

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
LITTLETON, COLORADO

October 7, 2018

10:30 am



TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST/STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Welcomed and Made Complete

AS WE GATHER

In a culture that is quickly drifting away from the values we once held sacred, it's imperative for us, as the people of God, to hold firmly to the Word we have heard. Today as we gather to listen to God's Word and receive His gifts of grace, we are drawn close to the Redeemer, who has given His life in exchange for ours. Today is Stewardship Sunday, a day we consider all God has done for us and how we might respond in love with our time, talent, and treasure.

GATHERING SONGS

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Ain’a That Good News”

arr. Julie Gaulke

Wednesday Night Live Children’s Choir

Vicki Redden, assistant

Diana Gaide, pianist

THE RIVER

Jordan Feliz

I know a place where we can go To lay the troubles down eating your soul
I know a place where mercy flows Take the stains make you whiter than snow
Like a tide, it is rising up deep inside a current that moves and makes you come alive
Living water that brings the dead to life, oh-oh-oh-oh

CHORUS: We're going down to the river
Down to the river, down to the river to pray
Let's get washed by the water
Washed by the water and rise up in amazing grace
Let's go down, down, down to the river (You will leave changed)
Let's go down, down, down to the river (Never the same)

I've seen it move in my own life Took me from dusty roads into paradise
All of my dirt, all of my shame Drowned in the streams that've made me born again
Like a tide, it is rising up deep inside a current that moves and makes you come alive
Living water that brings the dead to life, oh-oh-oh-oh **CHORUS**

EVERLASTING GOD

Brown—Riley

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
Wait upon the Lord We will wait upon the Lord
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
Wait upon the Lord We will wait upon the Lord

Our God You reign forever Our Hope our strong Deliv'rer

CHORUS: You are the everlasting God The everlasting God
You do not faint You won't grow weary
You're the defender of the weak You comfort those in need
You lift us up on wings like eagles

✂ PREPARATION ✂

PASTORAL GREETING

OPENING SONG

SING TO THE KING

Foote

Sing to the King who is coming to reign.
Glory to Jesus, the Lamb that was slain.
Life and salvation His empire shall bring,
and joy to the nations, when Jesus is King.
Come, let us sing a song,
a song declaring that we belong to Jesus; He is all we need.
Lift up a heart of praise.
Sing now with voices raised to Jesus; sing to the King.

For His returning we watch and we pray;
We will be ready the dawn of that day.
We'll join in singing with all the redeemed,
'cause Satan is vanquished and Jesus is King.
Come, let us sing a song,
a song declaring that we belong to Jesus; He is all we need.
Lift up a heart of praise.
Sing now with voices raised to Jesus; sing to the King.

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In a time of silence and prayer, let us approach the Father's throne of grace.

(We take a moment of silence for personal reflection and confession of our sins.)

Pastor: Most merciful Father,

People: **we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have drifted from Your commands, choosing to go our own separate ways. We have not honored You as our Creator, nor have we honored one another in love. By the cleansing work of our Redeemer, remove from us our sins of thought, word, and deed so that we worship You in Spirit and in truth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Pastor: Only in Christ Jesus are we made complete—complete as God's creation and completely cleansed of our guilt and sin. Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Lord, announce His grace to all of you and, in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

✂ WORD ✂

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Genesis 2:18–25

(The Lord designs man and woman to find completion in each other.)

The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. The man and his wife were both naked, and they felt no shame.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: Hebrews 2:1–13

(All things exist for Jesus, who is crowned with glory and honor.)

We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, how shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him. God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will. It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. But there is a place where someone has testified: "What is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him? You made him a little lower than the angels; you crowned him with glory and honor and put everything under his feet." In putting everything under him, God left nothing that is not subject to him. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to him. But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. In bringing many sons to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering. Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers. He says, "I will declare your name to my

brothers; in the presence of the congregation I will sing your praises." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again he says, "Here am I, and the children God has given me."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Congregation, please rise for the Gospel.

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 10:2–16

(Jesus affirms God's gift of marriage and blesses the children who are brought to Him.)

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

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

Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"

"What did Moses command you?" he replied.

They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away."

"It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied. "But at the beginning of creation God `made them male and female.' `For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate."

When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this. He answered, "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery."

People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." And he took the children in his arms, put his hands on them and blessed them.

The logo features the word "Gospel" in a large, blue, serif font. A red flame-like shape is positioned above the letter 'p'. Below "Gospel" is a horizontal line, and underneath that line, the word "READING" is written in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font with wide letter spacing.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Jenna Lawrenz

SONG OF THE DAY

IN CHRIST ALONE

Townend—Getty

In Christ alone my hope is found.
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My Comforter, my All in All, Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh.
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on Him was laid, Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then, bursting forth in glorious Day,
up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death.
This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand.
'Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

SERMON

“Gifts, Grace, and Gratitude”

Pastor John Larson
Text: Philippians 2:5

THE CREED: First Article with explanation

LSB – pg. 322 (front of *Hymnal*)

(The physical background of our stewardship.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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 The Way (New Horizon)

Smith/Bashta/Barrett

Through every battle Through every heartbreak
Through every circumstance
I believe That You are my fortress Oh, You are my portion
And You are my hiding place, oh I believe You are

**CHORUS: The way, the truth, the life
I believe You are The way, the truth,
the life I believe (You are)**

Through every blessing Through every promise
Through every breath I take
I believe That You are Provider You are Protector
And You are the One I love, I believe you are **CHORUS**

