

# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
LITTLETON, COLORADO

*September 9, 2018*

**10:30 am**



## **SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST/EDUCATION SUNDAY**

**He Does All Things Well**

### **AS WE GATHER**

Sometimes when a student does a good job on an assignment, the teacher will reward him or her with a gold star. A gold star is a symbol for a job well done. Yet, not every assignment that a student completes is handed back with a gold star on top. Not every test or paper is done well. Jesus, however, is different. The crowds in today's Gospel proclaim with astonishment, "He has done all things well" (Mark 7:37). The people are right: Jesus can do only good because He is God, and God is good! In His healing, preaching, and teaching, He does all things well. Even right up to the end as He cries out from the cross, "It is finished," Jesus does His Father's will with gold-star perfection. With His death, resurrection, and eventual return, Jesus has done, and will do, all things well.

## GATHERING SONGS

### HOSANNA

Tuttle

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!  
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!  
Lord, we lift up Your name, With hearts full of praise;  
Be exalted, oh Lord my God! Hosanna in the highest!

Glory! Glory! Glory to the King of kings!  
Glory! Glory! Glory to the King of kings!  
Lord, we lift up Your name, With hearts full of praise;  
Be exalted, oh Lord my God! Glory to the King of kings!

Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!  
Hosanna! Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!  
Lord, we lift up Your name, With hearts full of praise;  
Be exalted, oh Lord my God! Hosanna in the highest!

### ✘ PREPARATION ✘

### PASTORAL GREETING

### OPENING HYMN      I LIFT MY HANDS

Tomlin

Be still, there is a healer  
His love is deeper than the sea  
His mercy 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  
Your grace that washes over me.  
Let faith arise, let faith arise. **CHORUS**

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

## INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 28:2, 6*

Pastor: Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy,

People: **when I cry to You for help, when I lift up my hands toward Your most holy sanctuary.**

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: **Blessed be the LORD! For He has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy. 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: Isaiah 35:4-7a**

(The ears of the deaf will be unstopped.)

**Say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you."**

**Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.**

**Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.**

**Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.**

**The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs.**

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**    *Psalm 146; antiphon: v. 2*

Pastor:    I will praise the LORD as long as I live;  
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

**Women:**    ***Praise the LORD!***  
***Praise the LORD, O my soul!***

**Men:**        ***I will praise the LORD as long as I live;***  
***I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.***

**Women:**    ***Put not your trust in princes,***  
***in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.***

**Men:**        ***When his breath departs he returns to the earth;***  
***on that very day his plans perish.***

**Women:**    ***Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,***  
***whose hope is in the LORD his God,***

**Men:**        ***who made heaven and earth,***  
***the sea, and all that is in them,***

**Women:**    ***who keeps faith forever;***  
***who executes justice for the oppressed,***  
***who gives food to the hungry.***

**Men:**        ***The LORD sets the prisoners free;***  
***the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.***

**Women:**    ***The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;***  
***the LORD loves the righteous.***

**Men:**        ***The LORD watches over the sojourners;***  
***He upholds the widow and the fatherless,***  
***but the way of the wicked He brings to ruin.***

**Women:**    ***The LORD will reign forever,***  
***your God, O Zion, to all generations.***

Pastor:    Praise the LORD!  
I will praise the LORD as long as I live;  
I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

**Epistle: James 2:1-10**

(I will show you my faith by what I do.)

Lector:    My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say,

**People:**    **“You sit here in a good place,”**

Lector:    while you say to the poor man,

**People:**    **“You stand over there,”**

Lector:    or,

**People:**    **“Sit down at my feet,”**

Lector: have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which He has promised to those who love Him? But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

People: **"You shall love your neighbor as yourself,"**  
If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture,

Lector: you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*Congregation, please rise for the Gospel.*

### **HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 7:31–37**

(The healing of the deaf and mute man)

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

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

**Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged him to place his hand on the man.**

**After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means, "Be opened!"). At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.**

**Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."**

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Jenna Lawrenz

## HYMN OF THE DAY

**MEN** You are holy.  
**MEN** You are mighty.  
**MEN** You are worthy.  
**MEN** Worthy of praise.  
**MEN** I will follow.  
**MEN** I will listen.  
**MEN** I will love You.  
**MEN** All of my days.

## YOU ARE HOLY

**WOMEN** You are holy.  
**WOMEN** You are mighty.  
**WOMEN** You are worthy.  
**WOMEN** Worthy of praise.  
**WOMEN** I will follow.  
**WOMEN** I will listen.  
**WOMEN** I will love You.  
**WOMEN** All of my days.

**ALL** You are Lord of lords, You are King of kings,  
You are mighty God, Lord of ev'rything.  
You're Emmanuel, You're the Great I AM,  
You're the Prince of Peace, who is the Lamb.  
You're the Living God, You're my saving grace.  
You will reign forever; You are Ancient of Days.  
You are Alpha Omega, Beginning and End.  
You're my Savior, Messiah, Redeemer and Friend.  
You're my Prince of Peace  
and I will live my life for You.  
You're my Prince of Peace  
and I will live my life for You.

