September 24, 2023

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Opening Hymn: "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake



Tune: Bartholomäus Gesius, c. 1555–1613, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Exhortation

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3-4; Luke 18:13 LSB 203

- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.
- **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.
- 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.

Confession of Sins

LSB 203

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

Absolution [John 20:19-23] LSB 203

- 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.
- C Amen.

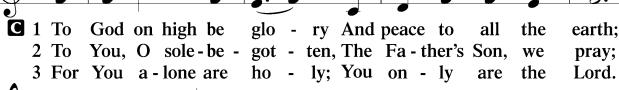
Service of the Word



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.



Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 204





Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth! O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way. For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry, You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- Let us pray.

 Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:6-9

A The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 55.

6"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near;
7let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
8For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.
9For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Gradual Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

Fear the LORD, you his saints,

for those who fear him lack nothing!

Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Epistle

Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30

A The Epistle is from Philippians, chapter 1.

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard

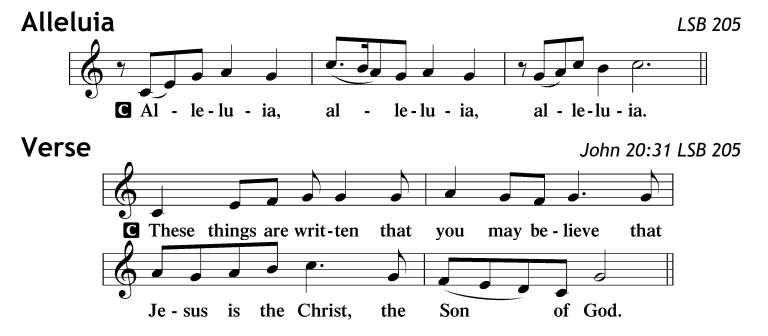
pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse





Holy Gospel Matthew 20:1-16

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.
- **C** Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' 5So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' 8And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- **C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

> And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and

whose kingdom will have no end.

the dead.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Announcements

Hymn of the Day: Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling LSB 827



- 1 Hark, the voice of Je sus call-ing, "Who will go and work to - day?
- 2 Some take up His task in morn-ing, To their Lord re - spond-ing soon;
- as rain and snow from heav-en Wa ter seeds in
- the Lord whose com ing Marks the time when grace shall end, 4 Hear - ken to



are white and har-vests wait-ing—Who will bear the sheaves a - way?" Fields are called in heat of mid-day, Oth-ers late in Some af - ter-noon: those who toil; Caus - ing them to bud and flow - er, Giv - ing bread to with His an - gel - ic reap - ers He in glo - ry shall de-scend.



call - eth; Rich re-ward He Loud and long Mas - ter the set - ting, Some are sent in - to the fields, the E - ven as sun is the Lord sends forth His prom - ise, Words of life and joy and peace fi - nal har - vest; Soon the time for work shall cease. Soon the night, the



Who will an-swer, glad - ly say - ing, "Here am I, send me, send me"? in the boun - ty There to gath-er That God's Word so rich - ly yields. Nev - er void to Him re-turn-ing, Bear - ing fruit with great in-crease. Then the souls His grace has gar-nered Shall en - joy His Sab - bath peace.

Text (st. 1): Daniel March, 1816–1909, alt.; (sts. 2–4): Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838–96
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Text (st. 1) and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Rev. Philip Zielinski

Offering

Note: Please continue to place your offerings into the plates as you enter or leave church as we will not be passing the plates through the congregation. The offering plates will be brought forward at this time to remind us that our offerings are given in thankfulness to Him for His blessings to each of us.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

O Lord, grant that we would rejoice in the light of Christ and His salvation, and that sinners would find refuge in His mercy and comfort in His forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

- **C** hear our prayer.
- P Heavenly Father, embolden our congregation and all sister churches throughout the world to confess the truth steadfastly and to witness boldly to our only Savior, Jesus Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Merciful Lord, we give You humble thanks for instituting the estate of holy marriage and for the blessing of family. Grant that these gifts would be cherished and honored in our society and especially within the household of faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P Almighty Lord, bless this nation and all people in their rightful callings. Grant that we may serve our neighbors in love, and that all authorities would exercise their callings with humility and wisdom on behalf of the defenseless. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Loving God, we thank You for the gift of health. Hear our prayers on behalf of the sick, the aged, the infirm, the mourning or the dying [especially _______]. Grant them healing in accord with Your will and grace to sustain them in their need. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Remember, O Lord, those who will receive Your true body and blood from this altar. Prepare us to receive them worthily in repentance and faith for the forgiveness of our sins and the healing of our bodies. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

