★ ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST ★

September 20–21, 2025

5:00 p.m., 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.

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Silent Prayer Before Worship

O Lord, You call us to be faithful in very little in order to be trusted with much. Preserve us by Your perpetual mercy, and because without You we cannot but fall, keep us from all things hurtful and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

+ Divine Service - Setting One +

Prelude

Announcements

Opening Hymn

"Today Your Mercy Calls Us" LSB 915

Invocation Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

P In the name of the Father and of the

→ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation 1 John 1:8–9

- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

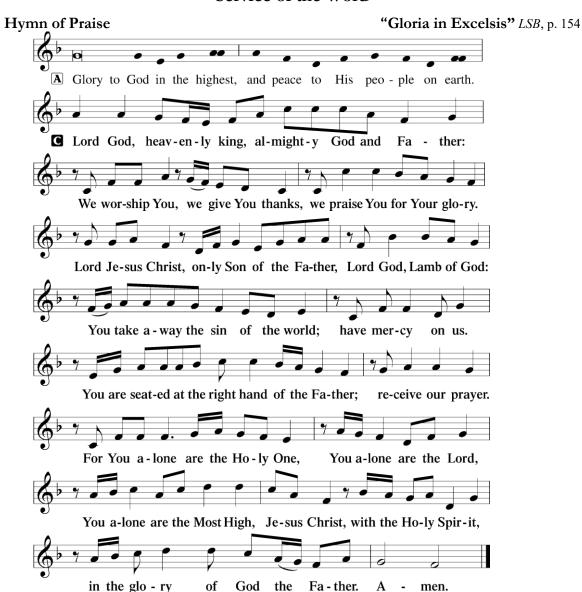
Confession of Sins and Absolution

LSB, p. 151

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- 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 Holy Spirit.

 John 20:19–23
- C Amen.

Service of the Word



Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB, p. 156

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us pray.

O Son of God, our blessed Savior Jesus Christ, You called Matthew the tax collector to be an apostle and evangelist. Through his faithful and inspired witness, grant that we also

may follow You, leaving behind all covetous desires and love of riches; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 2:8—3:11

"But you, son of man, hear what I say to you. Be not rebellious like that rebellious house; open your mouth and eat what I give you." And when I looked, behold, a hand was stretched out to me, and behold, a scroll of a book was in it. And He spread it before me. And it had writing on the front and on the back, and there were written on it words of lamentation and mourning and woe.

And He said to me, "Son of man, eat whatever you find here. Eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel." So I opened my mouth, and He gave me this scroll to eat. And He said to me, "Son of man, feed your belly with this scroll that I give you and fill your stomach with it." Then I ate it, and it was in my mouth as sweet as honey.

And He said to me, "Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with My words to them. For you are not sent to a people of foreign speech and a hard language, but to the house of Israel—not to many peoples of foreign speech and a hard language, whose words you cannot understand. Surely, if I sent you to such, they would listen to you. But the house of Israel will not be willing to listen to you, for they are not willing to listen to Me. Because all the house of Israel have a hard forehead and a stubborn heart. Behold, I have made your face as hard as their faces, and your forehead as hard as their foreheads. Like emery harder than flint have I made your forehead. Fear them not, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house." Moreover, He said to me, "Son of man, all My words that I shall speak to you receive in your heart, and hear with your ears. And go to the exiles, to your people, and speak to them and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God,' whether they hear or refuse to hear."

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 119:33-40

- P Teach me, O Lord, the way of Your statutes;
- **C** and I will keep it to the end.
- P Give me understanding, that I may keep Your law
- and observe it with my whole heart.
- P Lead me in the path of Your commandments,
- C for I delight in it.
- P Incline my heart to Your testimonies,
- **C** and not to selfish gain!
- P Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things;
- and give me life in Your ways.
- P Confirm to Your servant Your promise,
- **C** that You may be feared.
- **P** Turn away the reproach that I dread,
- **C** for Your just decrees are good.

- **P** Behold, I long for Your precepts;
- in Your righteousness give me life!
- 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.

Epistle Reading Ephesians 4:7–16

But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it says,

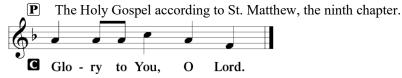
"When He ascended on high He led a host of captives, and He gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that He had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the One who also ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse LSB, p.156



Holy Gospel Matthew 9:9–13



As Jesus passed on from there, He saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and He said to him, "Follow Me." And he rose and followed Him.

And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and His disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to His disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when He heard it, He said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed LSB, p.158

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.

Hymn of the Day

"What Is the World to Me" LSB 730

(5:00, 8:00, 9:30) **Sermon**

"Friendless Meets Friend"

Prayer of the Church

- → Harold Hagemann who is hospitalized.
- → Brian Meyr recovering from surgery.
- Thanksgiving for the birth of Christopher Aaron Sterling, son of Aaron and Katherine Sterling, grandson of Dan and Caryn Sterling (Sept. 12).
- Thanksgiving for the birth of Raelynn Elizabeth Vondera, daughter of Bobby and Kristin Vondera, granddaughter of Jay Parker (Sept. 6).
- † All who mourn the death of Larry Meyer, brother of Carol Petering.

Offering

(11:00) **Sermon**

"Friendless Meets Friend"

Service of the Sacrament



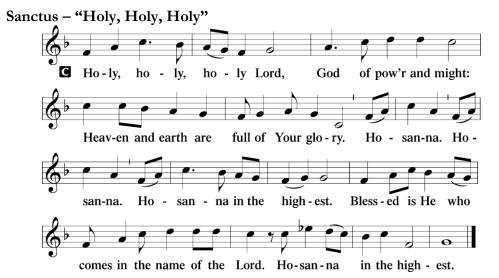
LSB, p. 160



Proper Preface

P 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:

LSB, p. 161



Lord's Prayer Matthew 6: 9–13

P 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.

The Words of Our Lord

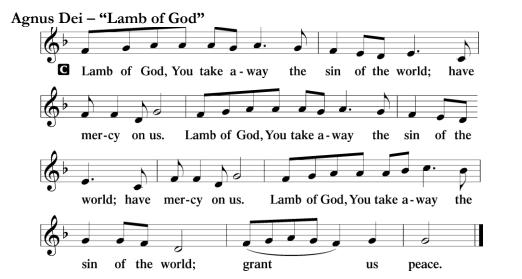
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Pax Domini - "Peace of the Lord"

John 20:19

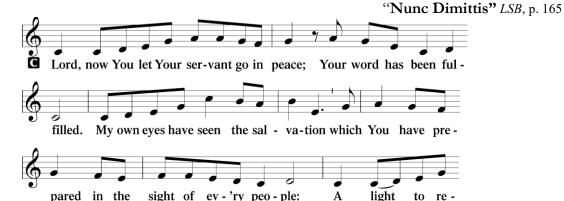
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- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



Distribution Hymns

"Jesus Sinners Doth Receive" LSB 609
"Wide Open Stand the Gates" LSB 639





The Dismissal LSB, p. 164

- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart + in peace.
- C Amen.

Post-Communion Collect

LSB, p. 166

A Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction LSB, p. 166

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 H give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

C Amen.

Closing Hymn

"By All Your Saints in Warfare" LSB 518

Stanzas 1, 25, 3

+ + +

Silent Prayer

Postlude

Preacher Presiding Minister Assisting Seminarians Pastor Schudde
(8:00, 11:00) Pastor Thompson
(5:00) Noah Bauer, (8:00) Micah Cumming
(9:30) Josh Horst, (11:00) Jacob Diercks
Kantor Gerhardt

Organist

Acknowledgments

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