

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

For the kingdom of heaven is like a

LANDOWNER

WHO WENT OUT EARLY IN THE MORNING
TO HIRE LABORERS FOR HIS

VINEYARD.

MATTHEW 20:1, NRSV

SEPTEMBER 20th 2026

WELCOME

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Please sign the guest register in the entry
as you leave the church today.

TODAY'S SERVICE

September 20th 2026

Liturgy: Setting One, WS page 1

Speaker: Pastor Matthew Ude

Organist: Pam Schulz

Liturgy: Worship Supplement 2000 compiled and edited by John C Reim

Glory to God in the Highest – **Text:** Prepared by the International Consultation on English Texts, alt.

Tune and Setting: HYMN OF PRAISE: GLORY TO GOD by Michael A. Burkhardt. **Tune and Setting:** © 1995 Birnamwood Publications (ASCAP), a division of Morningstar Music Publishers, Inc.

Verse – **Text:** From *Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal*. © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House.

Tune and Setting: © 1993 Kermit G. Moldenhauer.

Offertory – **Tune and Setting:** © 2000 John C. Reim.

PRE-SERVICE DEVOTION

Psalm 27:1-9

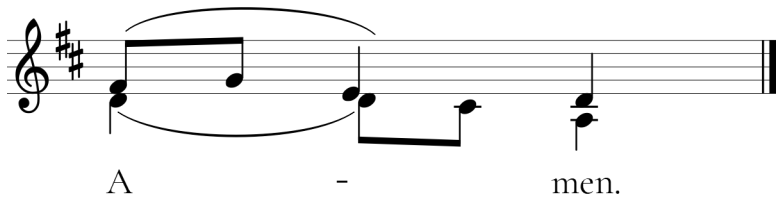
The LORD is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be
afraid? ² When the wicked came against me To eat up my
flesh, My enemies and foes, They stumbled and fell. ³ Though
an army may encamp against me, My heart shall not fear;
Though war should rise against me, In this I *will be* confi-
dent. ⁴ One *thing* I have desired of the LORD, That will I
seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the
days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to
inquire in His temple. ⁵ For in the time of trouble He shall
hide me in His pavilion; In the secret place of His tabernacle
He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock. ⁶ And
now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around
me; Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle; I
will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the LORD. ⁷ Hear, O
LORD, *when* I cry with my voice! Have mercy also upon me,
and answer me. ⁸ *When You said, "Seek My face,"* My heart
said to You, "Your face, LORD, I will seek." ⁹ Do not hide
Your face from me; Do not turn Your servant away in anger;
You have been my help; Do not leave me nor forsake me, O
God of my salvation.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

#377:1-3 Salvation Unto Us Has Come

INVOCATION

p In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



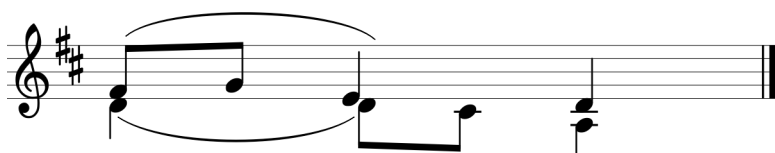
CONFESSION OF SINS

p Beloved of God: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him, in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

all Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer: we confess that we are sinful by nature, and have sinned

against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have not loved You above all things. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Have mercy on us, and, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us our sins.

p God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



Lord, have, mercy on us. Christ, have mercy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and
 peace to all peo-ple on earth. Lord God,
 heav-enly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther; We
 wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we
 praise You for Your glory. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly
 Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:
 You take away the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
 us. You are seated at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-

ceive our prayer For You alone are the Ho-ly One,
 You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High,
 Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it, in the glo-ry of
 God the Fa - ther. A - men.

p 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, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A - men.

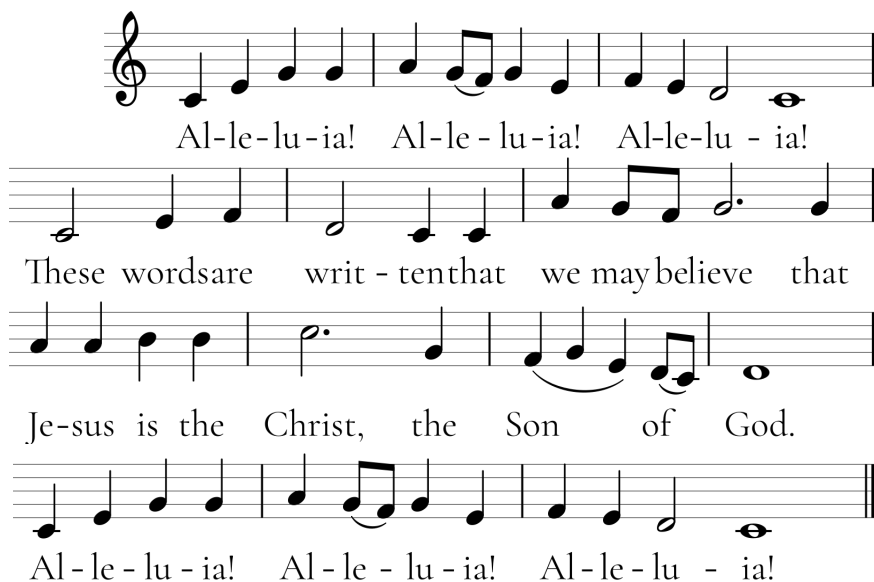
THE WORD

Isaiah 55:6-9 ⁶ Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near. ⁷ Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon. ⁸ "For My thoughts *are* not your thoughts, Nor *are* your ways My ways," says the LORD. ⁹ "For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.

