

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 19, 2021 – 9:30 a.m.

Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service, Setting Four



ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prayer before worship:

Almighty God, you pour out on all who desire it the spirit of grace and supplication. Deliver us, as we come into your presence, from cold hearts and wandering thoughts, that with steady minds and burning zeal we may worship you in spirit and truth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Pre-Service Music

"Elegiac Pastoral" (Franklin D. Ashdown)

Ringling of the Bells

Welcome

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared. *Psalm 130:3-4*

P 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.

[Luke 18:13]

Please kneel or be seated for a time of silent prayer and confession, as able

P Almighty God,

C have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.
Amen.

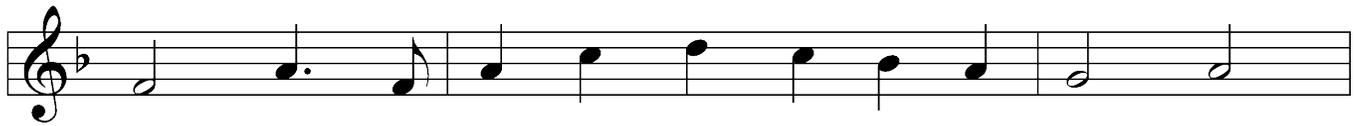
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *[John 20:19-23]*

C **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Opening Hymn

“Rise, Shine, You People” (LSB 825)



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered
2 See how He sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;
3 Come, cel - e - brate, your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,
4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent His Son to save us.



Our hu - man sto - ry; God in Him is cen - tered.
He brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing.
Your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing.
Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us.



He comes to us, by death and sin sur -
All men and wom - en, who by guilt are
To all the world go out and tell the
Tell how the Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry



round - ed, With grace un - bound - ed.
driv - en, Now are for - giv - en.
sto - ry Of Je - sus' glo - ry.
na - tion His new cre - a - tion.

Tune and text: © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray:

O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Children's Message

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 11:18-20

¹⁸The LORD made it known to me and I knew;
then you showed me their deeds.

¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

I did not know it was against me
they devised schemes, saying,

"Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
that his name be remembered no more."

²⁰But, O LORD of hosts, who judges righteously,
who tests the heart and the mind,
let me see your vengeance upon them,
for to you have I committed my cause.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

L O God, save me, by your name,
and vindicate me by your might.

C **O God, hear my prayer;
give ear to the words of my mouth.**

L For strangers have risen against me;
ruthless men seek my life;
they do not set God before themselves.

C **Behold, God is my helper;
the Lord is the upholder of my life.**

L He will return the evil to my enemies;
in your faithfulness put an end to them.

C **With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;
I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.**

L For he has delivered me from every trouble,

C **and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.**

Epistle

James 3:13-4:10

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

⁴⁻¹What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ²You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. ⁴You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? ⁶But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹Be wretched and mourn and

weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

John 20:31



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Mark 9:30-37

Please join in reading aloud the highlighted portion of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁰[The disciples] went on from there and passed through Galilee. And [Jesus] did not want anyone to know, ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise." ³²But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

³³And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you discussing on the way?" ³⁴But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. **³⁵And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all."** ³⁶And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever receives one such

child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

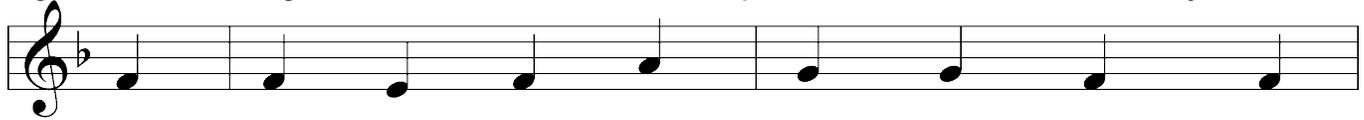
C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon

"The Greatest!"

