

# TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 24

October 22, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.

## AS WE GATHER

The most profound comfort lies in the assurance that God is always working out His purpose no matter the circumstances or the people. God’s saving purpose cannot be thwarted. Isaiah lived in an age of bad news and despair, but he was confident that God could overcome them all. In the short term, this redemption came through an unlikely messianic figure named Cyrus. At the appointed time, however, the true Messiah would come and save Israel and all who trust in Him. God is in charge—not just of the ups and downs of this world’s good and bad news but for the sake of His saving work. Jesus’ power is greater than every other power, and His saving purpose will prevail. This is our comfort.

## HYMN “Speak O Lord” -Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

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1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You  
To receive the food of Your holy word.  
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,  
That the light of Christ might be seen today  
In our acts of love and our deeds of fath.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us  
All your purposes, for Your glory.

2. Teach us Lord full obedience,  
Holy reverence, true humility.  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
In the radiance of Your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of pow’r that can never fail;  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,  
That will echo down through eternity.  
And by grace we’ll stand on Your promises;  
And by faith we’ll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built  
And the earth is filled with Your glory.

## INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 121:2, 7*

Pastor: My help comes from the LORD,

**People: who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: The LORD will keep you from all evil;

**People: He will keep your life.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

**People: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**People: Amen.**

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

Leader: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand.

**People: I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?**

Leader: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

**People: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.**

Leader: Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

**People: The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.**

Leader: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Leader: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand.

## KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE “Holy, Holy, Holy” sts. 1, 4 *LSB* 507

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessèd Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessèd Trinity!

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## **SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, Your Word and will are accomplished despite the enemies of Your purpose and through the unlikely means of those indifferent to You. Encourage us when we are quick to judge and slow to believe, that we may never forget the triumph of Your saving purpose in Your Son; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Isaiah 45:1–7* (“I am the LORD, and there is no other.”)

Thus 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: “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, I 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. For 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. I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, that 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. I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the Lord, who does all these things.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM** *Psalm 96; antiphon: v. 9a*

Leader: Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

**People: Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!**

Leader: Sing to the LORD, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day.

**People: Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples!**

Leader: For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods.

**People: For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens.**

Leader: Splendor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.

**People: Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!**

Leader: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come into His courts!

**People: Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before Him, all the earth!**

Leader: Say among the nations, “The LORD reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; He will judge the peoples with equity.”

**People: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it!**

Leader: Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD, for He comes, for He comes to judge the earth.

**People: He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in His faithfulness.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Leader: Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

**EPISTLE** *1 Thessalonians 1:1–10* (Become imitators of us and of the Lord.) Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, because 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. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For 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. For 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, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**VERSE** *Colossians 2:10*

Pastor: Alleluia. You have been filled in Him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

**People: Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** Matthew 22:15–22 (“Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”)

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

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. And 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. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” They 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.” When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us” *LSB* 851

1 Lord of glory, You have bought us

With Your lifeblood as the price,

Never grudging for the lost ones

That tremendous sacrifice;

And with that have freely given

Blessings countless as the sand

To the unthankful and the evil

With Your own unsparing hand.

2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You

Gladly, freely of Your own.

With the sunshine of Your goodness

Melt our thankless hearts of stone

Till our cold and selfish natures,

Warmed by You, at length believe

That more happy and more blessèd

’Tis to give than to receive.

3        Wondrous honor You have given  
      To our humblest charity  
In Your own mysterious sentence,  
      “You have done it all to Me.”  
Can it be, O gracious Master,  
      That You deign for alms to sue,  
Saying by Your poor and needy,  
      “Give as I have giv’n to you”?

4        Lord of glory, You have bought us  
      With Your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones  
      That tremendous sacrifice.  
Give us faith to trust You boldly,  
      Hope, to stay our souls on You;  
But, oh, best of all Your graces,  
      With Your love our love renew.  
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## **SERMON**

### **CREED**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

### **OFFERING**

*We offer our gifts to the Lord as we use this time in our service for contemplation and preparation for the sacrament of communion. Offerings can be placed in the plates at the back entrance doors as you leave the sanctuary.*

### **PREFACE 2 Timothy 4:22**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### **PROPER PREFACE**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS “Holy, Holy, Holy” -Gregory J. Wismar, John B. Dykes

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
Day and night we join to praise Your love and majesty.  
You alone are holy, worthy, and righteous.  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
We rejoice to join the hymns of earth and sky and sea.  
Generations praise You, with saints and angels.  
Holy and bless'd through all eternity.

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### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, God of all mercy and grace, in patience You bore with us sinners who deserved nothing of Your kindness and at the time of Your bidding revealed to us Your love and salvation in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. As He has accomplished all things for our salvation, grant us Your Holy Spirit so that we may believe in Him with all our hearts, bodies, souls, and minds, and confess Him boldly before the world. Be with us as we approach His Table to receive His own testament of His flesh in bread and His blood in wine, for the forgiveness of our sins and as the foretaste of the eternal to come.

**People: Amen.**

### WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My  $\times$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\times$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

### PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

### LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

**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.**

### PAX DOMINI

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

**People: Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI** “O Lamb of God, We Pray” -Dorothy Schultz, Lowell Mason

O Lamb of God, we pray:  
Take all our sins away –  
Our faith increase.  
Have mercy on us all,  
Strengthen us when we fall,  
Answer our fervent call  
And grant us peace.