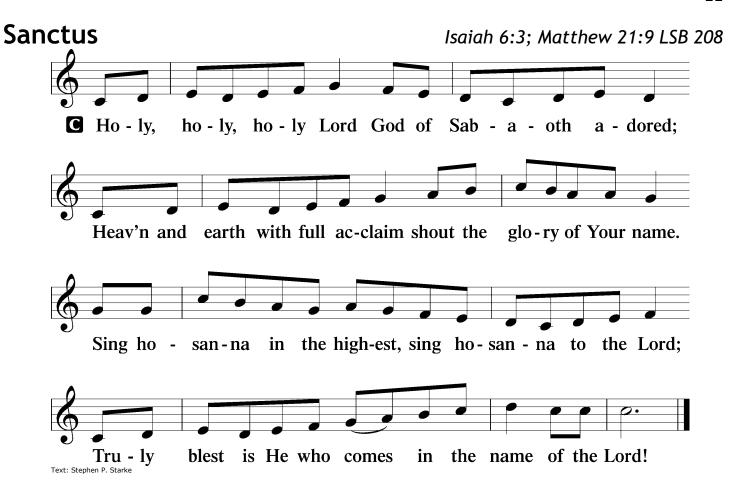
- P Heavenly Father, we thank You for the witness of the faithful who lived and died in Christ. Grant that at the last we, too, may be joined with them in the marriage supper of the Lamb in His kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Merciful Lord, grant that, in Christ, we may seek You while You may be found and call upon You while You are near, forsaking all wicked ways and unrighteous thoughts. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136] LSB 208

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- 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:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

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.

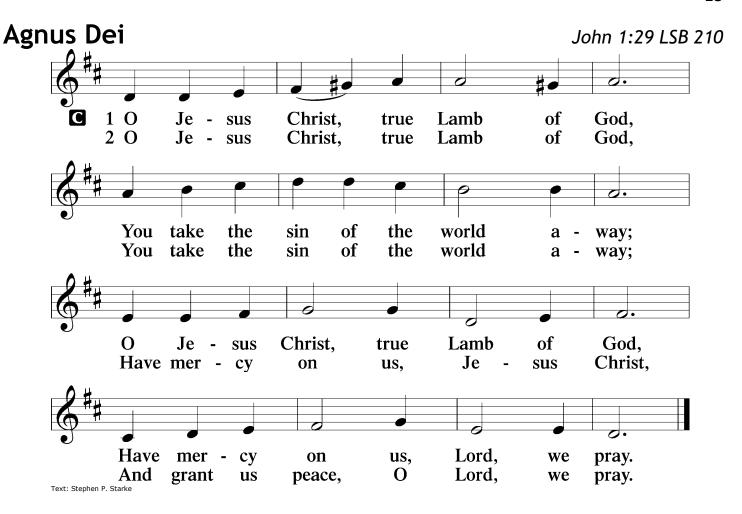
The Words of Our Lord

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."

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

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



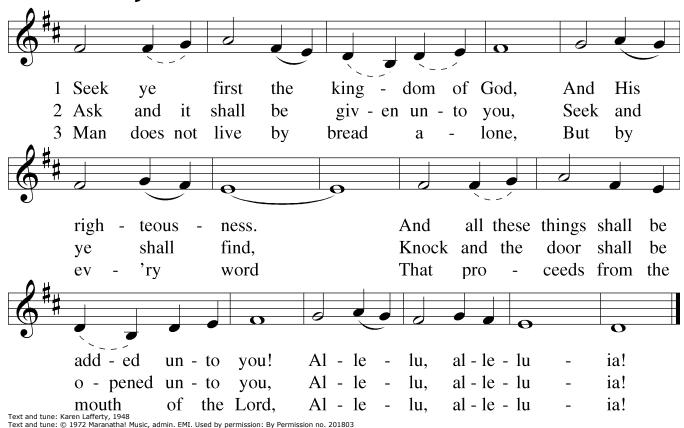
Sit

Distribution

- If—for any reason—you prefer to receive communion while remaining at your seat, please let an usher know as you arrive so that we can bring communion to you.
- Directions
 - o Ushers will dismiss the congregation beginning from the back of the sanctuary.
 - o Fill the communion rail beginning from the lectern side (left).
 - Kneel or stand as you are able.
 - Pastor will distribute the body of Christ followed by the assistants with the blood of Christ (individual or common cup).
 - Once you have received the body and blood of Christ, dismiss yourself and return to your seat via the Fellowship Hall through the side door.
 - If you have received an individual cup, place it in the basket provided on your way out the door.
- Gluten-free communion bread is available. Simply ask pastor for this option as you come forward for communion.
- A low/no-alcohol option is also available. On the tray of individual cups are several
 plastic cups that contain juice with a drop of wine included. This dilute amount of wine
 uses the element with which the Lord's Supper was instituted (wine) while providing an
 alternative if needed. Please feel free to see Pastor or an Elder if you have any
 questions.