Philippians 1:12-14,19-30 ¹² But I want you to know, brethren, that the things *which happened* to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel, ¹³ so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ; ¹⁴ and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . ¹⁹ For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, ²⁰ according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but

with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me, to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain. ²² But if *I* live on in the flesh, this *will mean* fruit from *my* labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³ For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, *which is* far better. ²⁴ Nevertheless to remain in the flesh *is* more needful for you. ²⁵ And being confident of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of faith, ²⁶ that your rejoicing for me may be more abundant in Jesus Christ by my coming to you again. ²⁷ Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸ and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that from God. ²⁹ For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, ³⁰ having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear *is* in me.

p Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it!



Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

These words are written that we may believe that

Je-sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

THE 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.

#496 Hark! The Voice of Jesus Calling

SERMON

Matthew 20:1-16 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² "Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ "And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ "and said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. ⁵ "Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did likewise. ⁶ "And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others

standing idle, and said to them, 'Why have you been standing here idle all day?' ⁷ "They said to him, 'Because no one hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right you will receive.' ⁸ "So when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, 'Call the laborers and give them *their* wages, beginning with the last to the first.' ⁹ "And when those came who *were hired* about the eleventh hour, they each received a denarius. ¹⁰ "But when the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise received each a denarius. ¹¹ "And when they had received *it*, they complained against the landowner, ¹² "saying, 'These last *men* have worked *only* one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the heat of the day.' ¹³ "But he answered one of them and said, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius?' ¹⁴ 'Take *what* is yours and go your way. I wish to give to this last man *the same* as to you. ¹⁵ 'Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?' ¹⁶ "So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen."

Unfairly Blessed

When God is gracious to others, we sometimes react with envy. We complain that God is being unfair. Yet his unfairness is to our benefit. It is our attitude that is evil and not God's grace.





not a - way from Your presence; take not Your Ho-ly
 Spir-it from me. Re - store to me the joy of Your sal-
 va - - - tion. Up -
 hold me with Your free Spir - it.

#447 Fight the Good Fight

Offering Hymn #442:2

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to yield Thee gladly, freely of
 Thine own, With the sunshine of Thy goodness melt our
 thankless hearts of stone. Till our cold and selfish natures,
 warmed by Thee, at length believe, That more happy and
 more blessed 'tis to give that to receive.

PRAYERS, THE LORD'S PRAYER

all 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 BENEDICTION

p The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



#377:6,7,9 Salvation Unto Us Has Come

Sermon Worksheet - Matthew 20:1-16

What reaction should we have towards God's grace?

What reactions do some have towards God's grace?

What reactions do the early workers have towards God's grace?

What is absurd about this parable?

What does this teach us about God's love?

Why should the early workers rejoice?

What is the meaning of "the first shall be last and the last first?"

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

9 am Worship Service
10 am Sunday School
10:15am Sunday School

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

3:45 Confirmation Class

FRIDAY, SEPTMEBER 25

Camping with Clyde

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

9am Confirmation Service
10 am Sunday School
10:15 Bible Class

FRUITS OF FAITH

Sunday Service – 61
Sunday General Fund - \$ 3480
Sunday Missions - \$ 115
Building Fund - \$ 50
CLC Building Fund - \$ 50
School Fund - \$ 20

USHERS FOR SEPTEMBER

Russ Brown, Jim Brown,
Mitch Newton, Kade Muelenhaupt

USHERS FOR OCTOBER

Bob Kirst, Greg Jones,
Bob McElroy, Randy Strelow

COUNTER

This Week Team #3

Bill Jenkins, Mitch Newton

Next Week Team #4

Dennis Jones, Preston Schmidt

NEXT WEEKS' READINGS

Ezek. 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalms 25:1-10

Phil. 2:1-4 (5-13) 14-18

Matt. 21:23-27 (28-32)

CALL NEWS

Pastor Zachary Sippert of Grace Ev. Lutheran Church, Sleepy Eye, MN, has received the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ.

Pastor Glenn Oster of Gift of God Lutheran Church, Fairfax, VA, has returned the call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA.

Pastor Chad Seybt of Morning Star Lutheran Church, Fairchild, WI, Peace with God Lutheran Church, Onalaska, WI, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Melrose, WI, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Millston, WI, has returned the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ.

Mr. Nick Naumann has returned the call to St. Luke's Ev. Lutheran Church, Lemmon, SD.

Pastor Tom Schuetze of St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church, Lakewood, CO, has returned the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI.

Pastor Matthew Hanel of St. Matthew Ev. Lutheran Church, Dallas, TX, has received the call to Gift of God Lutheran Church, Mapleton, ND, and to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ponsford, MN.

Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rapid City, SD, has received the call to St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, Austin, MN.

ANNIVERSARIES

Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Spokane Valley, WA, will be celebrating its 75th anniversary on September 20, 2026. President Michael Wilke will be the guest speaker.

Ascension Lutheran Church, Batavia, IL, will be celebrating its 60th anniversary on October 11, 2026. Pastor Emeritus David Schierenbeck will be the guest speaker.



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC)

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