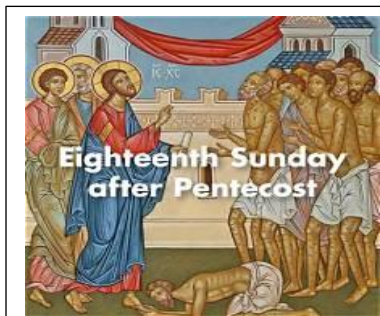




DIVINE SERVICE

Setting Two

Standing in the Shadow of the Cross

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday September 27, 2026



Please stand

Opening Hymn: LSB # 527 “O Savior, Precious Savior”

1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, Whom yet un - seen we love;
2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, Who won - drous - ly hast wrought
3 In Thee all full - ness dwell - eth, All grace and pow'r di - vine;
4 O grant the con - sum - ma - tion Of this our song a - bove

O name of might and fa - vor, All oth - er names a - bove,
Thy - self the rev - e - la - tion Of love be - yond our thought,
The glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is Thine.
In end - less ad - o - ra - tion And ev - er - last - ing love;

We wor - ship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We wor - ship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
We wor - ship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
Then shall we praise and bless Thee Where per - fect prais - es ring,

We praise Thee and con - fess Thee, Our ho - ly Lord and King.
We praise Thee and con - fess Thee, Our gra - cious Lord and King.
We praise Thee and con - fess Thee, Our glo - rious Lord and King.
And ev - er - more con - fess Thee, Our Sav - ior and our King!

Greeting and Announcements

Confession and Absolution

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

G Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us

G But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand, Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father

C **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 neighbor as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and 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.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise: AAHH # 330 “Father, I Adore You”

Father, I adore You, lay my life before You. How I love You.

Jesus, I adore You, lay my life before You. How I love You.

Spirit, I adore You, lay my life before You. How I love You.

The Sunday school students are released to their teachers.

Service of the Word

Introit

Ps. 147:1-5; antiphon Ps. 147:6

P The Lord lifts up the humble;

C **he casts the wicked to the ground.**

P Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God;

C **for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.**

P The Lord build up Jerusalem;

C **he gathers the outcasts of Israel.**

P He heals the broken hearted

C **and binds up their wounds.**

P He determines the number of the stars;

C **he gives to all of them their names.**

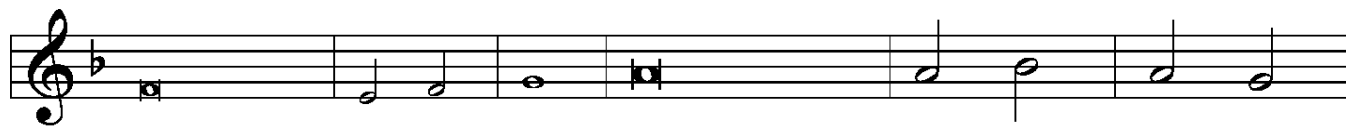
P Great is our Lord, abundant in power;

C **his understanding is beyond measure.**

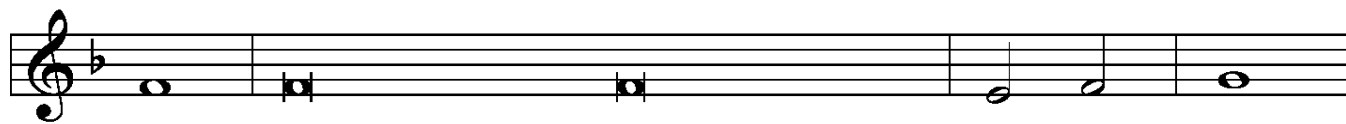
C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P The Lord lifts up the humble;
C he casts the wicked to the ground.

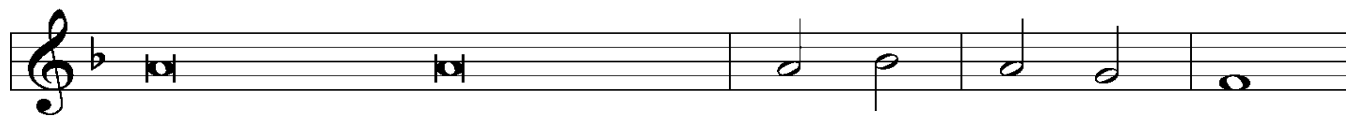
Gloria in Excelsis



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



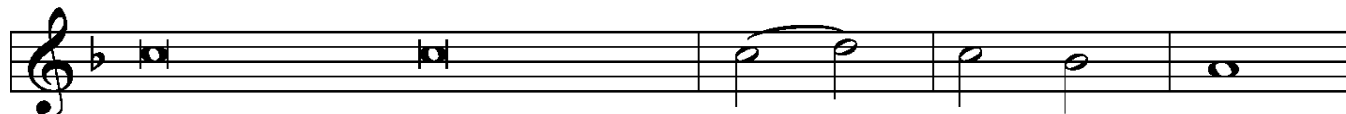
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



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



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority.

Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: ² "What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? ³ As I live, declares the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. ²⁵ "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶ When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷ Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸ Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ³⁰ "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, everyone according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Ps. 91:11; 103:1

G He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you in all your ways.
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is in me, bless his holy name.

Epistle Reading

Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or disputing, ¹⁵ that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷ Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸ Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Special Music – Men’s Choir “My Faith looks up to Thee” and
“I Need Thee Every Hour”

Please Stand

Hymn: # 98 TFBF “Open Our Eyes, Lord”

Open our eyes, Lord We Want to see Jesus, To reach out and touch Him And say that we love Him. Open our ears, Lord And help us to listen, Open our eyes, Lord, We want to see Jesus

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:23-27

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

G Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²³ And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you

one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Please be seated

Hymn: LSB # 563 “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”

- 1. Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
- 2. Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;
Fully absolved through these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
- 3. Lord, I believe Thy precious blood, Which at the mercy seat of God
Pleads for the captives' liberty, Was also shed in love for me.
- 4. Lord, I believe, were sinners more Than sands upon the ocean shore,
Thou hast for all a ransom paid, For all a full atonement made.
- 5. When from the dust of death I rise To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea: Jesus hath lived and died for me.
- 6. Jesus, be endless praise to Thee, Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

Sermon: “By Whose Authority?”

Sermon Text: Matthew 21:23-27

Sermon Notes: _____

Please stand.

Apostles' 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.**

Please be seated

Offering

Please stand.

Offertory

LSB 192

**☩ 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.**

Prayer of the Church

☐ Feel free to remain standing, be seated, or come to the altar to pray

Hymn: TFBF # 247 “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

**☩ Lord, listen to Your children praying; Lord, send Your Spirit in this place.
Lord, listen to Your children praying; send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

☐ You may return to your seats, the Lord has heard your prayers