

# ONE IN CHRIST LUTHERAN PARISH

◆Bethany ◆Immanuel ◆Lunder ◆Silver Lake ◆Winnebago



**Pentecost 17**

**October 2, 2022**



# ONE IN CHRIST LUTHERAN PARISH

◆ Bethany

◆ Immanuel

◆ Lunder

◆ Silver Lake

◆ Winnebago

Ministers

Every member of the Parish

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**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**October 2, 2022**

## COME, HOLY SPIRIT!

We joyfully welcome all guests who are worshipping with us this morning.

We celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, who excites us with the mission of the church - to be witnesses and share the "good news" to all people.

**EMPOWER AND SEND US!**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Hymns are from the Green Hymnal.*

*(\* Stand as you are able)*

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

## ✠ **GATHERING** ✠

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the People of God*

### \***CONFESSION**

When we take time to reflect on God's steadfast love - even when we feel most alone and when everything around us seems hope-less, we remember the great faithfulness of God and our hope is restored.

**The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases**

God of faithfulness, we come, young and old, from different places and diverse backgrounds to offer this time of worship to you.

**Help us to so focus our thoughts on you that we experience anew your grace, mercy and love as fresh gifts in our lives. We praise you for blessing us in this way and for revealing your love in Jesus Christ.**

With his endless love flowing through us, and the Holy Spirit guiding us, may our faithfulness also be great and our love for all you created never cease.

**In Jesus' name we pray. Amen**

In the gospel reading from Luke, the disciples ask Jesus to increase their faith and Jesus replied that they only needed faith the size of a mustard seed to dislodge a firmly rooted tree and plant it in the sea!

**Do we ever believe that the size of our faith makes us superior to other believers?**

Merciful God, when we think of your great faithfulness and steadfast love, we confess how far we fall short of both.

There are times when we judge others by our standards of faithfulness rather than yours.

**We confess that there are times when we believe that our works of faith earn us 'brownie points' with you.**

And there are even times when we consider that our faith grows just by speaking words about faith without making that faith evident in and through our lives.

**We confess also that our busy-ness can so distract us that we let opportunities slip by to plant even the smallest seeds of faith.**

Forgive us and increase our faith, O God, so that we can uproot any obstacles which hinder our faithfulness.

**This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**\*EXPERIENCING GOD'S GRACE – THE GOOD NEWS**

Through the steadfast love and endless mercy of God, we are saved, not according to our works, but according to God's purpose and grace - grace revealed through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Thanks be to God!**

**\*OPENING SONG**

*“Rock of Ages”*

**# 327**

*Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood,  
from thy riven side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure;  
cleansing me from its guilt and pow'r.*

*Not the labors of my hands  
can fulfill thy law's demands;  
could my zeal no respite know,  
could my tears forever flow,  
all for sin could not atone;  
thou must save, and thou alone.*

*Nothing in my hand I bring;  
simply to thy cross I cling.  
Naked, come to thee for dress;  
helpless, look to thee for grace;  
foul, I to the fountain fly;  
wash me, Savior, or I die.*

*While I draw this fleeting breath,  
when mine eyelids close in death,  
when I soar to worlds unknown,  
see thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee.*

