

# Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 2023



The Authority of Jesus Challenged

Matthew 21:23-27

## 844 Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace



1 Lord of all na - tions, grant me grace  
 2 Break down the wall that would di - vide  
 3 For - give me, Lord, where I have erred  
 4 Give me Thy cour - age, Lord, to speak  
 5 With Thine own love may I be filled



To love all peo - ple, ev - 'ry race;  
 Thy chil - dren, Lord, on ev - 'ry side.  
 By love - less act and thought - less word.  
 When - ev - er strong op - press the weak,  
 And by Thy Ho - ly Spir - it willed,



And in each per - son may I see  
 My neigh - bor's good let me pur - sue;  
 Make me to see the wrong I do  
 Should I my - self the vic - tim be,  
 That all I touch, wher - e'er I be,



My kin - dred, loved, re - deemed by Thee.  
 Let Chris - tian love bind warm and true.  
 Will grieve my wound - ed Lord a - new.  
 Help me for - give, re - mem - b'ring Thee.  
 May be di - vine - ly touched by Thee.

Text: Olive Wise Spannaus, 1916–2018, alt.  
 Tune: Georg Joseph, 17th cent., adapt.  
 Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000740  
 Tune: Public domain

## Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

*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** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Kneel/Stand*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Stand

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 147:1–5; antiphon: v. 6*

The LORD lifts up the | humble;\*  
 he casts the wicked | to the ground.  
 Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our God;\*  
 for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.  
 The LORD builds up Je- | rusalem;\*  
 he gathers the outcasts of | Israel.  
 He heals the broken- | hearted\*  
 and binds | up their wounds.  
 He determines the number | of the stars;\*  
 he gives to all of | them their names.  
 Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power;\*  
 his understanding is beyond | measure.  
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\***  
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**  
**as it was in the be- | ginning,\***  
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**  
 The LORD lifts up the | humble;\*  
 he casts the wicked | to the ground.

### Kyrie

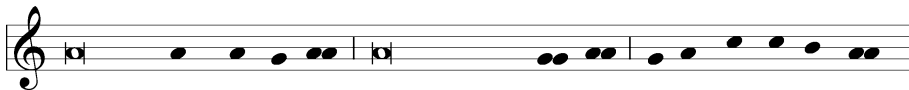
*LSB 168*



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



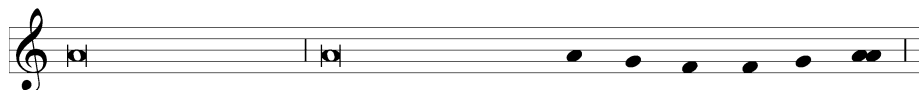
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



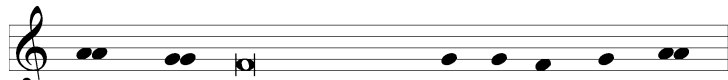
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



**C** A - men.

### This Is the Feast

LSB 171



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



**C** Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le -

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

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** A - men.

*Sit*

**Old Testament Reading**

*Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge?’ <sup>3</sup>As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .

<sup>25</sup>“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? <sup>26</sup>When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. <sup>27</sup>Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. <sup>28</sup>Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?”

<sup>30</sup>“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Psalm 91:11; 103:1*

He will command his angels con- | cerning you\*  
to guard you in | all your ways.  
Bless the LORD, | O my soul,\*  
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

## Second Reading

*Acts 8:26–40*

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” This is a desert place. <sup>27</sup>And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the Scripture that he was reading was this:

“Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter  
and like a lamb before its shearer is silent,  
so he opens not his mouth.  
<sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him.  
Who can describe his generation?  
For his life is taken away from the earth.”

<sup>34</sup>And the eunuch said to Philip, “About whom, I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning with this Scripture he told him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>And as they were going along the road they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “See, here is water! What prevents me from being baptized?” <sup>38</sup>And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup>And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he passed through he preached the gospel to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

*LSB 173*

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 21:23–27*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” <sup>24</sup>Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ <sup>26</sup>But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

### 655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word



1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who  
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are  
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your  
Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that  
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And bring to naught all He has done.  
we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.  
strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug  
Text and tune: Public domain

### Sermon

*Stand*

### Nicene Creed

**C** 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 the dead,  
 whose kingdom will have no end.

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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayer of the Church

*Sit*

## Offering

*Stand*

## Offertory

LSB 176



What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.



# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

LSB 177



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al-so 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 . . . evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 178



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



pow'r and might: Heav'n 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.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 179

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

- C** 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.

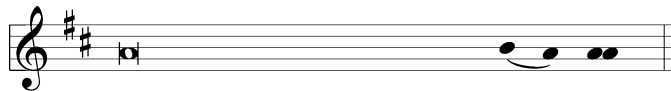
## The Words of Our Lord

- 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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  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

LSB 180



- P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



- C** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 180



- C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



- have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of  
 God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Sit*

**Distribution**

**544 O Love, How Deep**



1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high,  
 2 He sent no an - gel to our race,  
 3 For us bap - tized, for us He bore taught;  
 4 For us He prayed; for us He taught;  
 Be - yond all thought and fan - ta - sy,  
 Of high - er or of low - er place,  
 His ho - ly fast and hun - gered sore;  
 For us His dai - ly works He wrought,  
 That God, the Son of God, should take  
 But wore the robe of hu - man frame,  
 For us temp - ta - tion sharp He knew;  
 By words and signs and ac - tions thus  
 Our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!  
 And to this world Him - self He came.  
 For us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.  
 Still seek - ing not Him - self but us.

5 For us by wickedness betrayed,  
 For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,  
 He bore the shameful cross and death;  
 For us He gave His dying breath.

