

# SEASON OF PENTECOST



**Faith Lutheran Church**  
**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Parking Lot Service – 9:30 am**  
**September 27, 2020**

**PRELUDE  
WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, healer of our every ill, source of unending mercy. **Amen.**

Embraced in enduring grace and good hope, let us turn again to God, confessing the truth about ourselves. Merciful God, **we come before you, beloved but broken. We have not always treated others as we would want them to treat us. We have not always called out injustice and abuse. We have not always been kind to ourselves. We have not always taken care of the world we share with other living creatures. Remind us of who we are...beloved children bathed in your love. Renew us by your Spirit to live as your holy people, bringing healing to the brokenness around us. Amen.**

At every moment you are held in existence by the love of God, renewed by the Spirit within and among you, and made alive again in Christ. Receive this assurance in Jesus' name: you are † forgiven and freed to live for the healing of the world. **Amen.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

As people of Christ,	<b>We seek to be of the same mind as Christ.</b>
As people of Christ,	<b>We seek to have the same love as Christ.</b>
As people of Christ,	<b>We seek to do nothing out of selfish ambition.</b>
As people of Christ,	<b>We seek to look to the interests of others.</b>
As people of Christ,	<b>We come together to proclaim Jesus Christ is Lord!</b>
	<b>Let us worship joyfully!</b>

**GATHERING SONG**                      **Rock of Ages**                      **(v. 1-3)**                      **(pg. 9)**

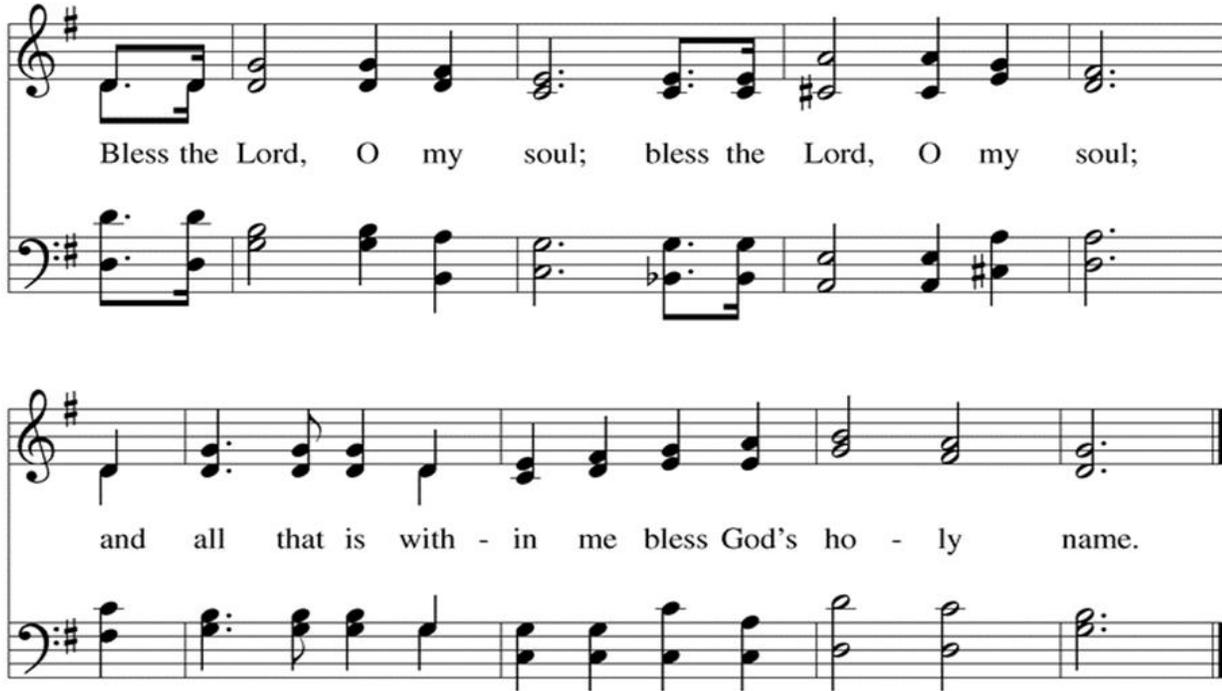
**THE INVOCATION**

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.**

**KYRIE**

Lord have mercy.	<b>Lord have mercy.</b>
Christ have mercy.	<b>Christ have mercy.</b>
Lord have mercy.	<b>Lord have mercy.</b>

## HYMN OF PRAISE



Bless the Lord, O my soul; bless the Lord, O my soul;

and all that is with - in me bless God's ho - ly name.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

## FIRST READING – Exodus 17:1-7

*Because the thirsty Israelites quarreled with Moses and put God to the test, Moses cried out in desperation to God. God commanded Moses to strike the rock to provide water for the people. The doubt-filled question—"Is the LORD among us or not?"—received a very positive answer.*

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## **PSALM 78:1-4, 12-16**

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

**I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,** things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

**We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.**

In the sight of their ancestors he worked marvels in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.