**\*APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

**And also with you.**

**\*SHARING THE PEACE**

**\*KYRIE**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer-cy.

For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us

pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

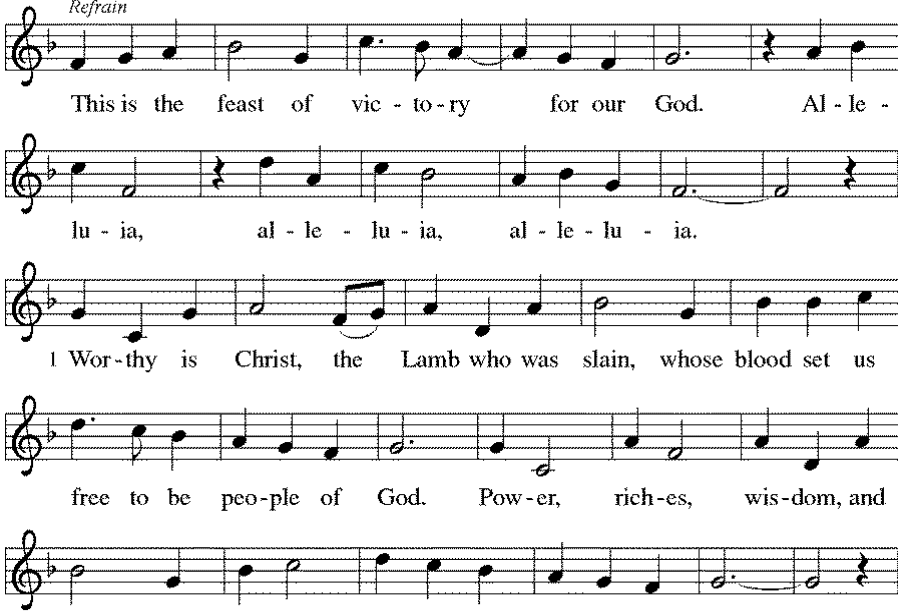
let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.

**\*CANTICLE OF PRAISE**     *“This is the feast...”*

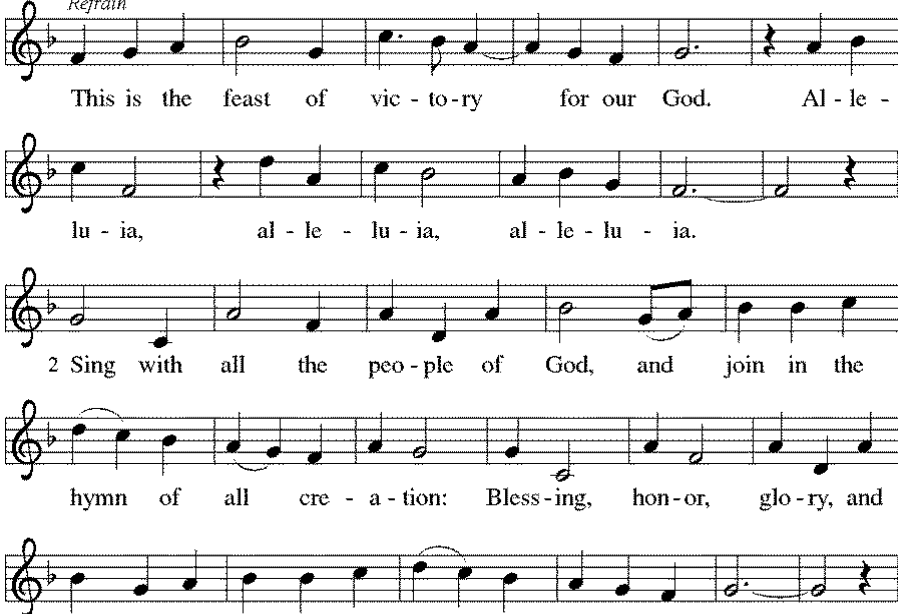
*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us  
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and  
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

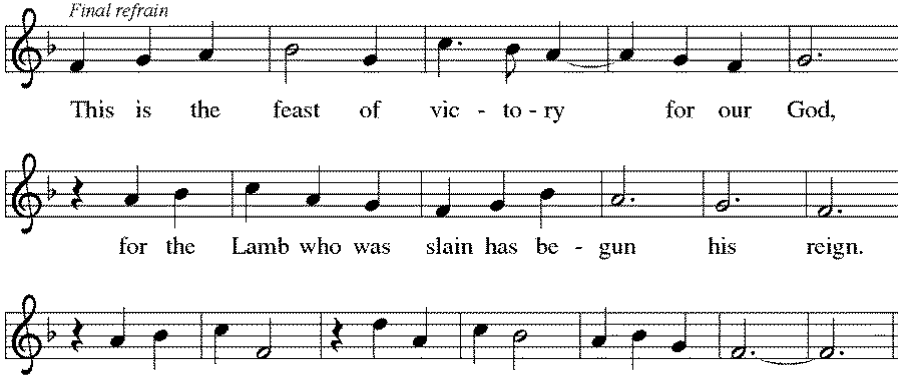
*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the  
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and  
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,  
for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## ✠ WORD ✠

### *God speaks to us in scripture, reading, preaching, and song*

*A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.*

## SCRIPTURE READING

## Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

*Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith.*

<sup>1</sup>The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,  
and you will not listen?  
Or cry to you "Violence!"  
and you will not save?