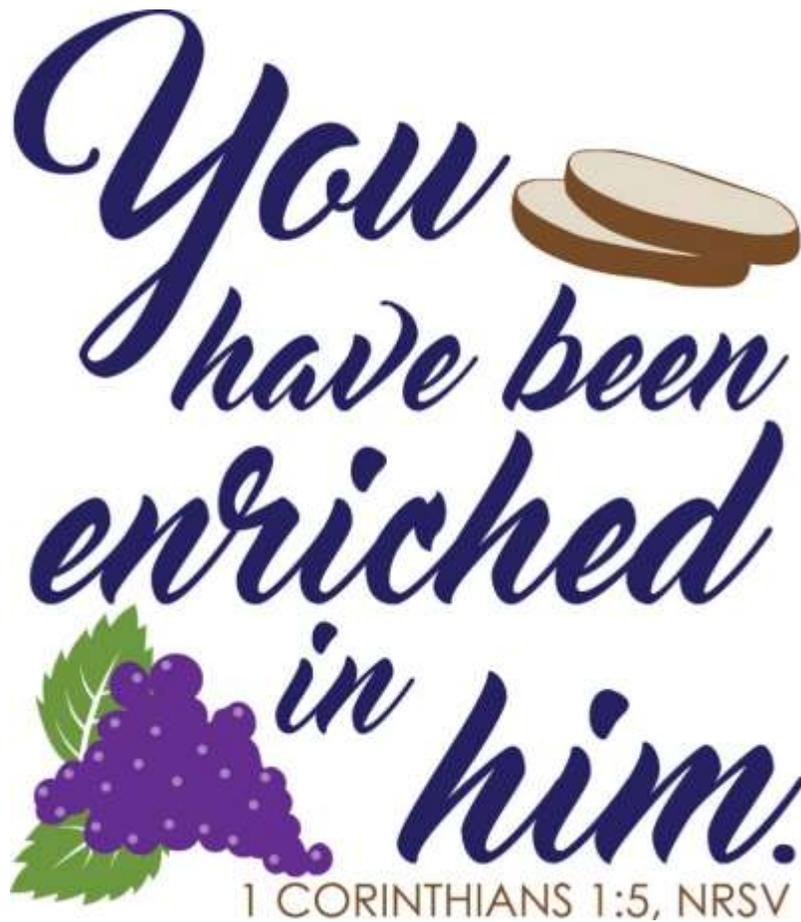
It's a new horizon and I'm set on You
And You meet me here today with mercies that are new
All my fears and doubts, they can all come too
Because they can't stay long when I believe (You are) **CHORUS**

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

**James and Sue Anzai (Adult Confirmation); Tricia McCulley
(Reaffirmation of Faith); Lois Wolf (Transfer); Loren Wolf (Transfer)**

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

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**

YOU ARE MY KING (AMAZING LOVE)

Foote

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken. I'm accepted; You were condemned.
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me because You died and rose again.

I'm forgiven because You were forsaken. I'm accepted; You were condemned.
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me because You died and rose again.

Amazing love, how can it be That You, my King, would die for me?
Amazing love, I know it's true; It's my joy to honor You. In all I do I honor You.

You are my King. You are my King. Jesus, You are my King. Jesus, You are my King.

JESUS

Chris Tomlin

There is a truth older than the ages There is a promise of things yet to come
There is One born for our salvation, Jesus

There is a light that overwhelms the darkness There is a kingdom that forever reigns
There is freedom from the chains that bind us Jesus, Jesus

**CHORUS: Who walks on the waters Who speaks to the sea
Who stands in the fire beside me
He roars like a lion He bled as the Lamb
He carries my healing in His hands, Jesus**

There is a name I call in times of trouble There is a song that comforts in the night
There is a voice that calms the storm that rages He is Jesus Jesus **CHORUS**

Messiah, My Savior There is power in Your name
You're my rock and my Redeemer There is power in Your name
In Your name **CHORUS**

GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Go forth with the blessing of Your faithful Savior and Bridegroom upon your life:

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 I'LL FLY AWAY

Brumley

Some glad morning when this life is o'er, I'll fly away;

To a home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away.

I'll fly away, Oh Glory, I'll fly away;

When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away.

When the shadows of this life have gone, I'll fly away;

Like a bird from prison bars has flown, I'll fly away.

I'll fly away, Oh Glory, I'll fly away;

When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away.

Just a few more weary days and then, I'll fly away;

To a land where joy shall never end, I'll fly away.

I'll fly away, Oh Glory, I'll fly away;

When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away.



CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS



Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES
CHOIR ACCOMPANIST
AGAPE PRAISE TEAM

Pastor John Larson
Michael Zehnder
Diana Gaide
Ashley Boeding, Brooke Boeding, Larry Boeding, Lilly Brinkman, Brian Johnson, Christa Kirschner, Will Kopriva, Bob Shiflet

ELDER 8:00
10:30

Norm Finrock
Scott Luethy

LECTOR 8:00
10:30

Ben Dallet
Carol Shepherd

ACOLYTE 8:00
10:30

Ian Avedissian
Hannah Schmitt

USHERS 8:00
10:30

Clyde Wiggins, Members of the
Congregation

Jason Dierking, Members of the
Congregation

SERVER 10:30
ALTAR GUILD

Margo Pasha
Shelia Beu, Joyce Dowdy, Charmaine Rohde

FLOWERS

Barb & Randy Lone in celebration of
their 38th anniversary.

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STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY
