

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
LITTLETON, COLORADO

September 9, 2018

8:00 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.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

PRELUDE

“Allegro 2 from Solo III”

John Stanley
Kevin Lash, violinist

OPENING HYMN

“Word of God, Come Down on Earth”

LSB 545

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *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.**

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 ✂

KYRIE "Kyrie-II"

LSB 943



1	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.
2	Chris - te	e - lei - son.	Chris - te	e - lei - son.
3	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.	Ky - ri - e	e - lei - son.
1	Lord, _____	have mer - cy.	Lord, _____	have mer - cy.
2	Christ, _____	have mer - cy.	Christ, _____	have mer - cy.
3	Lord, _____	have mer - cy.	Lord, _____	have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e	e - le -	-	-	i -	son.
Chris - te	e - le -	-	-	i -	son.
Ky - ri - e	e - le -	-	-	i -	son.
Lord, _____	have mer	-	-	-	cy.
Christ, _____	have mer	-	-	-	cy.
Lord, _____	have mer	-	-	-	cy.

HYMN OF PRAISE "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"
Verses 1-2, 7

LSB 528

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Lord, You are a good and perfect God who does all things well,

People: **grant that by faith in Your Son who did Your will perfectly, we would have forgiveness and life;**

Pastor: through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

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?

If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture,

People: “**You shall love your neighbor as yourself,**”

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 Alleluia verse and the Gospel.

VERSE *Psalm 147:2–3 [See Music Index]*

Pastor: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

People: **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Pastor: The LORD builds up Jerusalem; He gathers the outcasts of Israel. He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

People: **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

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.**

HYMN OF THE DAY "Praise the Almighty"

LSB 797

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 *Psalm 28:1a*

Pastor: We come before our Lord in prayer, saying along with the psalmist, "To You, O Lord, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me."

O Lord, like those of whom the prophet Isaiah wrote, we too often have anxious hearts. Give us Your Holy Spirit that we might be strong and fear not. Let us take You up on Your gracious invitation to cast all our anxieties on You because You care for us. To You, O Lord, I call;

People: my rock, be not deaf to me.

Pastor: O Lord, through Your servant James, You admonish us to show no partiality. Give us the desire to show love to and welcome all people into our midst, regardless of outward appearances. To You, O Lord, I call;

People: my rock, be not deaf to me.

Pastor: O Lord, Your Son, Jesus Christ, cast out demons and gave hearing to the deaf. Grant that we trust in Your will today for healing and restoration. We ask that, according to Your will, You would lay Your hand upon those who are need of healing, [*especially . . .*]. To You, O Lord, I call;

People: my rock, be not deaf to me.

Pastor: O Lord, You have done all things well. You pronounced all things as good at the creation of the world. Give us wisdom and resources to care for Your creation as faithful stewards of Your gifts to us. To You, O Lord, I call;

People: my rock, be not deaf to me.

Pastor: *Other intercessions may be offered here...* To You, O Lord, I call;

People: my rock, be not deaf to me.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy.

People: **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

OFFERTORY "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" Wesley, arr. March
Duet: Brian and Marion Wilson, soloists

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.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

