to worship.
Come, just as you are before your God.



✠ PREPARATION ✠

PASTORAL GREETING

OPENING SONG

BUILD YOUR KINGDOM HERE

Rend Collective

Come set Your rule, and reign In our hearts again.
Increase in us, we pray. Unveil why we're made.
Come set our hearts ablaze with hope, Like wildfire in our very souls;
Holy Spirit, come, invade us now. We are Your church; we need Your pow'r in us.
We seek Your kingdom first. We hunger and we thirst;
Refuse to waste our lives, for You're our joy and prize.
To see the captives' hearts released; The hurt, the sick, the poor at peace.
We lay down our lives for heaven's cause.
We are Your church; we pray, revive this earth.

**CHORUS: Build Your kingdom here. Let the darkness fear.
Show Your mighty hand. Heal our streets and land.
Set Your church on fire. Win this nation back.
Change the atmosphere. Build Your kingdom here, we pray!**

Unleash Your kingdom's power, Reaching the near and far.
No force of hell can stop Your beauty, changing hearts.
You made us for much more than this; Awake the kingdom seed in us.
Fill us with the strength and love of Christ.
We are Your church; We are the hope on earth. **CHORUS**

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 51:2, 7, 10*

Pastor: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!
People: **Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**
Pastor: 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.

People: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☐ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

(Listen to the statutes and just decrees that I am teaching you.)

Hear now, O Israel, the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you.

Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today? Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle: Ephesians 6:10-20

(Put on the whole armor of God.)

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to

all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel

READING

Congregation, please rise for the Gospel.

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 7:14–23

(What comes out of a man is what makes him “unclean.”)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. Nothing outside a man can make him 'unclean' by going into him. Rather, it is what comes out of a man that makes him 'unclean.'"

After he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable. "Are you so dull?" he asked. "Don't you see that nothing that enters a man from the outside can make him 'unclean'? For it doesn't go into his heart but into his stomach, and then out of his body." (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods "clean.")

He went on: "What comes out of a man is what makes him 'unclean.' For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and make a man 'unclean.' "

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Larson

SONG OF THE DAY

BE THOU MY VISION

WOV 776

SERMON

Pastor John Larson

NICENE CREED

Text found in the back of the Hymnal.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Amen!

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

People: **And also with you.**

We share the Lord's peace with one another, saying, "Peace be with you."



OFFERING

I LIFT MY HANDS

Tomlin

Be still, there is a healer His love is deeper than the sea
His mercy, it is unfailing His arms are a fortress for the weak
Let faith arise, Let faith arise

CHORUS: I lift my hands to believe again
You are my refuge, You are my strength
As I pour out my heart, these things I remember
You are faithful, God, forever

Be still, there is a river That flows from Calvary's tree
A fountain for the thirsty Pure grace that washes over me. **CHORUS**

Let faith arise, Let faith arise
Open my eyes, Open my eyes **CHORUS**

HOLY COMMUNION AT ASCENSION

The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have been instructed and have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with "Amen!", a word of affirmation and belief.



✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*
People: **And also with you.**
Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *[Colossians 3:1]*
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *[Psalm 136]*
People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

