

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
LITTLETON, COLORADO

October 17 and 18, 2020

5:00 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 a.m. Sunday



TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

A Setback for a Setup

AS WE GATHER

Countless times during Christ's mission in human flesh for the sins of the world, the Pharisees and others tried to test, trap, and trick Jesus, thinking He would suffer a setback to His ministry. Time and time again, Jesus in His divine wisdom and teaching would instead turn those times into a setup for teaching about many things regarding life on earth and the kingdom of heaven. We, too, face times of testing, trapping, and tricking, though not from Pharisees, but from this world, the devil, and our own sinful flesh, and often we face setbacks. We are wise to turn to the one who has set us up for forgiveness, mercy, and a new life through His own life, death, and rising. Rejoicing in His grace, in response to His love, we faithfully, "render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Matthew 22:21).

✂ PREPARATION ✂

Prelude

“Praise the Almighty”

David Schack

Pastoral Greeting

Tolling of the Bell

Opening Hymn

“Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng”
Verses 1, 3, 5, 7

LSB 813



1 Re - joice, O pil - grim throng! Re - joice, give
3 With all the an - gel choirs, With all the
5 Still lift your stan - dard high, Still march in



thanks, and sing; Your fes - tal ban - ner
saints on earth Pour out the strains of
firm ar - ray, As pil - grims through the



wave on high, The cross of Christ your king.
joy and bliss, True rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
dark - ness wend Till dawns the gold - en day.



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

7 Praise Him who reigns on high,
The Lord whom we adore:
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
One God forevermore. Refrain

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Invocation

Confession of Sins

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Absolution

✂ WORD ✂

Spoken Kyrie (Divine Service, Setting One)

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

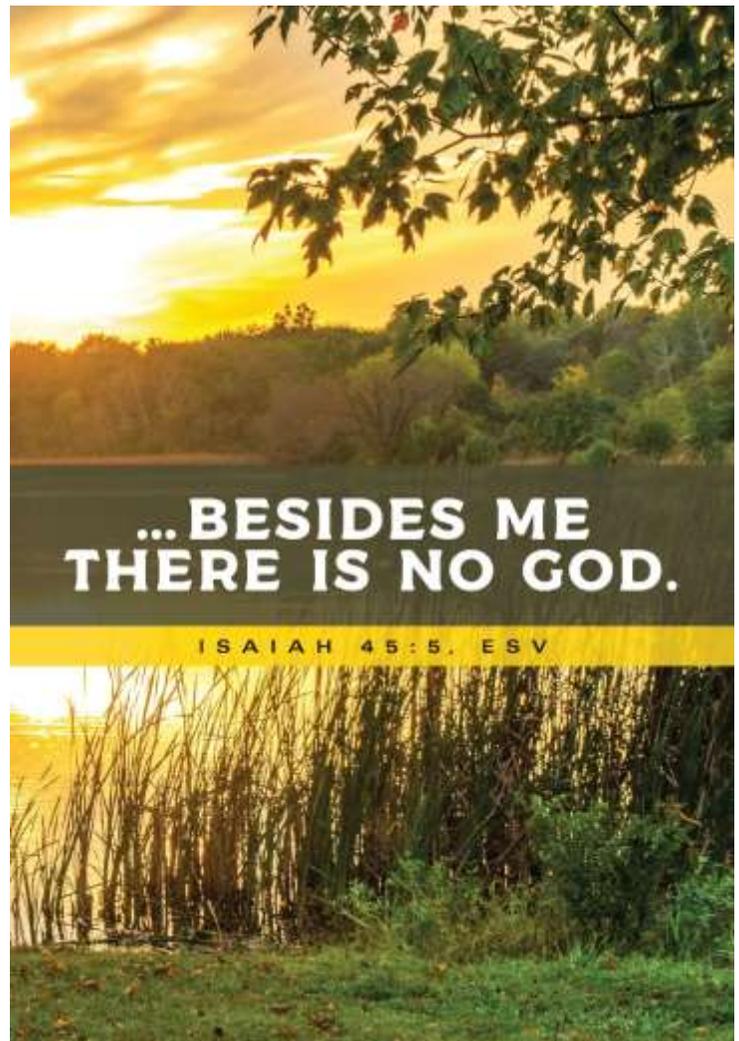
Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