Distribution Hymn: Seek Ye First

LSB 712



Distribution Hymn: For Me to Live Is Jesus

LSB 742



- 1 For me to live is Je sus, To die is gain for me; 2 For Christ, my Lord, my broth - er, I leave this world so dim
- 3 My woes are near ly o ver, Though long and dark the road;
- 4 Lord, when my pow'rs are fail ing, My breath comes heav i ly,



So when my Sav - ior pleas - es, I meet death will - ing - ly. glad - ly seek an - oth - er, Where I shall be with Him. And sin His mer - its cov - er, I have peace with God. And words are un - a - vail - ing, O hear my sighs to

- 5 In my last hour, O grant me
 A slumber soft and still,
 No doubts to vex or haunt me,
 Safe anchored in Thy will;
- 6 And so to Thee still cleaving
 When death shall come to me,
 I fall asleep believing
 And wake in heav'n with Thee!

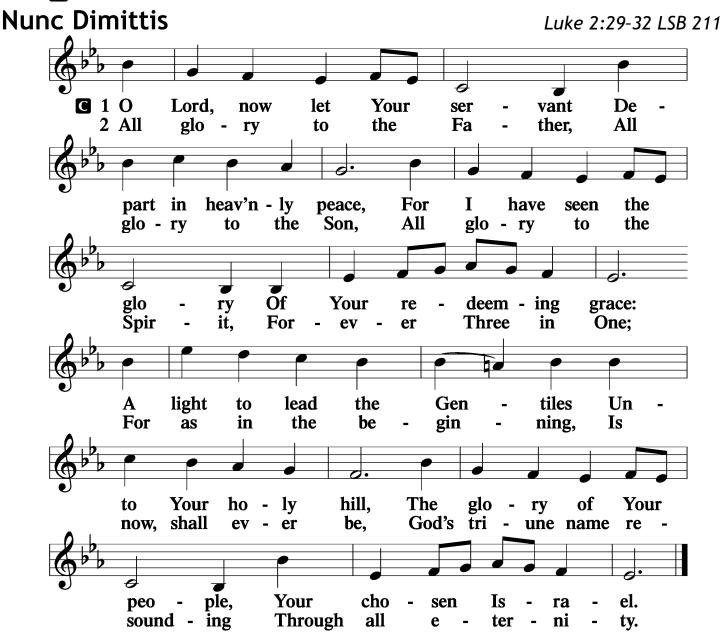
Distribution Hymn: I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



The Dismissal

- **P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart

 in peace.
- C Amen.



Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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

Psalm 103:1 LSB 212

- Let us bless the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- 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.
- Amen.



Text: Jan Struther, 1901–53
Tune: Irish
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Tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL

Today	9:15 AM	Bible Class
Today	9:15 AM	Sunday School
Today	12:00 - 2:00 PM	Walk-In Communion
Monday	6:00 - 7:30 PM	Confirmation
Tuesday	5:00 - 7:00 PM	Walk-In Communion
Wednesday	10:00 AM	Bible Study
Wednesday	11:30 AM	Quilters

YOUTH GROUP for grades 6-12 is every other Wednesday at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 4th in the Fellowship Hall. Questions? Contact Pastor Chris Streeper at 330-441-0502.

LWML SUNDAY LUNCHEON is coming up on October 8th at 12:00 PM. There is a sign-up sheet for those ladies (only) who are planning to attend this event; this will be helpful so that food may be planned accordingly. Thank you.

<u>PORTALS OF PRAYER</u> the 2023 Oct.-Dec. devotion booklets are available on the Welcome Table and in the Narthex hallway, please take your copy home today.

<u>WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY</u> at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Attend in-person or watch the stream live and on-demand.

<u>WIGGLE BAGS</u> Please help yourself to these goody bags that hold activities that kids may engage and participate in worship service. Hopefully this will help alleviate stress for parents who are worried about their child making it through the whole service, but more importantly, they help teach kids that "big church" is for them too. Please take a moment to collect all the contents of the Wiggle Bags and return it to the "Used Wiggle Bag" plastic bin after the Worship Service. We are grateful to Sandy Turner and Jean Wadle who are keeping-up with providing clean Wiggle Bags each week. Your donated supplies may be given directly to Sandy Turner or Jean Wadle. Thank you.

GOOD STEWARDSHIP Please take a moment to collect your Worship folders, filled out or blank attendance slips, used tissues, and any other items left in the pews after leaving Worship services. Thank you kindly!

YOUNG FAMILY FELLOWSHIP Families with young children are invited to join in fellowship! Dates and times are to be decided. If you are interested in that or other gatherings, sign-up at the Welcome Center or contact Sarah Moser at 440-453-0180.

<u>SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE</u> We continue to take offerings to provide relief to Lutheran church partners affected by the war in Ukraine. Thank you to everyone who has shown their generosity.

