
Service of Word with Holy Communion

14th Sunday in Pentecost

Sunday, September 6th, 2020 - 9:00 a.m.

Pastor's Edition



Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community.

Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law.

We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

In God's Service

Pastor:	Matthew Muters
Ministers:	All Baptized People of God
Music:	Mary Groh
Reader:	Diane Murphy
Communion Assistants:	Geri Barker, Diane Murphy

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

All Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P Faithful God,

All have mercy on us.

**We confess that we are captive to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We turn from your loving embrace
and go our own ways.**

**We pass judgment on one another
before examining ourselves.**

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

Make us humble,

cast away our transgressions,

and turn us again to life in you

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection,
Christ has made us his own.

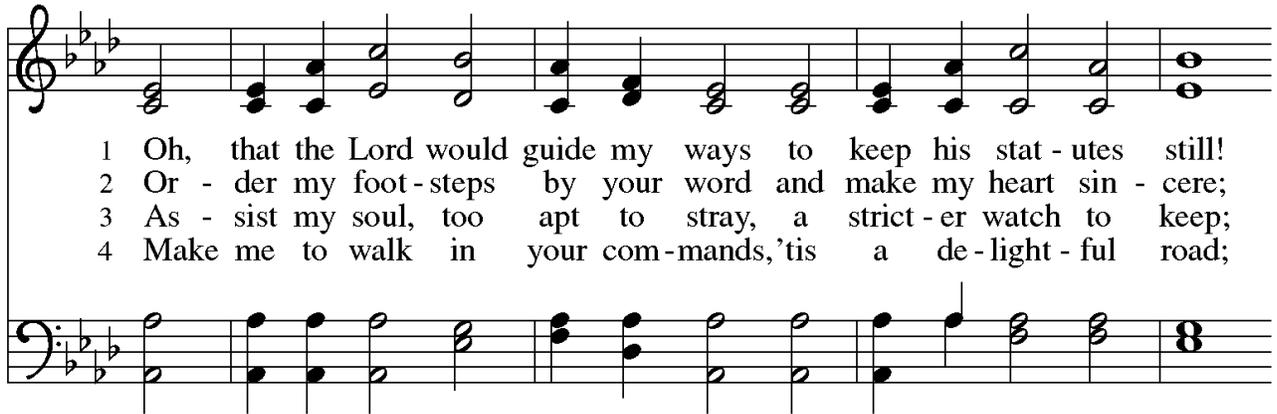
Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of ☩ Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world.

All Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways* ELW 772



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

GREETING

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

All And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All Amen.

GOD'S WORD

Ezekiel 33: 7-11

The prophet's responsibility to warn the people

Psalms 119: 33-40

I desire the path of your commandments (Ps. 119:35)

Romans 13: 8-14

Live honorably as in the day

Matthew 18: 15-20

Reconciliation in the community of faith

FIRST READING

A reading from Ezekiel:

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. ¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

A reading from Romans:

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling

and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

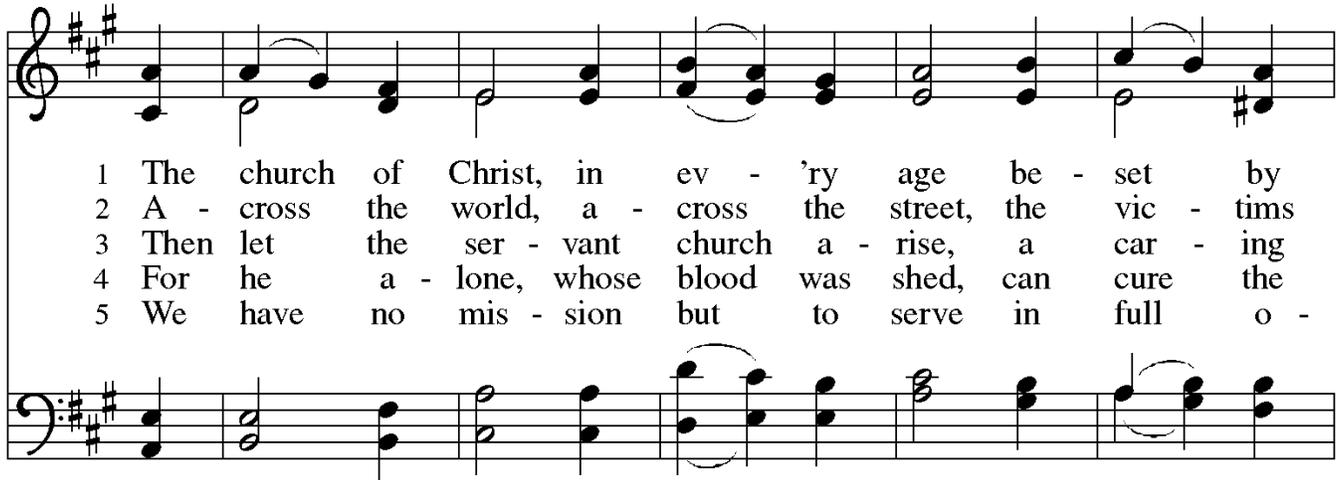
Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