Old Testament: Isaiah 45:1-7

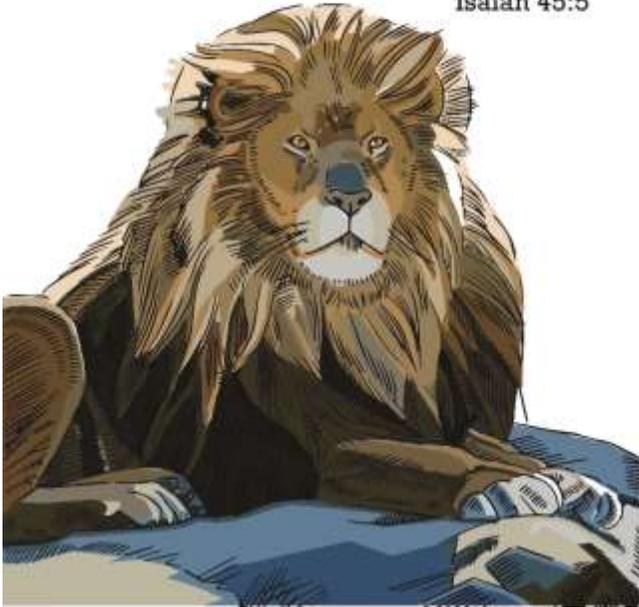
(The Lord uses Cyrus as an instrument of deliverance.)

"This is what the LORD says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their armor, to



**“I am the
LORD,
and there is no other.”**

Isaiah 45:5



open doors before him so that gates will not be shut: I will go before you and will level the mountains; I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron. I will give you the treasures of darkness, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who summons you by name. For the sake of Jacob my servant, of Israel my chosen, I summon you by name and bestow on you a title of honor, though you do not acknowledge me. I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me, so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting men may know there is none besides me. I am the LORD, and there is no other. I form the light and create darkness, I bring prosperity and create disaster; I, the LORD, do all these things.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

(Jesus tested by the Pharisees about paying taxes to Caesar.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by men, because you pay no attention to who they are. Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought him a denarius, and he asked them, "Whose portrait is this? And whose inscription?" "Caesar's," they replied. Then he said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's." When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Verses 1-2, 5



1 Praise the Al - might - y, my soul, a - dore Him!
2 Trust not in rul - ers; they are but mor - tal;

Yes, I will laud Him un - til death; With songs and
Earth - born they are and soon de - cay. Vain are their

an - thems I come be - fore Him As long as
coun - sels at life's last por - tal, When the dark

He al - lows me breath. From Him my life and
grave en - gulfs its prey. Since mor - tals can no

all things came; Bless, O my soul, His ho - ly name.
help af - ford, Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

- 5 Praise, all you people, the name so holy
Of Him who does such wondrous things!
All that has being, to praise Him solely,
With happy heart its amen sings.
Children of God, with angel host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
Alleluia, alleluia!

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Catechism The First Article

Pastor: The First Article of the Apostles' Creed tells us about the creative work and continuing care of God the Father. The explanation, written by Martin Luther, further explains the work of God the Father and our faithful response.

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. What does this mean?

People: **I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.**

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy...

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Offering *Offerings will be collected at the back, in the Narthex.*

✠ 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 (Divine Service, Setting One)

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.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

People: 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.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

“Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy”

LSB 774

Feed Thy chil - dren, God most ho - ly; Com - fort sin - ners
poor and low - ly. O Thou Bread of Life from heav-en, Bless the
food Thou here hast giv - en! As these gifts the bod-y nour - ish,
May our souls in grac - es flour - ish Till with saints in
heav'n - ly splen - dor At Thy feast due thanks we ren - der.

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“Feed Thy Children, God Most Holy” (Organ)

Edwin T. Childs

General Communion Blessing

Benediction (Divine Service, Setting One)

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.

People: **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

“O God our Help in Ages Past”
Verses 1-3, 6

LSB 733



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:
Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last
And our eternal home!

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Congregational Concerns

Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

“O God our Help in Ages Past”

Paul Manz

(and Row by Row Dismissal)

Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

Pastor John Larson
Michael Zehnder