Hymn of the Day

"Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way" (LSB 857)



1	Lord,	help	us	walk	Your	ser - vant	way	Wher -
2	You	came	to	earth,	O	Christ,	as	Lord,
3	No	gold -	en	scep -	ter	but	a	towel
4	You	bid	us	bend	our	hu - man	pride	Nor
5	Lord,	help	us	walk	Your	ser - vant	way	Wher -



ev - er	love	may	lead	And,	bend - ing	low,	for -		
pow'r	You	laid	a -	side.	You	lived	Your	years	in -
place	with -	in	the	hands	Of	those	who	seek	to
count	our -	selves	a -	bove	The	low -	est	place,	the
ev - er	love	may	lead	And,	bend - ing	low,	for -		



get -	ting	self,	Each	serve	the	oth -	er's	need.
ser -	vant -	hood;	In	low -	li -	ness	You	died.
fol -	low	You	And	live	by	Your	com -	mands.
mean -	est	task	That	waits	the	gift	of	love.
get -	ting	self,	Each	serve	the	oth -	er's	need.

Tune: Public domain Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318

Profession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he

suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, † and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Seeking the renewal of the Holy Spirit in our communities and in our world, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer. During the season after Pentecost each petition ends with the phrase: "Lord, in your mercy."

Please respond by saying "Hear our prayer."

The prayers end with the words:

P Into your hands, holy God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

Following the prayers, the people may stand and greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying,

"Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace

(Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

L Merciful God,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

[Psalm 136]

P 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, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
 Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
 Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

G **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.

The Words of Our Lord

Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P 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."

P 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."

Pax Domini

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. Please remain standing until all are in place and the pastor motions you to kneel. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor when he approaches you at the distribution. The cup will be offered first by individual glass or by the common cup second. If you select the individual glass, please hold the glass in your hand after you have consumed the contents until the celebrant passes you with the common cup to indicate you have already received. The inner (light-colored) ring of the tray of

individual glasses contains non-alcoholic grape juice, for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastors and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

Music at Distribution

"Grant Peace, We Pray, in Mercy, Lord" (setting by Keith Kolander)

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

(settings by Franklin D. Ashdown and Jon D. Vieker)

"Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way" (setting by Charles Callahan)

"Lord Jesus Christ, the Children's Friend" (setting by David Maxwell)

Dismissal

Post-Communion Collect

L Let us pray:

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

[Psalm 103:1]

P 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*

C Amen.

Sending Hymn

"Go, My Children, with My Blessing" (LSB 922)



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing, Nev-er a-lone.
2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.
3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Clos-er to Me;
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, Joy-ful and free. Here My
I the Lord will smile up-on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you Mine for-ev-er.
heard My dear Son's sto-ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo-ry.
Spir-it's pow-er filled you; Here His ten-der com-fort stilled you.
Lord will be your Fa-ther, Sav-ior, Com-fort-er, and Broth-er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing— You are My own.
Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Joy-ful and free.
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

Text: © 1983 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318. Tune: Public domain

Postlude

"Go, My Children with My Blessing" (setting by William H. Bates)



Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher	Pastor Meehan
Lay Assistant	Mike Nordvall
Director of Music	Susan Gobien
Acolyte	Logan Zylstra
Usher	Barbara Pate Paul Swicord
Altar Care	Andrea Klanderman
AV Operator	Scott Budzien Tim Swicord
Welcome Host	Jan Swicord

Please visit our website at www.sjlc.com for devotional readings for use in the week ahead or to learn more about our life together as a congregation.

St. John's Lutheran Church · 5952 Franconia Road · Alexandria, VA 22310
703-971-2210



Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from "Lutheran Service Book" © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.

LSB Hymn License 200-2399. LS Builder Support NH 200-299.

Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-701520. All rights reserved.

Elegiac Pastoral, Franklin D. Ashdown from "Evocations: Lyric Pieces for Organ" ©2009 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Grant Peace, We Pray, in Mercy, Lord, Keith Kolander from "Hymn Prelude Library Vol. 11" ©2017 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Children of the Heavenly Father, Franklin D. Ashdown from "Evocations: Lyric Pieces for Organ" ©2009 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Children of the Heavenly Father, Jon D. Vieker from "Hymn Prelude Library Vol. 11" ©2017 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way, Charles Callahan from "Hymn Prelude Library Vol. 10" ©2016 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Lord Jesus Christ, the Children's Friend, David Maxwell from "Hymn Prelude Library Vol. 12" ©2017 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Go, My Children with My Blessing, William H. Bates from "Hymn Prelude Library Vol. 1" ©2012 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.



To view the current edition of our electronic weekly newsletter, *Midweek Update*, scan this QR Code