2 Timothy 4:22

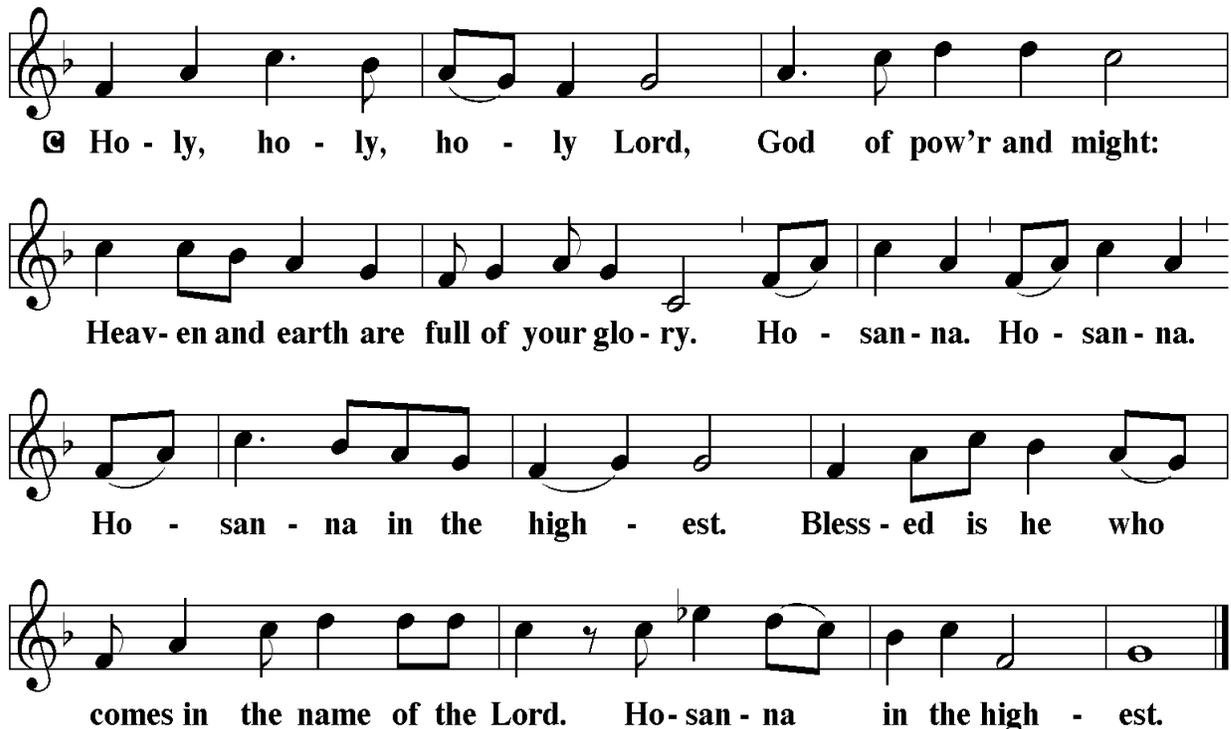
[Colossians 3:1]

[Psalm 136]

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who as Your only begotten Son did Your will perfectly in His life, but also in His suffering and death. All that Jesus has done is good in Your eyes so that, through faith, we might be forgiven in Your eyes. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo- ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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 \times 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 \times 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)*

AGNUS DEI

“Agnus Dei-I”

LSB 962

Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; grant us Your peace, grant us Your peace, grant us Your peace.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“O Christ, Our True and Only Light”

LSB 839

“O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus”

arr. Kristin Campbell
Kevin Lash, violinist

“This Do In Remembrance of Me”

arr. J. Hunnicutt

Duet: Brian and Marion Wilson, soloists

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

LSB 528

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.**

HYMN "O Give Us Homes"

1 O give us homes built firm up - on the Sav - ior, ___ Where Christ is Head and
2 O give us homes with god - ly fa - thers, moth - ers, ___ Who al - ways place their
3 O give us homes where Christ is Lord and Mas - ter, ___ The Bi - ble read, the
Coun - sel - or and Guide; ___ Where ev - 'ry child is taught His love and fav - or ___
hope and trust in Him; ___ Whose ten - der pa - tience tur - moil nev - er both - ers, ___
pre - cious hymns still sung; ___ Where pray'r comes first in peace or in di - sas - ter, ___
_ And gives his heart to Christ, the Cru - ci - fied; ___ How sweet to know that,
_ Whose calm and cour - age trou - ble can - not dim; ___ A home where each finds
_ And praise is nat - ural speech to ev - ery tongue; ___ Where moun - tains move be -
tho' his foot - steps wa - ver, ___ His faith - ful Lord is walk - ing by his side.
joy in serv - ing oth - ers, ___ And love still shines, tho' days be dark and grim.
fore a faith that's vast - er, ___ And Christ suf - fi - cient is for old and young.