6 For us He rose from death again;  
 For us He went on high to reign;  
 For us He sent His Spirit here  
 To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

△ 7 All glory to our Lord and God  
 For love so deep, so high, so broad;

The Trinity whom we adore  
Forever and forevermore.

Text: attr. Thomas à Kempis, 1380–1471; tr. Benjamin Webb, 1819–85, alt.  
Tune: English, 15th cent.  
Text: Public domain

569 In Adam We Have All Been One



1 In Ad - am we have all been one, One huge re - bel - lious man;  
2 We fled Thee, and in los - ing Thee We lost our broth - er too;  
3 But Thy strong love, it sought us still And sent Thine on - ly Son  
4 O Thou who, when we loved Thee not, Didst love and save us all,



We all have fled that eve - ning voice That sought us as we ran.  
Each sin - gly sought and claimed his own; Each man his broth - er slew.  
That we might hear His Shep - herd's voice And, hear - ing Him, be one.  
Thou great Good Shep - herd of man - kind, O hear us when we call.

5 Send us Thy Spirit, teach us truth;  
Thou Son, O set us free  
From fancied wisdom, self-sought ways,  
To make us one in Thee.

△ 6 Then shall our song united rise  
To Thine eternal throne,  
Where with the Father evermore  
And Spirit Thou art one.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76  
Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven  
Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000740  
Tune: Public domain

539 Christ Is the World's Redeemer



1 Christ is the world's Re - deem - er, The lov - er of the pure,  
2 Christ has our host sur - round - ed With clouds of mar - tyrs bright,  
3 Down through the realm of dark - ness He strode in vic - to - ry,  
△ 4 Glo - ry to God the Fa - ther, The un - be - got - ten One,



The font of heav'n - ly wis - dom, Our trust and hope se - cure,  
Who wave their palms in tri - umph And fire us for the fight.  
And at the hour ap - point - ed He rose tri - um - phant - ly.  
All hon - or be to Je - sus, His sole - be - got - ten Son,



The ar - mor of His sol - diers, The Lord of earth and sky,  
Then Christ the cross as - cend - ed To save a world un - done  
And now, to heav'n as - cend - ed, He sits up - on the throne  
And to the Ho - ly Spir - it— The per - fect Trin - i - ty.



Our health while we are liv - ing, Our life when we shall die.  
And, suf - f'ring for the sin - ful, Our full re - demp - tion won.  
Whence He had ne'er de - part - ed, His Fa - ther's and His own.  
Let all the worlds give an - swer: A - men! So let it be.

Text: attr. Columba, 521–597; tr. Duncan MacGregor, 1854–1923, alt.  
Tune: Irish  
Text and tune: Public domain

## 534 Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor



1 Lord, en - throned in heav'n - ly splen - dor, First - be - got - ten  
 2 Though the low - liest form now veil You As of old in  
 3 Pas - chal Lamb, Your of - f'ring, fin - ished Once for all when  
 4 Life - im - part - ing heav'n - ly man - na, Strick - en rock with



from the dead, You a - lone, our strong de - fend - er,  
 Beth - le - hem, Here as there Your an - gels hail You,  
 You were slain, In its full - ness un - di - min - ished  
 stream - ing side, Heav'n and earth with loud ho - san - na



Lift - ing up Your peo - ple's head. Al - le - lu - ia,  
 Branch and flow'r of Jes - se's stem. Al - le - lu - ia,  
 Shall for - ev - er - more re - main, Al - le - lu - ia,  
 Wor - ship You, the Lamb who died, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus, true and  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! We in wor - ship  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Cleans - ing souls from  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Ris'n, as - cend - ed,



liv - ing bread! Je - sus, true and liv - ing bread!  
 join with them; We in wor - ship join with them.  
 ev - 'ry stain; Cleans - ing souls from ev - 'ry stain.  
 glo - ri - fied! Ris'n, as - cend - ed, glo - ri - fied!

Text: George H. Bourne, 1840-1925, alt.  
 Tune: William Owen, 1813-93  
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

## Thank the Lord

LSB 181



☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev - 'ry-one what



He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -



joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re - calls His prom - is -



es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -



**Post-Communion Collect**

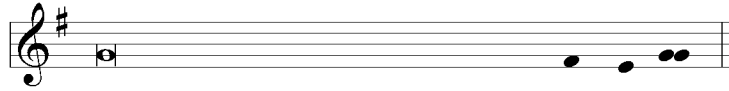
**A** Let us pray.

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** A - men.

**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.



**C** A - men.

**548 Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious**



1 Thanks to Thee, O Christ, vic - to - rious! Thanks to Thee, O  
 2 Thou hast died for my trans - gres - sion, All my sins on  
 3 For the joy Thine ad - vent gave me, For Thy ho - ly,



Lord of Life! Death hath now no pow - er o'er us,  
 Thee were laid; Thou hast won for me sal - va - tion,  
 pre - cious Word; For Thy Bap - tism, which doth save me,



Thou hast con - quered in the strife. Thanks be - cause Thou didst a -  
 On the cross my debt was paid. From the grave I shall a -  
 For Thy blest Com - mu - nion board; For Thy death, the bit - ter



rise And hast o - pened par - a - dise! None can ful - ly  
 rise And shall meet Thee in the skies. Death it - self is  
 scorn, For Thy res - ur - rec - tion morn, Lord, I thank Thee



sing the glo - ry Of the res - ur - rec - tion sto - ry.  
 tran - si - to - ry; I shall lift my head in glo - ry.  
 and ex - tol Thee, And in heav'n I shall be - hold Thee.

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942  
Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590–1667  
Text and tune: Public domain

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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