

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Divine Service III LSB pages 184-202

L = Liturgist * = Stand C = Congregation

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***OPENING HYMN**

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

LSB 802

1. **Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible, hid from our eyes.
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.**
2. **Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**
3. **To all life Thou givest - to both great and small -
In all life Thou livest, the true Life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree
And wither and perish - but naught changes Thee.**
4. **Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render: O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light that hides Thee.**

***INVOCATION AND GENERAL CONFESSION**

L: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **✠ Amen.**

L: Blessed are the poor in spirit, who hunger and thirst after righteousness, who mourn their sinful condition.

C: **For they shall possess the Kingdom of God, be satisfied with the mercy of God, and enjoy the grace of His forgiveness.**

L: Almighty God, our Creator and Redeemer,

C: **We come to You, confessing that we are by nature separated from You and that we have often sinned against You by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We turn to You for mercy and ask Your forgiveness for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Empower us by the aid of Your Holy Spirit to serve You and do Your will on earth. Amen.**

***THE ABSOLUTION**

C: **✠ Amen.**

***THE GLORIA PATRI** (Taken from LSB, page 186)

C: **✠ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

***THE KYRIE**

C: **✠ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

***THE COLLECT OF THE DAY**

L: The Lord be with you.

C: 🎶 And with thy spirit.

L: Let us pray.

C: 🎶 Amen.

THE FIRST READING for the eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost is from Amos 8:4-7, pages 769-770: (5, 8, 10:30)

⁴Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, ⁵saying, "When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, ⁶that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and sell the chaff of the wheat?" ⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: "Surely I will never forget any of their deeds."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: 🎶 Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE READING is from 1Timothy 2:1-6, page 991:

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. ³This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

***ALLELUIA AND VERSE**

C: 🎶 Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL** - according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter, verses 1-15, page 875:

C: 🎶 Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹He also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. ²And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.'³And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.'⁵So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.'⁷Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.'⁸The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings. ¹⁰"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: 🎶 Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

***THE 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 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 of the world to come. Amen.

SERMON HYMN

Today Your Mercy Calls Us

LSB 915

1. Today Your mercy calls us To wash away our sin.
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been,
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away.
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.
2. Today Your gate is open, And all who enter in
Shall find a Father's welcome And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv'n,
A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav'n.
3. Today our Father calls us, His Holy Spirit waits;
His blessed angels gather Around the heav'nly gates.
No question will be asked us How often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father's home.
4. O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,
What should we do without You When heart and eye run o'er?
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.

THE SERMON

"Repentant Rejoicing"

(I Tim. 2:4; Luke 15:10)

THE OFFERING - *During the offering all worshipers are asked to fill out the blue or ivory cards found in the pew rack. Please pass cards down to center aisle. They will be collected immediately after the offering.*

VOLUNTARY

*THE OFFERTORY LSB page 192

♫ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*LORD'S PRAYER (Found in the back cover of the hymnal.)

*THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: ♫ Amen.

*THE AGNUS DEI LSB page 198

♫ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

An Awe-full Mystery is Here

1. An awe-full mystery is here To challenge faith and waken fear;
The Savior comes as food divine Concealed in earthly bread and wine.

2. **The world is loveless—but above, What wondrous boundlessness of love!
The King of Glory stoops to me My spirit’s life and strength to be.**

3. **In consecrated wine and bread No eye perceives the myst’ry dread;
But Jesus’ words are strong and clear: “My body and My blood are here.”**

4. **How dull are all the pow’rs of sense Employed on proofs of love immense!
The richest food remains unseen, And highest gifts appear—how mean!**

5. **But here we have no boon on earth, And faith alone discerns its worth;
The Word not sense, must be our guide, And faith assure, since sight’s denied.**

6. **Lord, show us still that Thou art good And grant us evermore this food.
Give faith to every way’ring soul And make each wounded spirit whole.**

OTHER DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 801, 609, 664

NUNC DIMITTIS - Song of Simeon Luke 2:29-32

LSB page 199

♪ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

L: Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

C: **♪ And His mercy endureth forever.**

L: Let us pray.

C: **♪ Amen.**

L: The Lord be with you

C: **♪ And with Thy Spirit.**

L: Bless we the Lord.

