

Christ Lutheran

October 17, 2021



The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

Opening Hymn

"God Himself Is Present" LSB 907

Invocation, Confession, & Absolution

P O Lord, open my lips,

C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C make haste to help me, O Lord.

P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

C as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P O Lord, have mercy.

C O Christ, have mercy.

P O Lord, have mercy.

C Hear my prayer, O Lord; let my cry come to You.

P In the day of my trouble I will call upon You,

C for You answer me.

P Hide Your face from my sins,

C and blot out all my iniquities.

P Create in me a clean heart, O God,

C and renew a right spirit within me.

P Cast me not away from Your presence,

C and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

P Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,

C and uphold me with a willing spirit.

P Because Your steadfast love is better than life,

C my lips will praise You.

P For You have been my help,

C and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.

P Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;

C unite my heart to fear Your name.

P I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,

C and I will glorify Your name forever.

P May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.

C May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

P Save Your people and bless Your heritage!

C Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

P Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;

C **listen to my plea for grace.**

The Old Testament Lesson

Ecclesiastes 5:10-20

He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep.

There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand. This also is a grievous evil: just as he came, so shall he go, and what gain is there to him who toils for the wind? Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness in much vexation and sickness and anger.

Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Lesson

Hebrews 4:1-16

Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it. For good news came to us just as to them, but the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith with those who listened. For we who have believed enter that rest, as he has said,

"As I swore in my wrath, 'They shall not enter my rest,'"

although his works were finished from the foundation of the world. For he has somewhere spoken of the seventh day in this way: "And God rested on the seventh day from all his works." And again in this passage he said,

"They shall not enter my rest."

Since therefore it remains for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, again he appoints a certain day, "Today," saying through David so long afterward, in the words already quoted, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts."

For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

📖 This is the Word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

The Holy Gospel

Mark 10:23-31

And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." Peter began to say to him, "See, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

📖 This is the Gospel of our Lord.

🙏 **Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia!**

The Affirmation of Faith

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.

Message Hymn

"O Bless the Lord, My Soul" LSB 814

Message

"Entering the Kingdom of God"

We Go to God in Prayer

☩ Lord, in Your mercy:

☩ Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

☩ Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to 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.

Sending

P Having tasted and seen that the Lord is good,

C **Let us go forward: living in joy, peace, and unity, and sharing His love.**

P The Lord be with you,

C **and also with you!**

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P The Lord bless you... and give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

"Today Your Mercy Calls Us" LSB 915

The service is over...the worship begins! Romans 12:1

The Hymnal Project

"In early 2017, a group of artists, arrangers, and liturgists, led by Peter Prochnow, were commissioned through the Michigan District, LCMS to create several new hymn arrangements, based on the original music, intended to facilitate enhanced worship in a multitude of modern musical contexts.

The spirit of the project is simple: Hymns are arranged with various instrumentations and made available free of charge, in the form of a lead sheet and reference recording, so whether you learn by reading or by hearing, you can easily implement these arrangements and modify for your context without cost.

We are grateful for the generosity of the donors, Carl and Patsy Fabry, in partnership with the Michigan District, LCMS."

The hymn videos used during worship can be found here: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/6931887>

Visual Faith Ministry

The art you see used in our bulletins is brought to you by Visual Faith Ministry. In the fall of 2017 - Visual Faith Ministry was Co-Founded with Patricia Maier. Visual Faith Ministry is the endeavor of Connie Denninger and Pat Maier to create an online collaborative center that brings together free Visual Faith tools and resources. It adds visual, kinesthetic, and tactile adaptations that make meaning for us in our daily lives, and helps to answer the question - What does this mean for me?