## SERMON

"Living Faith"

Pastor John Larson

Text: James 2:1-10, 14-18

## APOSTLES' CREED

*The text can be found in the Hymnal.*

## 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

## HALLELUJAH

Brenton Brown | Brian Doerksen

Your love is amazing Steady and unchanging  
Your love is a mountain Firm beneath my feet  
Your love is a myst'ry How You gently lift me  
When I am surrounded Your love carries me

**CHORUS: Hallelujah hallelujah hallelujah Your love makes me sing  
Hallelujah hallelujah hallelujah Your love makes me sing**

Your love is surprising I can feel it rising  
All the joy that's growing Deep inside of me  
Ev'ry time I see You All Your goodness shines through  
I can feel this God song Rising up in me **CHORUS**

Your love is amazing Steady and unchanging  
Your love is a mountain Firm beneath my feet  
Your love is a myst'ry How You gently lift me  
When I am surrounded Your love carries me **CHORUS**

Yes You make me sing Lord You make me sing sing sing  
Lord You make me sing **CHORUS X2**

## INSTALLATION OF EDUCATION TEACHERS AND STAFF

### 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 *The text can be found in the Hymnal. (Matthew 6:9–13)*





## DISTRIBUTION SONGS

“This Do In Remembrance of Me”

arr. J. Hunnicutt

Duet: Brian and Marion Wilson, soloists

### HE KNOWS MY NAME

Walker

I have a Maker, He formed my heart.  
Before even time began, my life was in His hand.  
He knows my name, He knows my ev'ry thought.  
He sees each tear that falls and hears me when I call.

I have a Father, He calls me His own.  
He'll never leave me no matter where I go.  
He knows my name, He knows my ev'ry thought.  
He sees each tear that falls and hears me when I call,  
He hears me when I call.

### ABOVE ALL

LeBlanc—Baloche

Above all powers, above all kings, above all nature and all created things;  
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man, You were here before the world began.

Above all kingdoms, above all thrones, above all wonders the world has ever known;  
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth,  
there's no way to measure what You're worth.

Crucified, laid behind the stone; You lived to die, rejected and alone;  
Like a rose, trampled on the ground, You took the fall, and thought of me, above all.

### COME TO THE TABLE

Sidewalk Prophets

We all start on the outside The outside looking in  
This is where grace begins We were hungry, we were thirsty  
With nothing left to give Oh the shape that we were in  
Just when all hope seemed lost Love opened the door for us, He said:

**CHORUS: “Come to the table Come join the sinners who have been redeemed  
Take your place beside the Savior Sit down and be set free  
Come to the table”**

Come meet this motley crew of misfits These liars and these thieves  
There's no one unwelcome here So that sin and shame that you brought with you  
You can leave it at the door Let mercy draw you near **CHORUS**

Come to the table Come join the sinners who have been redeemed  
Take your place beside the Savior Sit down and be set free Whoa...  
Sit down and be set free Come to the table Come to the table  
Sit down and be set free Come to the table

## GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING

### BENEDICTION *Psalm 146:1–2*

Pastor: Praise the LORD!

**People: Praise the LORD, O my soul!**

Pastor: I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

**People: I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

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 BUILD YOUR KINGDOM HERE

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**

### Rend Collective



**“BE EXALTED,**

**O LORD,**

**— in your —**

**STRENGTH!**

**WE WILL SING**

**& PRAISE**

**— your —**

**POWER.”**

**PSALM 21:13, NRSV**

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO 3RD GRADE STUDENTS  
PRESENTATION OF CATECHISMS TO 7TH GRADE CONFIRMATION STUDENTS  
PRESENTATION OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE REWARDS

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

They were astounded beyond measure, saying,



“He has done **EVERYTHING** well;  
he even makes the deaf to **HEAR**  
and the mute to **SPEAK.**”

Mark 7:37, NRSV

## Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES  
AGAPE PRAISE BAND

Pastor John Larson  
Michael Zehnder  
Rose Berger, Bri Fort, Diana Gaide, Lisa  
O'Neal, Ken Price, Bob Shiflet

ELDER 8:00  
10:30

Norm Finrock  
Don Loptien

LECTOR 8:00  
10:30

Judy Finnessy  
Carol Shepherd

ACOLYTE 8:00  
10:30

Chrissy Coon  
Reese Hitztaler

USHERS 8:00

Art Gordon, Josh Federico, Ian  
Avedissian

10:30

Jason Dierking, Members of the  
Congregation

SERVER 10:30

Collin Brinkman

ALTAR GUILD

Sally Atchison, Gloria Gaudreault,  
Sharon Seible, Laurel Shurtleff

FLOWERS

Pastor Rick & Kim Langness, in  
celebration their 30<sup>th</sup> Wedding  
Anniversary

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Isaiah 35:6