

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 19, 2021 10:30 a.m.



Watch our Chapel Service on Channel 105

Order of Worship

Prelude

Be Thou My Vision

Rachel C.

Words of Welcome and Introduction

Confession

Faithful and just God,

We confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change us, that we may know your abundant life in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

Forgiveness

In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and inspire you to live for others. **Amen.**

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

ELW 588

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice,
Which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
Are more felt than up in heav'n.

There is no place where earth's failings
Have such kindly judgment giv'n.

There is welcome for the sinner,
And a promised grace made good;
There is mercy with the Savior;
There is healing in his blood.
There is grace enough for thousands
Of new worlds as great as this;
There is room for fresh creations
In that upper home of bliss.

For the love of God is broader
Than the measure of our mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.
But we make this love too narrow
By false limits of our own,
And we magnify its strictness
With a zeal God will not own.

'Tis not all we owe to Jesus;
It is something more than all:
Greater good because of evil,
Larger mercy through the fall.
Make our love, O God, more faithful;
Let us take you at your word,
And our lives will be thanksgiving
For the goodness of the Lord.

3

Greeting

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.

Canticle of Praise

ELW, pages 149-150

Refrain:

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia.**

Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
And honor and blessing and glory are his. **Refrain:**

Sing with all the people of God
And join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might
To God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God,
For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia. Alleluia.



Prayer of the Day

Plough

Lord our God, we know that we are your children, and in this certainty we gather in your presence as a community. Grant us your Spirit, the Spirit who works in us and frees us from the many evils that still torment us. Be with us and let the power of your great grace and mercy be in our hearts so that we may gain the victory and lead joyful lives on earth in spite of our many shortcomings, blunders, and sins. For your grace is great, much greater than all our failings. You are our God and Father, and we want to keep our consciences clear today and always through your grace. Amen.

First Reading – Jeremiah 11:18-20

It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, *Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!* But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

5

Psalm 54

Save me, O God, by your name, and vindicate me by your might.

Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.

For the insolent have risen against me, the ruthless seek my life; they do not set God before them.

But surely, God is my helper; the Lord is the upholder of my life.

He will repay my enemies for their evil. In your faithfulness, put an end to them.

With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O Lord, for it is good.

For he has delivered me from every trouble, and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

Second Reading – James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly,

unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

ELW, page 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Gospel – Mark 9:30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, *The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.* But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, *What were you arguing about on the way?* But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, *Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.* Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, *Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.*

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Greatest

Pr. Mandsager



Children of the Heavenly Father

ELW 781

Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in his bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given.

God his own doth tend and nourish,
In his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them,
In his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord his children sever;
Unto them his grace he showeth,
And their sorrows all he knoweth.

Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.



Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, tr. Ernst W. Olson; **Music:** Swedish Folk Tune. Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America.

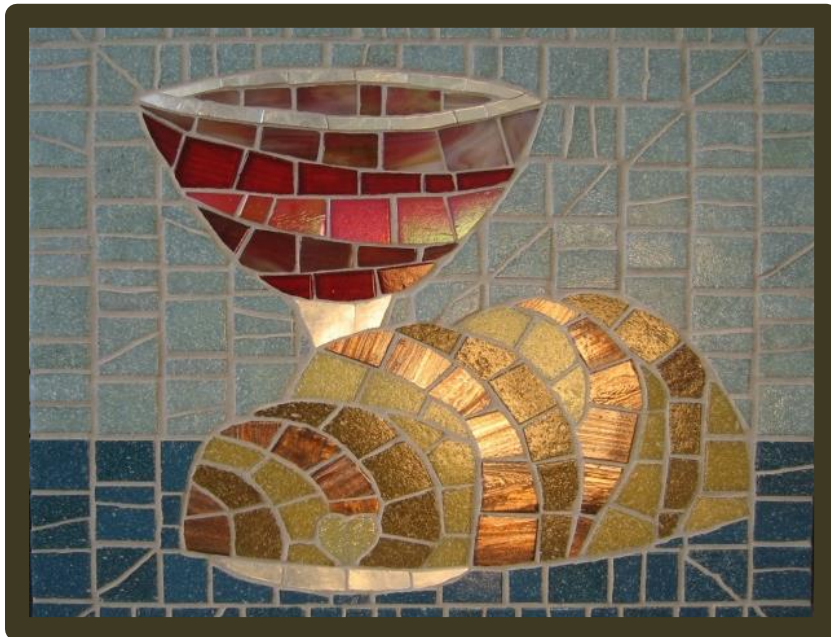
Prayers of the Church

Richard Einerson, alt.

Offertory *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee* Rachel C.



HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE



Invitation and Instruction for Communion at Home

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

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.**

Communion Distribution

Communion Song *Lamb of God* ELW, page 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
Grant us peace, grant us peace.

Prayer

Oh, grant us then, well-strengthened with heav'nly food
while here, our course on earth is lengthened, to serve you
free from fear; and bring us home to praise you where none
can peace destroy, where we will ever raise you glad songs
in endless joy. **Amen.**

The Spirit Sends Us Forth To Serve

ELW 551

The Spirit sends us forth to serve;
We go in Jesus' name
To bring glad tidings to the poor,
God's favor to proclaim.

(Turn page)

11

We go to comfort those who mourn
And set the burdened free;
Where hope is dim, to share a dream
And help the blind to see.

We go to be the hands of Christ,
To scatter joy like seed and,
All our days, to cherish life,
To do the loving deed.

Then let us go to serve in peace,
The Gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us;
We go in Jesus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner; **Music:** attr. Thomas Haweis; **Text** © 1993 Delores Dufner, admin. OCP Publications

Blessing

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. **Amen.**

Dismissal

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

Postlude *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* Rachel C.



The Basket of Apples ~ Paul Cézanne



CELEBRATING *50 years*

*Liturgy used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #14651-LIT.
Hymns reprinted under OneLicense.net A-716303.*

**The Reverend Michael Mandsager, Director of Spiritual Care, Chaplain
(507) 664-3478
mmandsager@northfieldretirement.org**

**Christiana Adams, Spiritual Care Assistant (507) 650-7331
cadams@northfieldretirement.org**