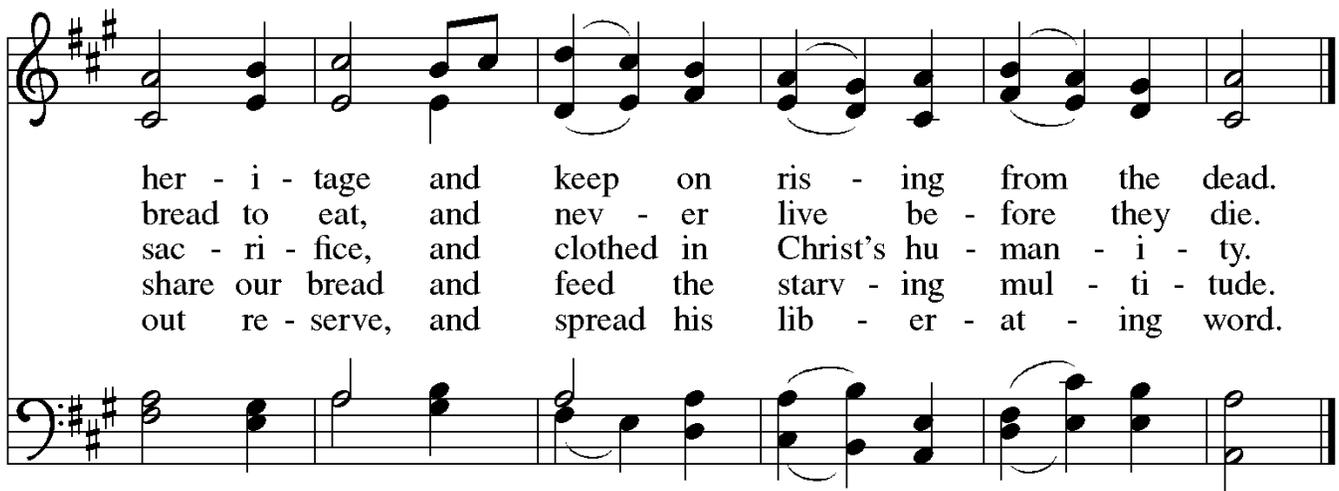
SERMON



1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by
 2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims
 3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing
 4 For he a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the
 5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -



change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its
 of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for
 church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to
 be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -



her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.
 bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.
 sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
 share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
 out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768

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APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

BLESSING OF THE QUILTS, SCHOOL KITS, AND PERSONAL CARE KITS FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

P: In the name of our Lord-Creator, Savior, and Spirit—who calls us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

All: Amen.

P: To you we lift our voices in praise and thanksgiving for the many blessings you have given us.

All: To you we renew our Christian promise to help those in need — to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked, comfort the weary and outcast, welcome the stranger, and be a loving neighbor to all people of the earth.

P: We humbly dedicate these gifts of love to you.

All: Father, we ask you to bless all the quilts made by us, the school kits that have been assembled, and the personal care kits. Bless the generosity and caring compassion of all who worked on them and on those who donated to make these gifts possible. Please bless the whole work of Lutheran World Relief, that together we may minister to our neighbors in need.

P: To you be all glory and honor now and forever, through Jesus Christ.

ALL: AMEN.

OFFERING

Containers are marked for each congregation to place offerings in during the service.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

P: God of goodness and growth, all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. By your Holy Spirit, your Living Word, Jesus Christ is read in Scriptures, proclaimed in preaching, announced in forgiveness of sins and encountered in the bodily presence of the Christian community. All these signs we know and name as Your means of Grace.

All: Nourish us through all these gifts, that we might proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in our world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

P: Unite your church, O God. Grant us the gifts of repentance and reconciliation. Bless the cooperative work of churches in this community (*especially*). Strengthen ecumenical partnerships; guide the work of the Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches. Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

P Protect your creation, O God. Teach us ways that do not harm what you have entrusted to our care. Renew and enliven places suffering from drought, flood, storms, or pollution (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

P Turn nations and leaders from ways that lead to death. Shape new paths toward peace and cooperation, teaching us to recognize one another as neighbors. Guide legislators, civil servants, judges, and police toward laws that protect the well-being of all. Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

P Tend to all in need of your compassion. Hear the cries of those awaiting justice and those yearning for forgiveness. Give community to the lonely and neighbors to the outcast. Shelter all who are vulnerable in body, mind, or spirit (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

P Sustain us in our work, O God, and give work to those who need it. Shape societies to ensure fair treatment for all who labor. Help us to love our neighbors in and through our work. Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

P We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in faith. (*especially*) As you equipped them, equip us with your protection and power, until with them we see your salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

All hear our prayer.

P All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

P Let us pray.