<sup>3</sup>Why do you make me see wrongdoing  
and look at trouble?  
Destruction and violence are before me;  
strife and contention arise.

<sup>4</sup>So the law becomes slack  
and justice never prevails.  
The wicked surround the righteous—  
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

<sup>2:1</sup>I will stand at my watchpost,  
and station myself on the rampart;  
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me,  
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

<sup>2</sup>Then the LORD answered me and said:  
Write the vision;  
make it plain on tablets,  
so that a runner may read it.

<sup>3</sup>For there is still a vision for the appointed time;  
it speaks of the end, and does not lie.  
If it seems to tarry, wait for it;  
it will surely come, it will not delay.

<sup>4</sup>Look at the proud!  
Their spirit is not right in them,  
but the righteous live by their faith.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## SCRIPTURE READING

## 2 Timothy 1:1-14

*This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

<sup>2</sup>To Timothy, my beloved child:  
Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

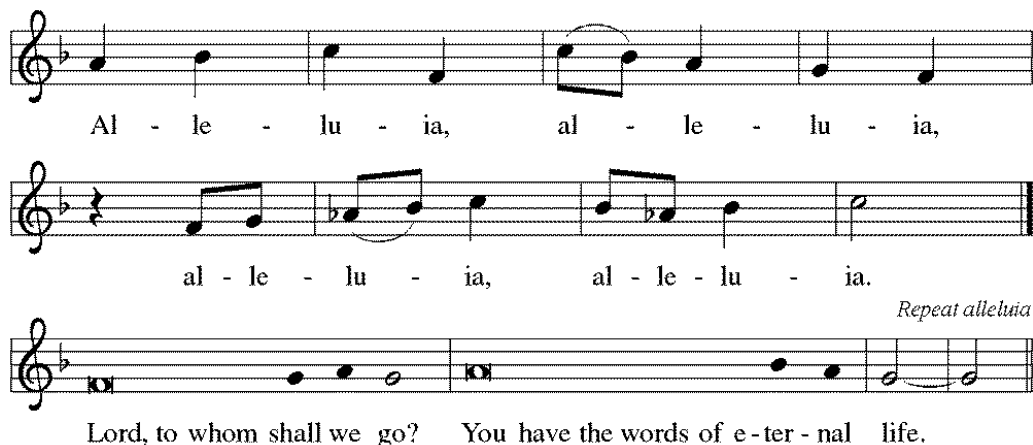
<sup>3</sup>I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. <sup>4</sup>Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup>I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. <sup>6</sup>For this reason I

remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; <sup>7</sup>for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

<sup>8</sup>Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, <sup>9</sup>who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, <sup>10</sup>but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. <sup>11</sup>For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, <sup>12</sup>and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. <sup>13</sup>Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup>Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

### \*GOSPEL READING

#### Luke 17:5-10

*On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.*

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>5</sup>The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” <sup>6</sup>The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

<sup>7</sup>“Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? <sup>8</sup>Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? <sup>9</sup>Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? <sup>10</sup>So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

#### SERMON

Pastor Bill Peters

*O Master, let me walk with you  
in lowly paths of service true;  
tell me your secret; help me bear  
the strain of toil, the fret of care.*

*Help me the slow of heart to move  
by some clear, winning word of love;  
teach me the wayward feet to stay,  
and guide them in the homeward way.*

*Teach me your patience; share with me  
a closer, dearer company,  
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,  
in trust that triumphs over wrong,*

*In hope that sends a shining ray  
far down the future's broad'ning way,  
in peace that only you can give;  
with you, O Master, let me live.*

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836-1918, alt.

#### **\*NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the 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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and  
glorified,  
who 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.

