



THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 18, 2026 | 8:00 AND 10:30 AM
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH; CONCORDIA, MO

ABOUT TODAY'S WORSHIP

Classes have resumed, and students, families, faculty, and staff have settled into the routine of a new school year. In our worship during these early-autumn months, we focus on Jesus as teacher, explaining life in the Kingdom of God. *This is Part 8 of a year-long series, "A Year in Matthew."*

P Pastor **C** Congregation/All

✙ All may make the sign of the cross to remember their baptism.



Led by the Holy Spirit, we gather for worship.
We are prepared for worship through Confession and Absolution.

PRELUDE & WELCOME

OPENING HYMN 822 *"Alleluia! Let Praises Ring"*

CONFESSION OF SINS & FORGIVENESS *Psalm 124:8; 32:5*

P In the name of the Father and of the ✙ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✙ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

INTROIT | Entrance *Psalm 121:1–4, 7–8; antiphon: v. 5*

P The LORD is your keeper;

C the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

P I lift up my eyes to the hills.

C From where does my help come?

P My help comes from the LORD,

C who made heaven and earth.

P He will not let your foot be moved;

C he who keeps you will not slumber.

P Behold, he who keeps Israel

C will neither slumber nor sleep.

P The LORD will keep you from all evil;

C he will keep your life.

P The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in

C from this time forth and forevermore.

GLORIA PATRI | Glory to the Father *For text and tune, see page 186.*

C (sung) 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.

KYRIE | Lord, Have Mercy *Mark 10:47*

For text and tune, see page 186.

C (sung) Lord, have mercy upon us
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS | Glory to God in the Highest *Luke 2:14; John 1:29*

For text and tune, see pages 187–189.

P (sung) Glory be to God on high:

C and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

For text and tune, see page 189.

P (sung) The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

VERSE OF THE MONTH *James 3:17–18*

C The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.



We hear God's Word read and proclaimed,
and we respond with our prayers and praise, tithes and offerings.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 45:1–7*

God will use the Persian king Cyrus to rescue His people from exile in Babylon and return them to their home.

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed:

²"I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,

and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, ⁶that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the LORD, who does all these things."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 Thessalonians 1:1–10*

In the introduction to his first letter to the Thessalonian Christians, St. Paul commends their faith and the example they have given for others.

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in
God the Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

ALLELUIA VERSE *For text with music, see page 190.*

C (sung) Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 22:15–22*

Followers of Jesus are part of two realms—one political, the other heavenly. We owe obedience to both as our first allegiance is to God who is over all things earthly and heavenly.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.



C Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk.

¹⁶And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone’s

opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius.

²⁰And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” ²¹They said, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Therefore render to Caesar the things

that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

CREED *See the inside back cover of the hymnal.*

SERMON HYMN 525 “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

SERMON *Glimpses of God’s Kingdom: “Two Kingdoms”*

OFFERTORY *Psalm 51:10–12; for text and tune, see page 192.*

C 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.

GATHERING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

All may sign the friendship register found in each pew.

Music during the offering

VOLUNTARY “Psalm 121” setting by Michael Bedford

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

*The 10:30 am service concludes with the Lord’s Prayer, Benediction,
and Closing Hymn 549, “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name.”*



We receive God's gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation
as we share the Sacrament of the Altar.

The 8:00 am service continues with the Preface on page 194 in the hymnal.

We believe that in the Lord's Supper our Lord gives to us His true body and blood with the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of our sins. We recognize the charge that St. Paul offers in 1 Corinthians 11:27–28 that those who come to receive the Lord's Supper ought to examine themselves so that they do not eat and drink in an unworthy manner. Therefore, out of concern for those who have not been instructed in the faith or who hold to a different confession, we ask that only members of Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregations receive the Sacrament. If you would like to learn more about what our congregation teaches, to inquire about becoming a member or have questions about our practice, please speak to one of the pastors. Adults and children who have not yet been baptized or instructed in the Christian faith are invited to come forward and receive a spoken blessing at the altar rail; please indicate this by crossing your arms across your chest.

For those who require it, diluted wine is found in the purple glasses in the center of the tray of individual cups; gluten free wafers are available upon request.

Music during distribution:

HYMN 781 “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

HYMN 782 “Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings”

(You may remain seated for v. 4.)

HYMN 732 “All Depends on Our Possessing”



Even as this time of worship ends, we go out of the church into the worship
of our everyday lives, ready to be God's witnesses and do His will.

*The service concludes with the Nunc Dimittis, Thanksgiving, Salutation and
Benedicamus, and Benediction on pages 199–202.*

CLOSING HYMN 549 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

ANNOUNCEMENTS, SENDING & POSTLUDE

P Go in peace; serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

This week's takeaway: Jesus calls us to give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God. Because we belong to Christ by God's grace, we can live out our faith in everyday life by fulfilling our civic responsibilities and caring for our neighbors, while putting our trust and allegiance in God above all else.

