



15th Sunday after Pentecost – September 5, 2021

WELCOME

Welcome to worship, especially our guests! We are delighted to have you with us. If you are looking for a church home, we are happy to share ours with you. If we haven't seen you in a while, it is great to see you today! May God bless your time with us richly.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Heavenly Father, I have come to worship you. Draw near to me in your gracious Word, and assure me of your loving kindness. Curb my wandering thoughts, that with undivided attention I may hear your voice and sing you praise. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD, P. 38

OPENING HYMN – CW 486 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

1 Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice,
And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand
To th' unthankful and the evil With your own unsparing hand.

2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you Gladly, freely, of your own.
With the sunshine of your goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by you, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.

3 Wondrous honor you have given To our humblest charity
In your own mysterious sentence, "You have done it unto me."
Can it be, O gracious Master, That you need what we can do,
Saying by your poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?

4 Yes, the sorrow and the suff'rings Which on ev'ry hand we view
Channels are for gifts and off'rings Due by solemn right to you,
Right of which we may not rob you, Debt we may not choose but pay
Lest that face of love and pity Turn from us another day.

5 Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust you boldly, Hope, to stay our souls on you;
But, oh, best of all your graces, With your love our love renew.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–89, alt.

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues forever. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.

M: O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST LESSON – Jeremiah 15:15-21

O LORD, you understand. Remember me and care for me. Take vengeance for me on those who persecute me. You are slow to anger. Do not take me away. Keep in mind that for your sake I bear disgrace. ¹⁶Your words came to me, and I devoured them. Your words became my joy, the delight of my heart, because I bear your name, O LORD God of Armies. ¹⁷I did not sit with the band of partygoers, nor did I celebrate with them. I sat alone, because your hand was upon me. You filled me with indignation. ¹⁸Why is my pain unending? Why is my wound incurable, refusing to heal? Will you be as deceptive as an intermittent stream to me, like a source of water that a person can't depend on? ¹⁹Therefore this is what the LORD says. If you repent, I will take you back, so that you may stand before me. If what you say is worthwhile and not worthless, you will be my spokesman. They must turn to you, but you must not turn to them. ²⁰I will make you like a bronze wall to this people. They will fight against you, but they will not overcome you, because I am with you to save you and to rescue you, declares the LORD. ²¹I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked, and I will deliver you from the grasp of the ruthless.

PSALM 121 CW p. 112

**Refrain: Keep me, keep me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me, hide me in the shadow of your wings.**

I lift up my eyes to the hills.*
Where does my help come from?

My help comes from the LORD,*
the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip,*
he who watches over you will not slumber;

indeed, he who watches over Israel*
will neither slumber nor sleep.

**Refrain: Keep me, keep me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me, hide me in the shadow of your wings.**

The LORD watches over you,*
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

The LORD will keep you from all harm,*
he will watch over your life;

the LORD will watch over your coming and going*
both now and forevermore.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**Refrain: Keep me, keep me as the apple of your eye.
Hide me, hide me in the shadow of your wings.**

Refrain Tune: Jane Marshall. From *Psalms Together*. © 1988 Choristers Guild. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

SECOND LESSON – Romans 12:1-8

Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. ²Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect. ³So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you. ⁴For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. ⁵In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. ⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us. If the gift is prophecy, do it in complete agreement with the faith. ⁷If it is serving, then serve. If it is teaching, then teach. ⁸If it is encouraging, then encourage. If it is contributing, be generous. If it is leadership, be diligent. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully.

VERSE OF THE DAY – Jeremiah 15:16

M: Alleluia! Your words became my joy, the delight of my heart. Alleluia!

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe the Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL LESSON – Matthew 16:21-26

From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again. ²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “May you receive mercy, Lord! This will never happen to you.” ²³But Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a snare to me because you are not thinking the things of God, but the things of men.” ²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ²⁵In fact whoever wants to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶After all, what will it benefit a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what can a person give in exchange for his soul? *This is the Gospel of our Lord.*

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN – CW 435 The Will of God Is Always Best

1 The will of God is always best And shall be done forever.
And they who trust in him are blest; He will forsake them never.
He helps indeed In time of need; He chastens with forbearing.
They who depend On God, their friend, Shall not be left despairing.

2 God is my comfort and my trust, My hope and life abiding,
And to his counsel, wise and just, I yield, in him confiding.
The very hairs, His Word declares, Upon my head he numbers.
By night and day God is my stay; He never sleeps nor slumbers.

3 Lord, this I ask; oh, hear my plea—Deny me not this favor:
When Satan sorely troubles me, Then do not let me waver.
Keep watch and ward, O gracious Lord; Fulfill your faithful saying:
All who believe By grace receive An answer to their praying.

4 When life's brief course on earth is run And I this world am leaving,
Grant me to say, "Your will be done," Your faithful Word believing.
My heav'nly Friend, I now commend My soul into your keeping,
O'er sin and hell And death as well Through you the vict'ry reaping.

Text: Albrecht von Preussen, 1490–1568; tr. composite.

SERMON – James 3:13-18

Who among you is wise and intelligent? Let him by his good way of living show that he does things in wise humility. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not boast and lie, contrary to the truth. ¹⁵This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but it is worldly, unspiritual, and demonic. ¹⁶In fact, where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and every bad practice. ¹⁷But the wisdom that comes from above is first pure, then also peaceful, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial, and sincere. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who practice peace.