C: **♪ Thanks be to God.**

*THE BENEDICTION

C: **♪ Amen. Amen. Amen.**

*THE RECESSIONAL HYMN

God Loved the World

TLH 245

1. **God loved the world so that He came, Eternal life we would attain,
To Him, O blessed Trinity, Be praise through all eternity.**

2. **Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To Him, O blessed Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!**

*SILENT PRAYER / POSTLUDE + + + + +

NEWS AND NOTES:

THE 18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

CHRIST'S TRUE BODY AND BLOOD, given and shed in His passion for the forgiveness of sins, are really present in, with, and under the bread and the wine in the Sacrament of the Altar and are given to and received by those who commune. Confirmed church members who are of one faith with us are invited to the Lord's table. Please register by marking the attendance card in the pew rack.

TODAY'S EDUCATION HOUR: 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

Adult Bible Class (Lower Commons): Early Church History

Bible Study for 18 - 25 Year Olds (Former Sanctuary Overflow Room): Discussions led by group members with mentors present.

Women's Bible Class (Office Conf. Rm.): led by Janice McCreary

Youth Bible Class: led by Christina Stackle, DCE

8th Grade Youth: led by Rick Goodman

7th Grade Youth: led by Greg Wirtel and Louise Oster

PLEASE SILENCE ALL CELL PHONES.

HEARING ASSIST TRANSMITTERS are available from the ushers. Ear pieces are available although we suggest you bring your own.

PLEASE KEEP FOOD & DRINK consumption inside the Gym.

ALTAR FLOWERS are from the Wolters family in honor of Ralph's "special" birthday on Sept. 14th; and from Mary Bentrup in loving memory of what would have been her and Bob's 59th wedding anniversary.

HONG KONG SUPPORT - Stop by the Welcome Center **this Saturday evening** and in the gym on Sunday to see how you can help our Hong Kong Mission Team meet our support for 2017. Signing up for \$72 a year will assist us in meeting our goal!

GREEN PARK FALL FESTIVAL – OCTOBER 1 Join us for the Green Park Fall Festival on October 1, 3:00-6:00 p.m. at Green Park Lutheran School. The whole family can enjoy an afternoon of face-painting, bobbing for apples, a chili cook-off, and many more treats and activities!

GREEN PARK GRANDPARENTS DAY will be Friday, October 7. Join us for chapel, refreshments, and a chance to see your grandchild(ren)'s classroom!

INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY session Tuesday, September 27 at Concordia Seminary on "Transgenderism and the Christian Witness" by Dr. Robert Wiese. Information: www.StPaulsDesPeres.org.

YOUTH NEWS: Junior Youth will help lead a worship service at Bethesda today from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Meet at the east entrance after Sunday School to carpool.

CANCELLED—TODAY'S CONCERT AT PEACE, September 18, 7:00 p.m. with legendary tubist Gene Pokorny, Principal Tuba with Chicago Symphony, is cancelled.

DELAWARE ORGANIST Jackson Borges will present a recital Sunday, October 2nd at 3:00 p.m. Invite family and friends to hear the acclaimed organist play our acclaimed Martin Ott Pipe Organ.

NEW DAYTIME ADULT HANDBELL ENSEMBLE is being formed. The Glocken Ringers is our newest Adult Handbell Ensemble. The group will meet on Wednesdays from 1:00 - 2:00 pm beginning October 5. The group will present music in worship as selections are prepared. No prior music or handbell knowledge is needed to participate in this fun group. You will be taught everything you need to know. Membership is open to the community at large.

PLANNING FOR A LIFETIME SEMINAR Coming soon – Saturday, October 8 beginning at 9:30 a.m. and Monday, October 10 starting at 6:30 p.m. Sign-up sheet and more information at the Welcome Center in the Commons.

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2016:

Mon: 3:30 GP Volleyball
Tue: 9:00 Quilters
6:00 Property Management
Wed: 9:00 TPL Assembly
11:00 South County Senior Citizens
4:00 5/6/7/8 Gr. Conf. Class
7:00 Wednesday Bible Study
Thu: 9:00 Mary/Martha Bible Study
6:30 ESL Classes
Sat: 8:00 Boy Scout Leader Training
5:00 Worship Service
Sun:8/9:20/10:30 Worship Services