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SERVING IN THIS SERVICE

Rev. Andrew Lehenbauer, *Liturgist*

Rev. Michael Pottschmidt, *Preacher*

Katie Drefs, *Organist*

Claire Martens, Evelyn Pottschmidt, Myka Sullivan, *Vocalists (8:00 am)*

Titus Drefs, Makenna Lange, Annika Pottschmidt, *Vocalists (10:30 am)*

Drake Fiene, Adam Harper, *Acolytes (8:00 am)*

Isaac Arnett, Titus Drefs, *Acolytes (10:30 am)*

Tim & Robin Kerkisick, *Greeters (8:00 am)*

Richard & Linda Strobel, *Greeters (10:30 am)*

Tim Bauer, Mark Heins, Russ Kruse, *Elders on Duty*

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please contact the church office to keep our prayer list up-to-date.

Our pastor "on call" number in case of emergency is (660) 580-5483.

New: Christopher Hess, Daniel Schwiebert, Chet Fiene, Gloria Driver, Brenda Frerking, Rebecca Camp, Wilmer Ziegelbein, Arleen Fiene, Annette Kirchhoff, Sarah McDaniel, Royce Herndon, Hudson Kloos, Lisa Arnett, Joyce Kroll, Rev. Dr. Les Mitkos

Ongoing: Kevin Crawford, Nicole Maxwell, Ann Wolters, Susan Reeves, Richard Cordes, Diane Stumpfenhaus, Les Bruns, Wilmer Bredehoeft, Melba Poese, Paul Brackman, Baby Felix, Gene Virus, Harry Rehkop, Jon Spells, Roger Kammeyer, Ledrue Brandt, Alyssa Pfannkuch, Alice Hildebrand, Rev. Perry Copus, Darla Wolters, Vickie Greene, Amy Gerds, Tim Bergman, Amy Backus, David Rehmsmeyer, Lari Huntze, Kelly Meyer, Shirley Kimball

Nation and World: the people Zambia; those affected by earthquakes, wildfires, storms and flooding

Partners in Mission: Trinity Lutheran Church; Kearney, MO; Lutheran Women in Mission

Birthdays: (10/18) Gracie Brackman, JaeSi Hentges, Todd Kanoy, Ryan Maggert, Kimberly Riedl, Mary Jolene Wienberg; (10/19) Lisa Arnett, Jeff Martens, Jemma Oetting; (10/20) Allan Hentges, Terisa Heevner, Scout Larsen; (10/21) Ryan

Cooper, Jr, Beth Lange, Gerald Maggert, Harry Rehkop, Jr, Alex Spells, Silas Visentin; (10/22) John Burman, Crystal Cooper, Hannah Hentges, Jerry Meyer, Ben Renno, Rick Ryder; (10/23) James Mills, Wyatt Sinclair; (10/24) Andrew Oetting
Anniversaries: (10/18) Jody & Erica Heimsoth, Brian & Donna Maddox, Greg & Darlene Meyer; (10/19) James & Linda Hemme; (10/20) Jacob & Blair Hunter; (10/21) Gary & Jennifer Bredehoeft; (10/23) Gene & Janelle Virus; (10/24) Mitchell & Kylie Dittmer

FAMILY FOOTNOTES

Gina Martens, Family Life Director

This past weekend, I took the time to actually walk around my house, down to the barn, and tour what is left of my tomato plants. It had been awhile since I had taken the time to do that. Maybe that should tell me something. “Unrushing” our lives is hard though, isn’t it? It means we have to slow down, and slowing down sounds unproductive. Sitting still or walking at a normal pace seems like a waste of time, or is it? In order for us to slow down, we have to give something up. “What could I possibly give up?” I’ll let you answer that question. When my girls were little, I did a much better job of keeping an unhurried pace because their wonder and amazement was found in the little things. I loved that season of life (although sometimes I secretly wished we could walk faster). Now that they have their own schedules and our calendars fill up, I want it to slow down. I don’t want us to miss those little things in life; the things that God gives us each and everyday that we oh so often miss because we are too busy. It’s those little things that God tucks into the nooks and crannies of my day that make me smile. That means I also need to lead by example. Of course we all have responsibilities, and God wants us to use our abilities accordingly for Him, but the trick is to balance those and to consult God along the way ... daily, in fact. “Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always” 1 Chronicles 16:11. May you enjoy, this day, the blessings of the One who loves you completely.

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK’S WORSHIP

Revelation 14:6–7; Romans 3:19–28; Matthew 22:34–46
Hymns (*Lutheran Service Book*): 656 (*My First Hymnal* 98),
582, 708, 575, 694, 865, 556, 655 (*My First Hymnal* 97)

“Making a Christ-centered difference in our community and world today and for eternity.”

ST. PAUL’S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

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