



DIVINE SERVICE

Setting Two

Standing in the Shadow of the Cross

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday September 6, 2026



Please stand

Opening Hymn: TFBF # 235 "I Surrender All"

1 All to Je - sus I sur-ren-der, all to him I free - ly give;
2 All to Je - sus I sur-ren-der, hum-bly at his feet I bow;
3 All to Je - sus I sur-ren-der, Lord, I give my - self to thee;

I will ev - er love and trust him, in his pres-ence dai - ly live.
world-ly pleas-ures all for-sak - en, take me, Jes - sus, take me now.
fill me with thy love and pow - er, let thy bless-ings fall on me.

Refrain

I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all,
I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all,

all to thee, my bless-ed Sav - ior, I sur-ren-der all.

Greeting and Announcements

Confession and Absolution

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, imploring 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 to the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and for which I justly deserved Your punishment. But I am sorry for them and repent of them, and pray for Your boundless mercy. For the sake of the suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being. Forgive my sins, give me Your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life, and bring me to life everlasting. Amen

P God is merciful and gracious, granting forgiveness through Jesus Christ to all who confess their sin. As a called and ordained minister of the Christian Church and by the authority of Christ, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of 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

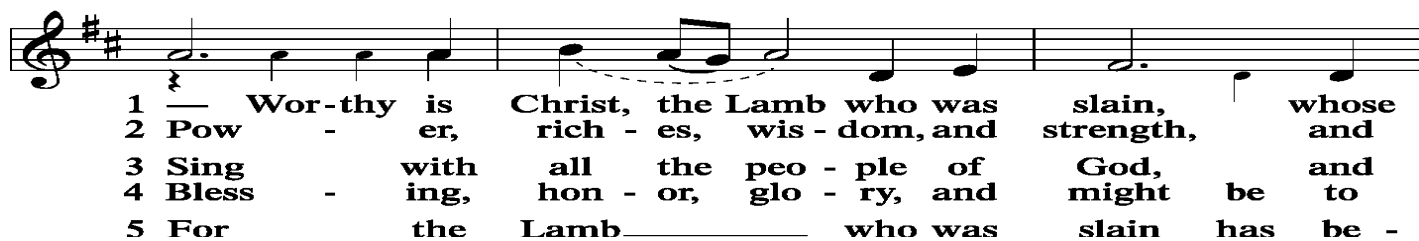
Ps. 92:1–4; antiphon: Ps. 92:5

P How great are your works, O LORD!

C Your thoughts are very deep!

P It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
C to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
P to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
C and your faithfulness by night,
P to the music of the lute and the harp,
C to the melody of the lyre.
P For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;
C at the works of your hands I sing for joy.
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 How great are your works, O LORD!
C Your thoughts are very deep!

This is the Feast



Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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 33:7-9

⁷ "So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Ps. 34:9, 19, alt

C Fear the Lord, you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing! Many are the afflictions of the righteous But the Lord delivers him out of them all.

Epistle Reading

Romans 13:1-10

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ² Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³ For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴ for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵ Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶ For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very

thing.⁷ Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.⁹ For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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 18:1-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"² And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them³ and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.⁴ Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.⁵ "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me,⁶ but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.⁷ "Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes!⁸ And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire.⁹ And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.¹⁰ "See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.¹² What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went

astray? ¹³ And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴ So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. ¹⁵ "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶ But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Please be seated

Hymn: LSB # 728 "How Firm a Foundation"

1. How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word! What more can He say than to you He hath said, who unto the Savior for refuge has fled?
2. "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed, For I am your God and will still give you aid; I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.
3. "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to his foes; That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no never, no never forsake."
4. "When through fiery trials your pathways will lie, My grace, all sufficient, will be your supply; The flames will not hurt you; I only design your dross to consume, and your gold to refine.
5. "Throughout all their lifetime, my people will prove My sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love; And then when gray hairs will their temples adorn, Like lambs they will still in my bosom be borne."

Sermon: "Who's the Greatest?"

Sermon Text: Matthew 18:1-20

Nicene Creed

**☩ 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.**

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

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

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

C 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.

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