



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2026

10 A.M. Worship

Celebrating the Risen Christ through Acts of Love, Care and Justice

THEME OF THE DAY (YEAR A)

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars. (Lectionary 25)

PRELUDE

God, Bless the Hands

Robert J. Powell

TOLLING THE WORSHIP HOUR

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✙ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.



1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field
 2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la - bor, love, and give;
 3 In grat - i - tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to - day



to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,
 to make our life an of - fer - ing to God, that all may live.
 to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.



so we to - day first - fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,
 The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:
 O God, who gave your - self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
 a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.
 teach us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

Text: Frank von Christerson, 1900–1996, alt.

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune

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GREETING

The grace of our ✝ Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

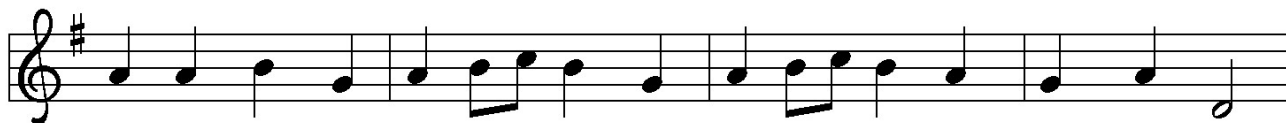
And also with you.



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with You.
And also with you.

Let us pray... Almighty and eternal God,
you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING

Jonah 3:10—4:11

Pew Bible, pg. 753

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?

¹⁰ When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

^{4:1} But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³ And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

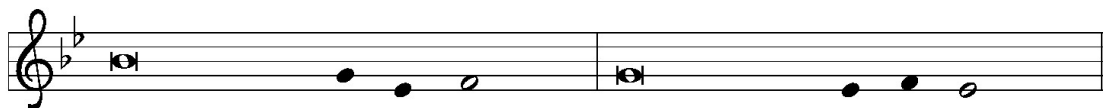
⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶ The LORD God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade

over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered.

⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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(sung responsively)

- ¹ I will exalt you, my ¹ God and king,
and bless your name forev- ¹ er and ever.
- ² **Every day ¹ will I bless you**
and praise your name forev- ¹ er and ever.
- ³ Great is the LORD and greatly ¹ to be praised!
There is no end ¹ to your greatness.
- ⁴ **One generation shall praise your works ¹ to another**
and shall de- ¹ clare your power.
- ⁵ I will speak of the glorious splendor ¹ of your majesty
and all your ¹ marvelous works.
- ⁶ **They shall tell of the might of your ¹ wondrous acts,**
and I will re- ¹ count your greatness.
- ⁷ They shall publish the remembrance of ¹ your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully ¹ of your righteousness.
- ⁸ **The LORD is gracious and full ¹ of compassion,**
slow to anger and abounding in ¹ steadfast love.

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

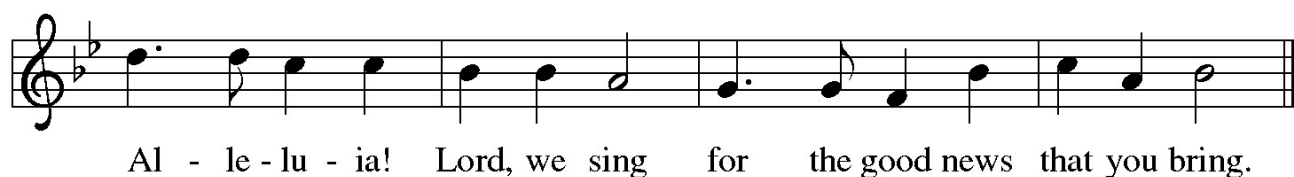
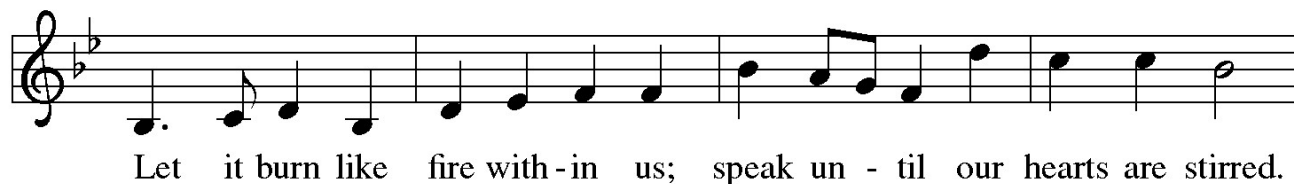
²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy

of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

ALLELUIA VERSE (ALL sing)

ELW pg. 205



Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 20

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’

⁹ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹² saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The Gospel of Our Lord!

Praise to you, O Christ.



1 All who love and serve your cit - y, all who
 2 In your day of loss and sor - row, in your
 3 In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed
 4 For all days are days of judg - ment, and the
 5 Ris - en Lord, shall yet the cit - y be the



bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for peace and
 day of help - less strife, hon - or, peace, and love re -
 work and wast - ed play, call to mind the word of
 Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near a world that
 cit - y of de - spair? Come to - day, our judge, our



jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless,
 treat - ing, seek the Lord, who is your life.
 Je - sus, "You must work while it is day."
 spurns him, of - f'ring peace from Cal - v'ry's hill.
 glo - ry. Be its name "The Lord is there!"

Text: Erik Routley, 1917–1982

Music: NEW ORLEANS, Paul D. Weber, b. 1949

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AFFIRMATION OF HOLY BAPTISM / RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

Let us rejoice with these sisters and brothers in Christ.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

(after each petition) Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We share the peace of Christ with one another.