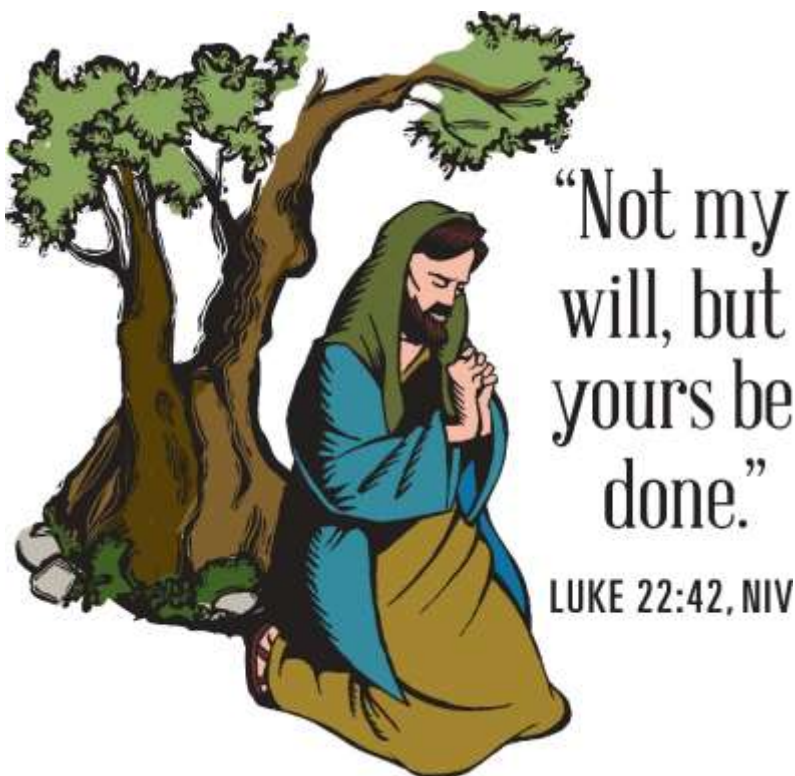
Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

LORD’S PRAYER

Text found in the back of the Hymnal. (Matthew 6:9–13)



DISTRIBUTION SONGS

AMAZING GRACE (MY CHAINS ARE GONE)

Tomlin

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found,
Was blind but now I see.

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

CHORUS My chains are gone. I've been set free,
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy rains,
Unending love, amazing grace.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures. **CHORUS X2**

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine.
But God, who called me here below,
Will be forever mine, Will be forever mine.
You are forever mine.

LORD I NEED YOU

Maher

Lord, I come, I confess. Bowing here, I find my rest.
And without You, I fall apart. You're the one that guides my heart.

CHORUS: Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness;
Oh, God, how I need You.

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more. Where grace is found is where You are.
And where You are, Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me. **CHORUS**

So, teach my song to rise to You When temptation comes my way.
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus, You're my hope and stay. **CHORUS**

GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION *Ephesians 6:13*

Pastor: Therefore take up the whole armor of God,

People: **that you may be able to withstand in the evil day,**

Pastor: and having done all,

People: **to stand firm.**

Pastor: 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. *Numbers 6:24–26*

People: **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG

MY LIGHTHOUSE

Rend Collective

In my wrestling and in my doubts; In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through; You are the peace in my troubled sea (whoa-oh),
You are the peace in my troubled sea.

In the silence, You won't let go; In the questions, Your truth will hold
Your great love will lead us through; You are the peace in my troubled sea (whoa-oh),
You are the peace in my troubled sea.

My lighthouse, my lighthouse; Shining in the darkness. I will follow You, oh,
My lighthouse, my lighthouse; I will trust the promise
You will carry us safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh); Safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh);
Safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh); Safe to shore.

I won't fear what tomorrow brings; With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through; You are the peace in my troubled sea (whoa-oh),
You are the peace in my troubled sea.





*Make them
known to
your children
and your
children's*

children.

DEUTERONOMY 4:9

Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES
ORGANIST
YOUTH PRAISE BAND

Pastor John Larson
Michael Zehnder
Diana Gaide
Ashley Boeding, Brooke Boeding, Larry Boeding, Lilly Brinkman, Will Kopriva

ELDER 8:00
 10:00
LECTOR 8:00
 10:00
ACOLYTE 8:00
 10:00
USHERS 8:00
 10:00
SERVER 10:00
ALTAR GUILD

Roger Gaide
Don Loptien
Clyde Wiggins
Margo Pasha
Josh Federico
Erik Schwerin
Art Gordon, Members of the
Congregation
Jason Dierking, Members of the
Congregation
Les Young
Sally Atchison, Gloria Gaudreault,
Sharon Seible, Laurel Shurtleff
The Achziger family in celebration of
Edna's 90th Birthday & Alvera Sturgeon
in celebration of her 90th Birthday (Both
on 9/8)

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Therefore put on the
full armor of God ...

EPHESIANS 6:13, NIV