Wisdom from Heaven

1. Humble, not proud
2. Peace loving, not envious
3. Considerate, not selfish

APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

HYMN – CW 478**With the Lord Begin Your Task**

- 1 With the Lord begin your task; Jesus will direct it.
For his aid and counsel ask; Jesus will perfect it.
Ev'ry morn with Jesus rise, And, when day is ended,
In his name then close your eyes; Be to him commended.
- 2 Let each day begin with prayer, Praise and adoration.
On the Lord cast ev'ry care; He is your salvation.
Morning, evening, and at night Jesus will be near you,
Save you from the tempter's might, With his presence cheer you.
- 3 With your Savior at your side Foes need not alarm you;
In his promises confide And no ill can harm you.
All your trust and hope repose In the mighty Master,
Who in wisdom truly knows How to stem disaster.
- 4 If your task is thus begun With the Savior's blessing,
Safely then your course will run, Naught your soul distressing.
Good will follow ev'rywhere While you here must wander;
You at last the joy will share In the mansions yonder.

Text: Morgen-und Abend-segen, Waldenburg, 1734, abr.; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt.

CLOSING PRAYER & BLESSING

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen. Amen. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN – CW 448**In You, O Lord, I Put My Trust**

- 1 In you, O Lord, I put my trust—
Leave me not helpless in the dust;
Let me not be confounded.
My faith, O Lord, Must in your Word
Be always firmly grounded.
- 2 Oh, listen, Lord, most graciously,
And hear my cry, my prayer, my plea;
Make haste for my protection,
For woes and fear Surround me here.
Help me in my affliction.
- 3 You are my strength, my shield, my rock,
My fortress that withstands each shock,
My help, my life, my tower,
My battle sword, Almighty Lord—
What can resist your power?

4 With you, O Lord, I cast my lot;
 O faithful God, forsake me not,
 To you my soul commending.
 Lord, be my stay, And lead the way
 Now and when life is ending.

5 All honor, praise, and majesty
 To Father, Son, and Spirit be,
 Our God forever glorious,
 In whose rich grace We run our race
 Till we depart victorious.

Text: Adam Reusner, 1496–c. 1575, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, st. 1–4, alt.; *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, st. 5, alt.

Thank you for worshiping with us!
Please join us again.

This Week's Opportunities for Growing in Christ		
Today (9/5)	9:00 AM	Worship
Monday		Labor Day – No School
Thursday	1:00 PM 6:30 PM	Ladies' Aid Worship with Communion
Sunday 9/12	9:00 AM	Worship with Communion <i>Food Pantry</i>

Ministry News & Worship Changes

We welcome Pastor Andrew Franzo, pastor at Redeemer in Weston, as our vacancy pastor. Since Redeemer's Sunday worship service is at 9:00, our service time will move to 10:30 AM beginning on Sunday, Sept. 19. Pastor Franzo will begin preaching at our Savior's on Sept. 19; Sunday School and Bible class will meet before worship at 9:30 AM. Thursday evening worship will be discontinued until we have a permanent pastor.

Again, starting on **Sept. 16/19:**

- **No Thursday evening worship** (*final Thurs worship on 9/9*)
- **Sunday worship at 10:30 AM**
- **Sunday School and Bible class at 9:30 AM**
- **Pastoral Call / Voter's Meeting:** Sunday, Sept. 19 at 11:45. The Vacancy Pastor's call will also be ratified at this meeting. We'll have refreshments to tide you over.

Sincere thanks to Pastor Mark Schlenner for stepping in to lead our worship this weekend. Next weekend retired Pastor Neil Varnum from Merrill will lead our worship.

Memorial Thank you to Carol Smith for her gift to Debt Reduction given in memory of Arlis & Virene Cramer. *Blessed be their memories. Thanks be to God for the love which led to these gifts.*

Food Pantry The second Sunday of the month is our Food Pantry Sunday. Help those in need in our community by bringing non-perishable and non-expired food items next Sunday. Donations may be placed in the grocery cart in the office entryway. Food will be given to The Neighbor's Place.

Unbudgeted Major Maintenance Items The rain that we've gotten all summer and especially in the month of August has caused some big time leaks in the choir loft area and the entire west side wall of the gym.

We have gotten several estimates on these two areas and they are as follows:

- 1) Repair choir loft flat roof: \$4,500.00 plus a little more depending on how much wet insulation will need to be replaced.
- 2) Gym wall will involve cutting out caulk in control joints and recaulking. All doorways need to have old mortar taken out and replaced and then recaulked. Cost to do this is \$3,000.00

Since both of these projects are not in our current budget, we'll need to fund them with special gifts beyond regular offerings. You may give to both projects by putting a note in an envelope and dropping in collection plate at church or getting it to the church office via mail or hand delivery. Thank you in advance for helping with these projects.

September Forward in Christ The latest issue is available. Pick up a copy today!

Here are highlights:

- News and updates from the 66th Biennial Synod Convention
- Blessings abound for us as individuals and as a group when we meet together for worship. Mark Paustian poetically probes this topic in "This is the body of Christ" (p. 10).
- How does sharing Jesus connect with playing a game of cribbage? Find out this month on the back page.
- "Jesus is the most inclusive person in history... At the same time Jesus is the most exclusive person in history." Luke Thompson expounds on these statements as he answers this month's "Please explain" question: Does God favor certain people? (p. 26). The concept becomes personal for Huu Trung Le as he discovers that Jesus is the only way (p. 7).

Our Stewardship of God's Gifts: August 26, 2021

<u>Weekly</u>	<u>Vision</u>	<u>Debt Red</u>	<u>Plate</u>	<u>School Fees</u>
\$2,830.00	\$150.00	\$95.00	\$69.00	\$400.00

Attendance: August 26 & 29: 20 & 64, online – 41 Total = 125



Growing in Jesus, Sharing His Love

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