**He divided the sea and let them pass through it, and made the waters stand like a heap.**

In the daytime he led them with a cloud, and all night long with a fiery light.

**He split rocks open in the wilderness, and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.**

He made streams come out of the rock, and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

## **SECOND READING – Philippians 2:1-13**

*As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ's selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.*

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus:

*who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.*

*<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

## GOSPEL READING

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter. **Glory to you O Lord.**

### Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

*After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.*

<sup>23</sup>When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came 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 said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as 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 am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' <sup>29</sup>He answered, 'I will not'; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

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

## MESSAGE

**APOSTLES CREED (*in unison*)**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

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

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. In all the world, give your church unity. Inspire all the baptized with the mind of Christ. Where the church is powerful and where it struggles, shape us with humility and obedience so that your love may be at work in us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your Son took on all of bodily life in our world, even to death. Preserve and keep your creation, O God. Mend and redeem places that are polluted and damaged, so that all of creation confesses you as Lord. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn the nations toward life. Where our ways are unfair, give us new hearts and new spirits. Where sin permeates our cultures and institutions, change our minds and teach us to trust your authority. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Our lives are yours, O God. Relieve the suffering of those who are ill in body, mind, or spirit. Defend the lives and welfare of children who are abused or neglected, hungry or exploited, bullied or lonely. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn this congregation away from our own interests toward the interests of others. Fill us with your compassion and sympathy. Bless ministries of care in our community; make us into signs of your mercy and justice for our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Thank you for those who have gone into the kingdom ahead of us—tax collectors and prostitutes, likely and unlikely, obedient and slow to learn. By their witness, teach us to confess Jesus Christ as Lord in life and in death. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:** Eddie, Carol and Craig, Denis, Megan and Ron, Gertrude, George, Mike, Jennifer, Sue, Tina, Alex, Andrea, Ginger, Karen, Janet, Jacquie, Donna, Rachel, Jenn, Andrea, Ginger, Beverley, Mike, Deb, Cheryl, Richard, Lillian, Ben, Vincent, Bruce, Len, Mike, George.

## THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you. (Honk your horns)**

## OFFERTORY SONG



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right  
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

## OFFERING PRAYER

God our provider, we bring nothing into this world and we can take nothing out of it. Accept the gifts you have first given us, which we bring to your table, and with them the offering of our lives. Nourish us now with the life that really is life, revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**And also with you.**

**We lift them to the Lord.**

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

**We praise you, O God.**

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

**We bless you, O God.**

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

### **We thank you, O God.**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup and blessed it, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **Amen.**

**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.**

### **LAMB OF GOD**

☪ 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 mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

### **Invitation to Communion**

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come, take your place at the feast.

*Hold your cups by the rim, life up the thin film covering the wafer. "This is the body of Christ.... Given for you"*

*Still holding the cup by the rim, carefully peel back the second covering until you can drink the juice. "This is the blood of Christ... Shed for you"*

### **Communion Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and fill you with His peace. **Amen.**

### **Prayer After Communion**

God of blessing, at this table we have seen you face to face, and in the gift of Christ's body and blood, our hearts have been refreshed. Send us now to shine with your goodness and bear witness to the one we have received: Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **Blessing**

Go out from here as workers in God's upside-down kingdom, where the last are first and the first are last, and there is grace enough for all!

And may the blessing of God, (+) the love of Jesus Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit surround you and sustain you. **Amen.**

### **Sending Song            O Master Let Me Walk With You (v. 1-3) (p. 11)**

### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. Live in love as Christ loved us. **Thanks be to God.**



### **Stewardship Snippet:**

*Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. (Phil, 2:3-4)*

When we consider the interests of others something beautiful happens: Our own interests seem less important, our wants fewer, and relationships flourish. Only by aligning our wills and lives with Christ may we grow into the fullness of life God desires and intends for us.