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO 3RD GRADE STUDENTS

PRESENTATION OF CATECHISMS TO 7TH GRADE CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

PRESENTATION OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE REWARDS

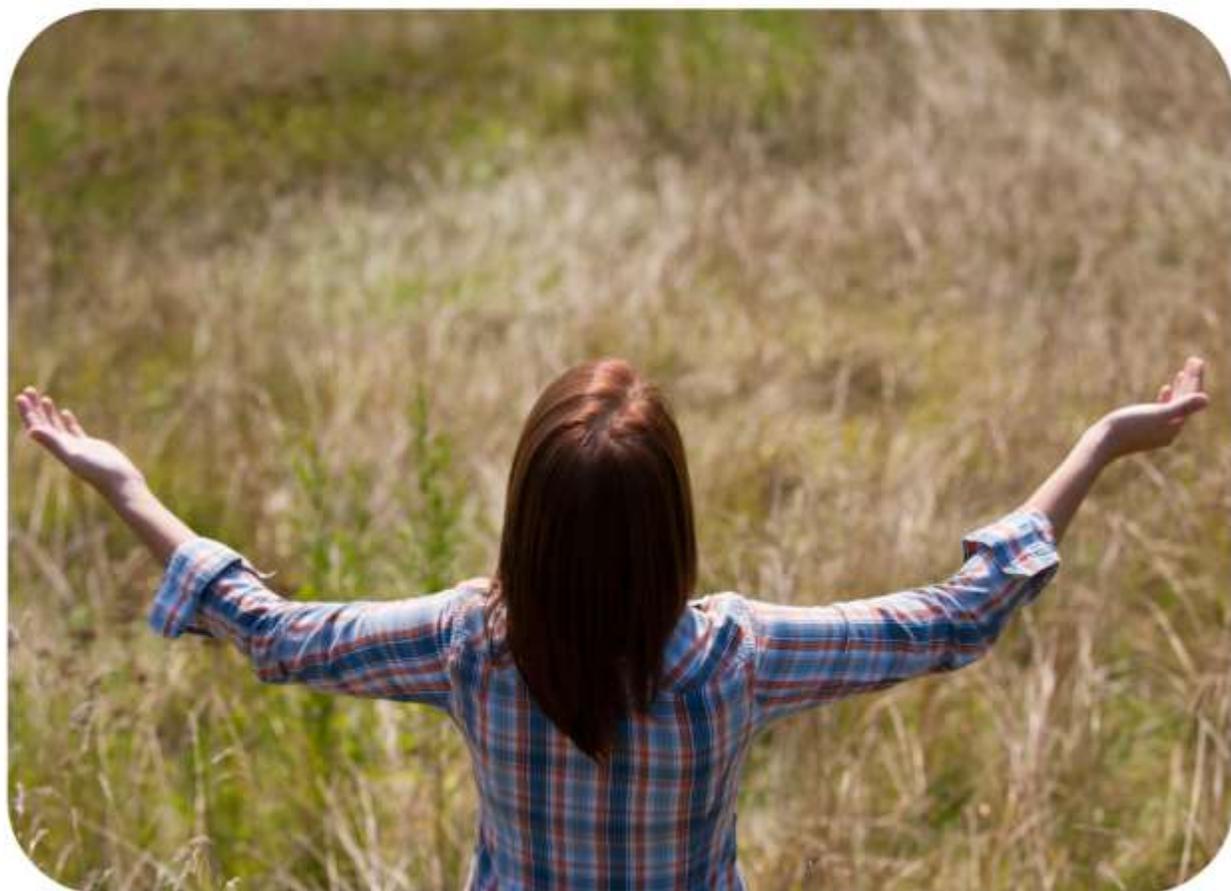
CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

POSTLUDE

"A Joyous Acclamation"

Lani Smith

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 30th Wedding
Anniversary

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