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*You are invited to receive the Lord’s Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

*Communion is offered in two ways: the individual cup and the common cup. If you would like the individual cup, please partake as the assistant minister passes by after Pastor gives the bread. If you would like the common cup, let the assistant minister pass by, and Pastor will give you the common cup. When he serves it to you, you are welcome to grab the chalice from the bottom while he holds it from the top. He will rotate and wipe the chalice between people.*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

“He Will Hold Me Fast” –Ada Habershon and Matthew Merker

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1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold through life’s fearful path;  
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

*Chorus:* He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

2. Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;  
Precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.  
He’ll not let my soul be lost; His Promises shall last;  
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast. *Chorus*

3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;  
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast  
Till our faith is turned to sight, He will hold me fast. *Chorus twice*

“Behold the Lamb” –Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Stuart Townend

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1. Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away  
Slain for us and we remember  
The promise made that all who come in faith  
Find forgiveness at the cross  
So we share in this Bread of Life  
And we drink of His sacrifice  
As a sign of our bonds of peace  
Around the table of the King

2. The body of our Saviour Jesus Christ  
Torn for you eat and remember  
The wounds that heal the death that brings us life  
Paid the price to make us one  
So we share in this Bread of Life  
And we drink of His sacrifice  
As a sign of our bonds of love  
Around the table of the King

3. The blood that cleanses every stain of sin  
Shed for you drink and remember  
He drained death's cup that all may enter in  
To receive the life of God  
So we share in this Bread of Life  
And we drink of His sacrifice  
As a sign of our bonds of grace  
Around the table of the King

4. And so with thankfulness and faith we rise  
To respond and to remember  
Our call to follow in the steps of Christ  
As His body here on earth  
As we share in His suffering  
We proclaim Christ will come again  
And we'll join in the feast of heaven  
Around the table of the King

### **BLESSING**

Pastor: May our Lord's body and blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace and with joy.

**People: Amen.**

### **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING** *Psalm 107:1*

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;

**People: for His steadfast love endures forever!**

Pastor: Let us pray. You are without equal, O Lord, and mighty in purpose and power. Deliver us from all our fears and grant our hearts to know with confidence that You will work through all things to accomplish Your purpose and fulfill Your promise. Help us by this very Communion upon the holy food of Christ's flesh and blood to be comforted in adversity and encouraged to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives



and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION** *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

**HYMN** “God of Grace and God of Glory” *LSB 850*

1 God of grace and God of glory,

On Your people pour Your pow’r;

Crown Your ancient Church’s story;

Bring its bud to glorious flow’r.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage

For the facing of this hour,

For the facing of this hour.

2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us

Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!

From the fears that long have bound us

Free our hearts to faith and praise.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage

For the living of these days,

For the living of these days.

3 Cure Your children’s warring madness;

Bend our pride to Your control;

Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,

Rich in things and poor in soul.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage

Lest we miss Your kingdom’s goal,

Lest we miss Your kingdom’s goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation

To the evils we deplore;

Let the gift of Your salvation

Be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,

Serving You whom we adore,

Serving You whom we adore.

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Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 4.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

Worship 9:30 a.m.

**GENEROSITY THOUGHTS:** Matthew 22:21 – “Then he said to them, ‘Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’” So what is Jesus saying? Doesn’t everything belong to God? Yes — and God has a place for everything. Some of what He gives us goes to Caesar. Some must come back to the work of His church. And some goes to support the families He has given us. All belongs to God, and He has work for us to do with what He has given us in the home, in the church and in society.

**LETTER FROM RUTH TESCH:** For those of you who know Ruth Tesch, check out her letter on the bulletin board by the office.

**VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** for the Anniversary dinner on Sunday, October 29th. Set up on Saturday along with dishwashers and a cleanup crew are needed. Please sign up on the poster in the Narthex or contact Marilyn Pierce.

**ANNIVERSARY DINNER:** We have had donations made to help defray the cost of the dinner. If you have not signed up for the dinner due to the cost please contact Pastor Kooi or Maria in the office.

**DINNER/POTLUCK WITH THE KOOIS:** We are starting a new series of events where up to 8 people can sign up to have an afternoon potluck with the Kooi family. These will be occurring most months (skipping at least Advent/Lent). The sign up is in the narthex for the next event Nov 11th at 3:00 p.m. Todd P will be hosting the event at his house and providing the entree, Pesto Chicken.

**GUYS’ GAME AFTERNOON:** We are reviving the guys’ game afternoon November 18th 12-4 p.m. in the Social Hall. Please RSVP to Todd P.

**FREE TIRES!** Full set of nearly-new snow tires. Please contact Jean G if interested. Bridgestone Blizzak DM-V2, size 235/60R18 for light trucks or SUV studless ice and snow. Used for one season, very little tread wear.

**HEAR “THE LUTHERAN HOUR”** on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week’s broadcast: “What Are People Good For?” Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. Our family and friends are with us in life but they can't shield us from life and all its uncertainty. Where will you find security? (Psalm 46:1)

**CONCORDIA ACADEMY CRAFT FAIR:** The Concordia Academy Holiday Craft Fair returns on November 11 with almost 100 crafters and vendors, delicious treats, prize drawings, and lots of fun! Admission is free. Go to [www.concordiaacademy.com/craftfair](http://www.concordiaacademy.com/craftfair) for details!