MEAL

GATHERING OF GIFTS

(Chancel Choir)

On the Work of Our Hands

Burton Bumgarner

On the work of our hands and the praise of our hearts,
May the light of Thy countenance shine,
In the least ever faithful abiding and true,
Our service of joy shall be Thine.
May the halo of prayer, may the mantle of peace
As heaven's benediction descend,
Ordaining our lives for the mission of Christ,
And love with our sacrifice blend.

Traditional Shaker Text

Scan here to give online.

You may also make your offering via US mail, or at: give.rlcplano.org,

Thank you!



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and
fill to the brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a
har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the
bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: *Liturgy of Joy*, James M. Capers, b. 1948

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OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray...God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us
generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you
and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW pg. 206

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and eighth notes with some ties. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

"It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...and join their unending hymn :

SANCTUS

ELW pg. 207

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The melody is more complex than the previous hymn, featuring eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

ELW pg. 208



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
- 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.



- 1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come by God's free grace and fa - vor;
 2 What God did in the law de - mand no one could keep un - fail - ing;
 3 Since Christ has full a - tone-ment made and brought to us sal - va - tion,
 4 Faith clings to Je - sus' cross a - lone and rests in him un - ceas - ing;



good works can - not a - vert our doom, they help and save us
 great woe a - rose on ev - 'ry hand, and sin grew all - pre -
 we will re - joice, we will be glad and build on this foun -
 and by its fruits true faith is known, with love and hope in -



nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus Christ a - lone, who did for
 vail - ing. Be - cause the law must be ful - filled, Christ came as
 da - tion. Your grace a - lone, dear Lord, I plead; bap - tized in -
 creas - ing. For faith a - lone can jus - ti - fy; works serve our



all the world a - tone, our on - ly me - di - a - tor.
 God in mer - cy willed, for us the law o - bey - ing.
 to your death, I'm freed; your life is mine for - ev - er.
 neigh - bor and sup - ply the proof that faith is liv - ing.

- 5 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise to Father, Son, and Spirit!
 Lord, you have saved us by your grace;
 all glory to your merit!
 O triune God in heav'n above,
 you have revealed your saving love;
 your blessed name we hallow.
- 6 Your kingdom come, your will be done
 in this world as in heaven;
 give bread for each new day begun;
 our sins be all forgiven,
 as we forgive what others do;
 in ev'ry trial see us through;
 from evil save us. Amen.

Text: Paul Speratus, 1484–1551; tr. hymnal version

Music: ES IST DAS HEIL, *Ethlich christlich Lieder*, Wittenberg, 1524

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TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray...Sustaining God,
**with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit,
send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation,
healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

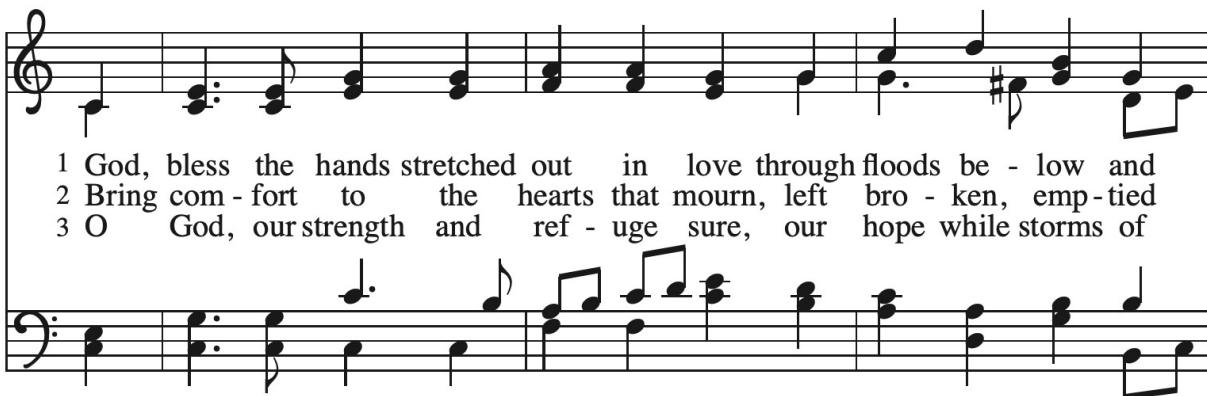
The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.
Amen.

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of
the Spirit.
Amen.

The God of grace ✝ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

God, Bless the Hands



1 God, bless the hands stretched out in love through floods be - low and
 2 Bring com - fort to the hearts that mourn, left bro - ken, emp - tied
 3 O God, our strength and ref - uge sure, our hope while storms of



storms a - bove; they search and res - cue, com - fort, calm, give
 by the storm. Give hope to those in deep - est grief; em -
 life en - dure: teach us to live in har - mo - ny with



shel - ter, of - fer heal - ing balm. Oh, guard them by your
 pow - er us to bring re - lief. To you, O God, we
 earth and riv - er, sky and sea, pre - serv - ing wa - ters,



stead - fast hand; reach out in love to help us stand.
 raise our hands. Save us, we pray, from sink - ing sands.
 air, and lands as ho - ly work for hu - man hands.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

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DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Salvation unto Us Has Come

J.S. Bach



Resurrection Lutheran Church



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Office Administrator [ext. 110]

Director of Children's Ministry and Education [Ext 116]

Director of Youth Ministry [ext. 118]

Director of Worship & Music [ext. 114]

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Council Vice President

Council Secretary

Council Treasurer

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Liaison for Witness

Liaison for Learn

Liaison for Serve

Liaison for Ancillary Ministries

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