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COMMUNION OPPORTUNITIES

Pastor is still providing individual communion opportunities for the foreseeable future. Check the posted times for "walk-in" communion below.

Scheduling an appointment with Pastor at church or in your home.

"Walk-In" times at Church:

Sundays, 12 – 2pm

Tuesdays, 5 – 7pm

Scheduling an appointment for communion at church or in your home:

To schedule a time other than the walk-in times

Call Pastor 440-458-0189

Visit <u>www.spvc.org</u> and click "Book with Pastor" to see available times for appointments.

<u>TITHES & OFFERINGS</u> are needed; our Lord still provides for us and we return to Him a portion of His generosity. You have several ways to continue contributing:

- 1. In-person Worship on Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 AM
- 2. Mail your contributions to the church.
- 3. Talk to your bank about "bill-pay" options. They can likely send a check directly to the church on a scheduled basis.
- 4. Visit www.spvc.org and click on "Give Online" you'll be taken to our secure online giving site where you can make a one-time or on-going contribution.

IN-PERSON SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS watch LIVE or On-Demand just like our worship services (YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org) on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.

WATCH LIVE OR ON-DEMAND 8:00 AM on Sundays, or on-demand at YouTube, Facebook, or www.spvc.org – on the homepage is a viewer for the livestream (when active) and for the most recent service. Bulletins are available via the link. Select the bulletin for the date of the service you are watching.

PASTORAL CARE Should you desire pastoral care, please contact the church office 330.483.3883, or 330.483.4119 and leave a message for Pastor.

<u>PRAYER REQUESTS</u> can be sent to prayer@spvc.org (also, email there to join the prayer chain and receive all the updates) ... or ... you may fill out the back side of the attendance slip.

ONLINE DIRECTORY UPDATE If your mobile app updated and it's asking for an "online code" please use "SPVC" and that should reconnect the app.

<u>WORSHIP BULLETINS & ATTENDANCE SLIPS</u> You're encouraged to take home your worship bulletins (use the scriptures, hymns and prayers for your own devotions!). Please use the blue recycle tub that is located in the hallway as you leave the sanctuary to place <u>ONLY</u> the bulletins (including Large Print as we do recycle the black combs) and the unused attendance slips. Thank you.

September 2023									
SERVICE		September 3 SUNDAY	September 10 SUNDAY	September 17 SUNDAY	September 24 SUNDAY				
		Communion	Communion	Communion	Communion				
ELDER	8am	Steve Kato	Tim Wadle / Chris Duran	Chris Duran	Tim Wadle/Steve Kato				
	10:30am	Jim Jackson	Jim Jackson/Sam Jakabcic	Sam Jakabcic	Jim Jackson/Sam Jakabcic				
USHERS	8am	Mark Gordon	Jim Sherry	Mark Gordon	Dave Hesketh				
	10:30am	Jay Moser	Erich Gottl	Brian Dearth	Joe Bennet				
GREETERS	8am	Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes	Elder	David & Mackenzie Duran	Elder				
	10:30am	Rich & Jenny Proeschel	Elder	Barb Pijor	Elder				
ELDER	Stephen Kato	Tim Wadle	Jim Jackson	Sam Jakabcic	Chris Duran				
INFO	330-242-7183	216-214-7109	330-391-6393	216-789-1076	216-577-5164				

October 2023								
SERVICE October 1		October 8	October 15	October 22	October 29			
		SUNDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY	SUNDAY		
						Reformation Sunday		
		Communion	Communion	Communion	Communion	Communion		
ELDER	8am	Steve Kato	Steve Kato/Tim Wadle	Steve Kato	Tim Wadle/Chris Duran	Steve Kato		
	10:30am	Jim Jackson	Jim Jackson/Sam Jakabcic	Sam Jakabcic	Jim Jackson/ Sam Jakabcic	Sam Jakabcic		
USHERS	8am	Dave Hesketh	Mark Gordon	Dave Hesketh	Mark Gordon	Jim Sherry		
	10:30am	Joe Bennett	Rich Proeschel	Brian Dearth	Erich Gottl	Jay Moser		
GREETERS	8am	David & Mackenzie Duran	Elder	Dean & Beth Bremke	Elder	Heinrich & Irmgard Cordes		
	10:30am	Rich & Jenny Proeschel	Elder	Barb Pijor	Elder	Joe Bennett		



YOU'RE INVITED!

LWML SUNDAY

October 8, 2023

12:00 PM

Want to know more about what LWML does?
We would love for you to join us for a lady-only luncheon and information display.



Glory to God in the Highest

Prayers for Worship

On entering a church

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen.

Before worship

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for His sake. Amen.

After worship

Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Before confession and absolution

Almighty, everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Before communing

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation I come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let me find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send me Your Holy Spirit that, having with my mouth received the holy Sacrament, I may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

For blessing on the Word

Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.