

# ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD  
LITTLETON, COLORADO

*October 18, 2020*  
10:30 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).

## Gathering Song

### 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 love 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.  
Come...

### ✘ PREPARATION ✘

## Pastoral Greeting

## Opening Song

### JESUS MESSIAH

Tomlin

He became sin, who knew no sin;  
that we might become His righteousness;  
He humbled Himself, and carried the cross.  
Love so amazing, love so amazing.

**CHORUS: Jesus, Messiah; Name above all names;  
Blessed Redeemer; Emmanuel.  
The Rescue for sinners, the ransom from heaven;  
Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all.**

His body, the bread; His blood, the wine;  
Broken and poured out, all for love.  
The whole earth trembled, and the veil was torn.  
Love so amazing, love so amazing. **CHORUS**

All our hope is in You, all our hope is in You;  
All the glory to You, God, the light of the world. **CHORUS**

Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all. The Lord of all! The Lord of all.

## 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** ✠

**Old Testament: Isaiah 45:1-7**

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

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

Isaiah 45:5



**"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 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.

## Children's Message

Pastor John Larson

## Song of the Day

**ALL THE PEOPLE SAID AMEN!**

**Matt Maher**

You are not alone if you are lonely.  
When you feel afraid, you're not the only.  
We are all the same, in need of mercy,  
To be forgiven and be free.  
It's all you got to lean on, But thank God, it's all you need.

**CHORUS: And all the people said, "amen." Whoa.  
And all the people said, "amen."  
Give thanks to the Lord, for His love never ends.  
And all the people said, "amen."**

If you're rich or poor, well, it don't matter.  
Weak or strong, you know love is what we're after.  
We're all broken, but we're all in this together.  
God knows we stumble and fall,  
And He so loved the world, He sent His son to save us all. **CHORUS**

Blessed are the poor in spirit who are torn apart.  
Blessed are the persecuted and the pure in heart.  
Blessed are the people hungry for another start,  
For theirs is the kingdom, the kingdom of God. **CHORUS**

**Sermon** "I Am the Lord"

Pastor John Larson  
TEXT: Isaiah 45:1-7

**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**

**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.

## THERE IS A REDEEMER

Green

There is a Redeemer,  
Jesus, God's own Son;  
Precious Lamb of God,  
Messiah, Holy One.

**CHORUS: Thank you, oh, my Father, for giving us your Son,  
And leaving your Spirit 'til the work on earth is done.**

Jesus, my Redeemer,  
Name above all names,  
Precious Lamb of God,  
Messiah, hope for sinners slain. **CHORUS**

When I stand in glory  
I will see his face,  
There I'll serve my King forever,  
In that holy place. **CHORUS**

### 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 Song

#### HUMBLE THYSELF - AWESOME GOD

Hudson-Mullins

Humble thyself in the sight of the Lord.  
Humble thyself in the sight of the Lord,  
and He shall lift you up,  
higher and higher,  
and He shall lift you up. **REPEAT**

Our God is an awesome God;  
He reigns from heaven above  
with wisdom, power, and love,  
our God is an awesome God!  
Our God is an awesome God;  
He reigns from heaven above  
with wisdom, power, and love,  
our God is an awesome God! **REPEAT**

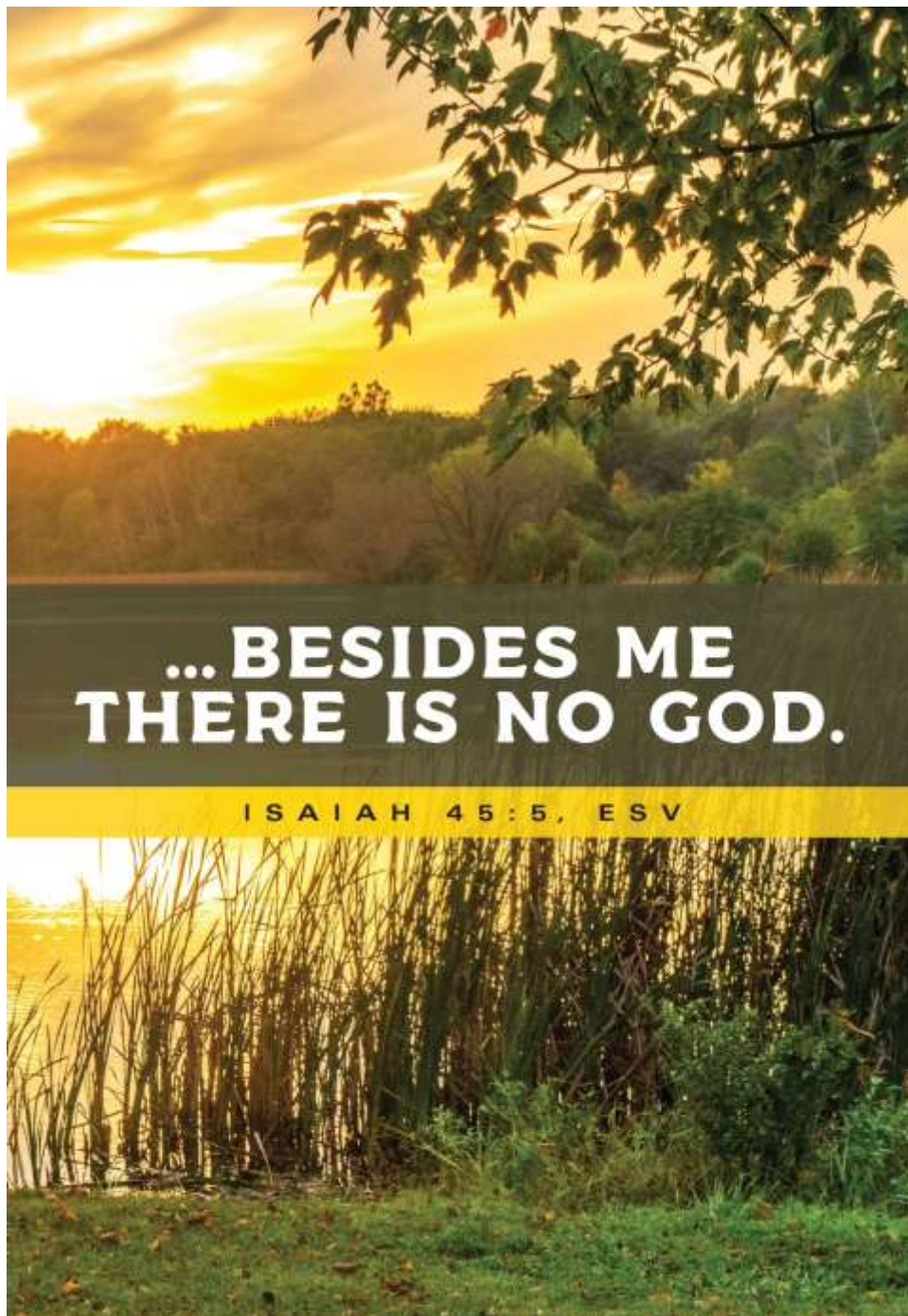
## Congregational Concerns

### Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*(and Row by Row Dismissal)*



### Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES

Pastor John Larson  
Michael Zehnder