(V. 1-3)

## Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;  
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;  
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.  
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

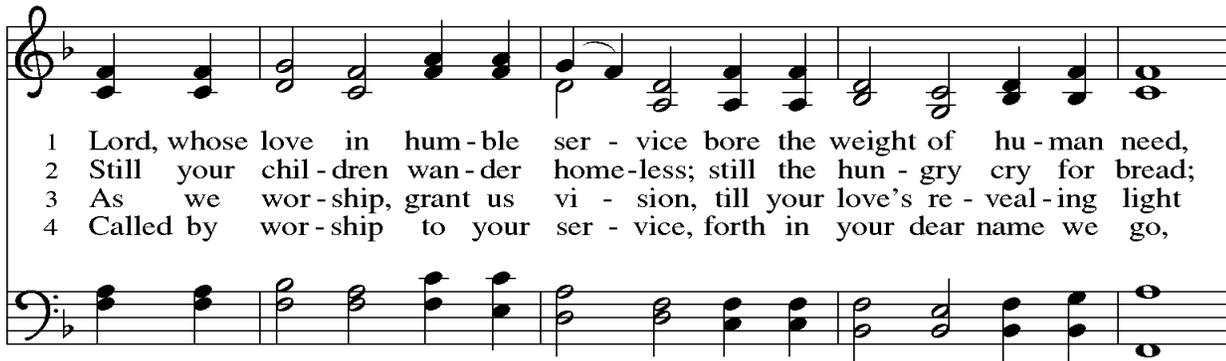
let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,  
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;  
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.  
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.  
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778  
Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872

(V. 1-3)

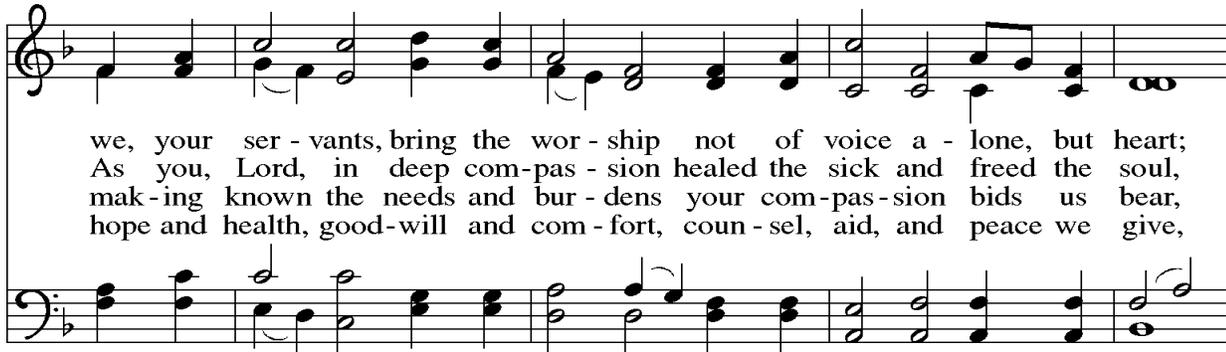
## Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



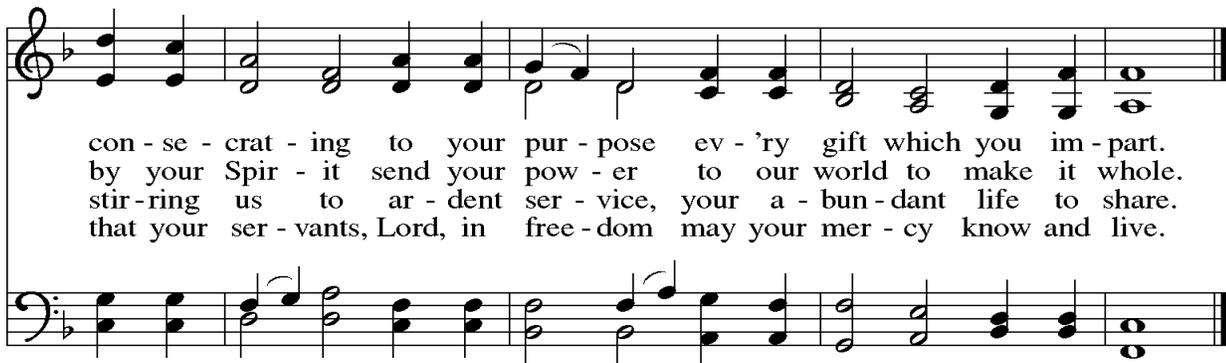
1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,  
2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;  
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal - ing light  
4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer - cy's per - fect deed:  
still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
in its height and depth and great - ness dawns up - on our quick - ened sight,  
to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;  
As you, Lord, in deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
mak - ing known the needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear,  
hope and health, good - will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,



con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.  
by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.  
stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.  
that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984  
Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844; arr. *Selected Hymns*, 1985  
Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.  
Arr. © 1985 Augsburg Fortress.

(V. 1-3)

## O Master, Let Me Walk with You

1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly  
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,  
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,  
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the

paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;  
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward  
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith  
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly

help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.  
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.  
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,  
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt.  
Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

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