P O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give to us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

All Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup; gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Come to the banquet table, where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Please have just one member of each family come forward and get bread and wine for your family. Hold it until all worshipers have received the elements and Pastor gives instruction to eat. We will collect the cups following the blessing.

COMMUNION HYMN *As We Gather At Your Table*

ELW 472

1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
 2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
 where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;
 There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,

teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
 may we still be - hold your im-age in the world you died to save.
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,
the body and blood of Christ.
Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,
into your beloved vineyard
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst,
guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ
and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

All Amen.

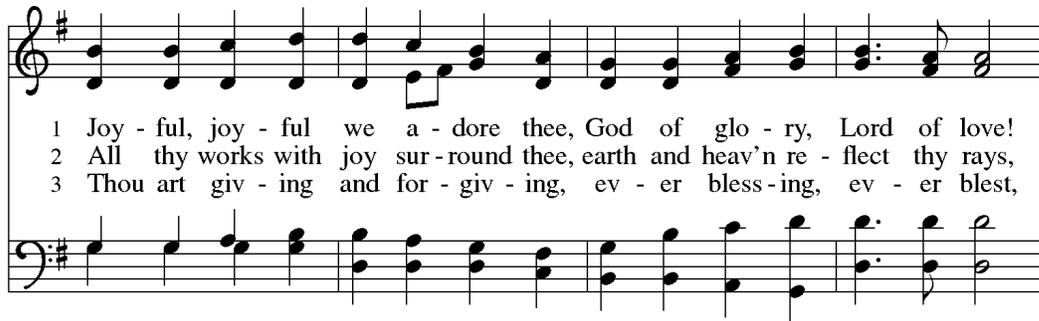
BLESSING

P Mothering God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you
into the way of truth and life.

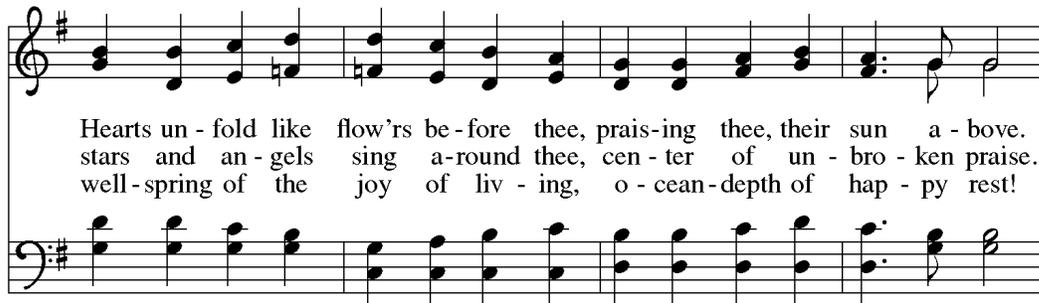
All Amen.

SENDING SONG *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*

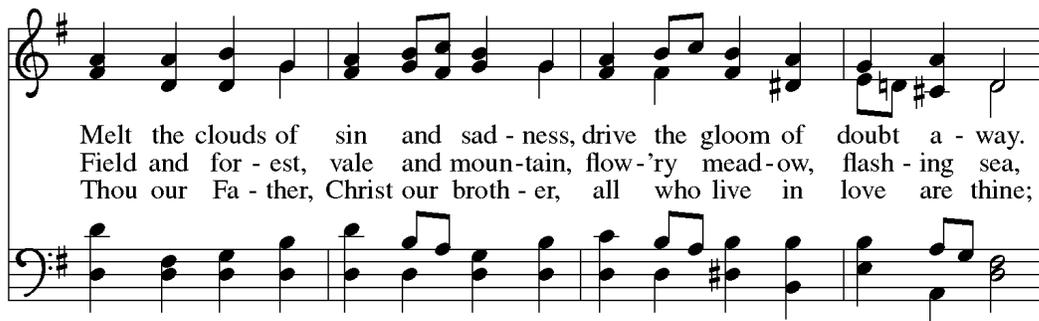
ELW 836



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922
Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God!

Announcements

Labor Day: The church offices will be closed Monday for the holiday.

THANK YOU-As we bless the quilts, school kits, and personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief today; we thank all who gave of their time and talents, donated money for supplies and assembled the kits, and most especially for all of you who will pray for those who receive these quilts and kits. May God continue to bless the work of your hands and the generosity of your spirit-filled hearts.

Personal Care Kit Ingathering From Sunday, Sept. 13 through Sunday, Sept.27

Last spring we started to gather items for personal care kits and then worship began at home because of Covid-19. We'd already received some donations; fingernail clippers and combs were donated.

As many kits as possible have been assembled and will be donated to LWR next Saturday. If you wish to help us add to the number we assemble, here are the items needed:

Large dark colored TOWELS (no larger than 27x 52)

3 or 4-ounce bars of SOAP

individual or multipacks of TOOTHBRUSHES

OR MONETARY DONATIONS

Every effort will be made to keep everyone safe. Please contact Marilyn Martell at 641-425-9048 with questions or for help in picking up supplies, etc. Thank you..

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