**\*PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY**

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

...God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

✠ **MEAL** ✠

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

**OFFERING**

**\*OFFERTORY SONG**

*"Let the Vineyards"*

**ELW # 184**

*Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer.  
Grace our table with your presence,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.*

**\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

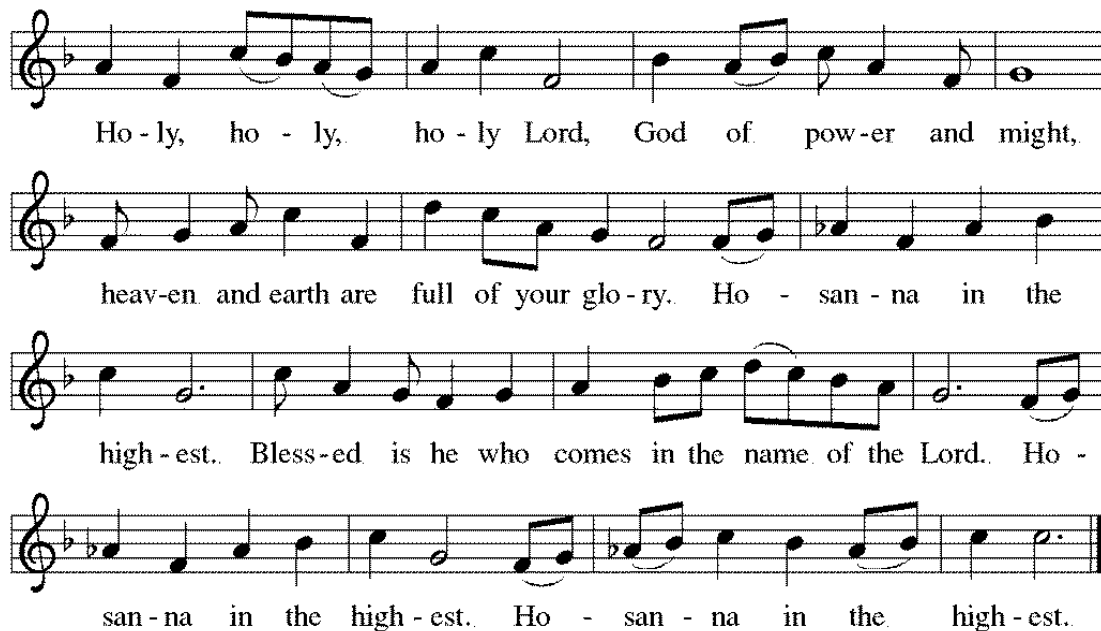
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**\*PREFACE**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

**DISTRIBUTION**

**\*COMMUNION BLESSING**

**✠ SENDING ✠**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission in the world*

**\*BLESSING**

**\*THREE-FOLD AMEN**

**\*RINGING OF THE BELL**

**\*SENDING SONG**

*"Let All Things Now Living"*

# 557

*Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
To God the creator triumphantly raise.  
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us, His light goes before us,  
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night.  
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished  
As forward we travel from light into light.*

*His law he enforces, the stars in their courses  
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
The deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine.  
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
With glad adoration a song let us raise  
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:  
"To God in the highest, Hosanna and praise!"*

**\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**



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Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 2, 2022

## LESS IS MORE

“Increase our faith!” cry the disciples in today’s gospel (Luke 17:5). Maybe you have come to worship with the same hope. Our world and lives are full of challenges that constantly test our limits—the limits of our patience, our love, our hope, our capacity for justice and mercy. Wouldn’t it be nice to have as much of those things as possible? Wouldn’t that allow us to fix this broken world?

But Jesus’ response is exactly the opposite—when it comes to faith, he tells his disciples to think small—like the size of a minuscule mustard seed. While that may not sound like enough, it will be if we can let go of thinking we are in control. The power of faith, Jesus tells us, does not come from the quantity we possess; it comes from placing our trust in the one who possesses everything.

If our trust shifts from God to ourselves, no amount of faith will ever be enough. God did not make us to be masters, so when we place ourselves in that position, anxiety and overwhelm are sure to follow. Instead, Christ calls us to be servants of an abundance that we will never possess or control. This is the abundance of God’s kingdom—where faith, hope, and love exist without limit. Even the smallest amount of trust in this abundance is enough because it pins our hearts and hopes on the one who is truly in control.

The things this assembly of faith-seekers will offer one another today are small, but with just a mustard seed of faith they can be so much more. Here, simple human words can become the vessels of the divine Word, bringing healing and transformation to our lives. Here, drops of water can wash away sins and create heirs to God’s kingdom. Here, bread and wine can become the food that offers us life everlasting through Christ’s victory over death.