

# THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST + SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

*PRAYER OF PREPARATION (INSIDE FRONT  
COVER OF HYMNAL) AND RINGING OF THE BELLS*

*838 THE SAINTS IN CHRIST ARE ONE IN EVERY  
PLACE*

- 1     The saints in Christ are one in ev'ry place  
      To serve the Gospel of His costly grace;  
      From those first days to this, our hope the  
      same:  
      The love of Christ, one Lord, one saving name.
  
- 2     In chains for Christ! His pris'ners love to sing,  
      For slaves and free rejoice to praise our King;  
      What though the Church on earth still suffers  
      wrong?  
      The cross of Christ remains our pilgrim song.
  
- 3     To live is Christ, for us, to die is gain;  
      Where then shall be our hunger, danger, pain?

Our joy to preach good news to rich and poor,  
Then be with Christ, to live forevermore.

- 4 Lord Jesus Christ! Heav'n's praise let earth repeat;  
The work that You began, You will complete.  
By grace let ev'ry foe become Your friend;  
Your day, O Christ, shall dawn and never end.

Text: Christopher M. Idle, 1938, alt.

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***(The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.)***

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

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

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

***(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 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.**

**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.

*THIS IS THE FEAST*

LSB 171

**P** This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**C** **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power and riches and wisdom and strength  
and honor and blessing and glory are His.  
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.  
Sing with all the people of God, and join in the  
hymn of all creation:  
Blessing and honor and glory and might be to  
God and the Lamb forever. Amen.  
This is the feast of victory for our God, for the  
Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.  
Alleluia, alleluia.**

*SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*OLD TESTAMENT READING* Deuteronomy 30:15–20

**A** The Old Testament Reading is from Deuteronomy, chapter 30.

<sup>15</sup>“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart

turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*EPISTLE*

Philemon 1–21

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,

To Philemon our beloved fellow worker <sup>2</sup>and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

<sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup>because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, <sup>6</sup>and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. <sup>7</sup>For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

<sup>8</sup>Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, <sup>9</sup>yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— <sup>10</sup>I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup>(Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) <sup>12</sup>I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. <sup>13</sup>I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, <sup>14</sup>but I preferred to do

nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. <sup>15</sup>For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, <sup>16</sup>no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup>So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. <sup>18</sup>If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. <sup>19</sup>I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup>Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

<sup>21</sup>Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

***(Stand)***

**C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 14:25–35

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the  
fourteenth chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup>Now great crowds accompanied Jesus, and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup>“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup>Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup>For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup>Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, <sup>30</sup>saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup>Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first

and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. <sup>33</sup>So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

<sup>34</sup>“Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? <sup>35</sup>It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*851 LORD OF GLORY, YOU HAVE BOUGHT US* sts.  
1–2, 4

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 blessed  
'Tis to give than to receive.

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.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–89, alt.

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# *SERMON*

## *PRAYER OF THE CHURCH*

**P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

You have granted us great privilege and mercy, O Lord, that we should be called Your people. Work in us by Your Spirit, that we may love what is good and obey Your command cheerfully. Keep us from an easy faith that costs us nothing, and preserve us so that we may be the salt of the earth and light in the darkness of a world that does not know You. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** O Lord, bless this congregation and all congregations of our Synod; Matthew, our Synod president; \_\_\_\_\_, our district president; and all servants of the Church, that they would be strengthened to cherish each member of Christ's

Body as dearly beloved brothers and sisters. Lord,  
in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Heavenly Father, You are our life and length of days, and You set before us Your gift of life in Your Holy Word for us and for our children. Preserve Your institutions of marriage and family. Guard husbands and wives, parents and children, both from despising and from idolizing one another. Instead, let every relationship in the home exemplify Your unconditional love for us in Christ, and grant that all might follow Him in their service to one another. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Give Your aid, O Lord, to all elected and appointed public officials, especially our president, the Congress of these United States, our governor, the legislature of this state and all who serve us in Your name in government. Grant peace to the

nations, and prosper to the benefit of all people the cause of justice. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** God, our King, You promise blessing to those who follow in Your way, yet You also call them to carry their crosses. Grant Your peace to those who suffer among us [especially]. Guide them by Your Word to follow Your way through the pains of this world to the glories of the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Gracious God, grant that all who come to the Lord's Supper this day may in faith receive Your Son's body and blood and with it the forgiveness of sins, the desire to amend our sinful lives, and the strength to confess the true faith in all that we say and do. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Join these, our prayers and praises, with those of Your faithful servants of every time and place, and unite them in the ceaseless petitions of our great High Priest, until He comes again in power and glory as victorious Lord of all. Through Him, with Him and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is Yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## *PREFACE*

LSB 177

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**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. 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*

LSB 178

**☐ Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and  
might:**

**Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the  
Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING*

LSB 178

**☐** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for  
You have had mercy on those whom You created  
and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to  
bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy  
we receive the salvation accomplished for us by

the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### *THE WORDS OF OUR LORD*

**P** 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 ✝ 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 ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

### *LORD’S PRAYER*

**☐ 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*

LSB 180

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

**C** Amen.

*AGNUS DEI*

LSB 180

**C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the  
world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the  
world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

*605 FATHER WELCOMES*

ref Father welcomes all His children  
To His fam'ly through His Son.  
Father giving His salvation,  
Life forever has been won.

- 1 Little children, come to Me,  
For My kingdom is of these.  
Life and love I have to give,  
Mercy for your sin. Refrain
- 2 In the water, in the Word,  
In His promise, be assured:  
Those who are baptized and believe  
Shall be born again. Refrain
- 3 Let us daily die to sin;  
Let us daily rise with Him,  
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,  
Live in the peace of God. Refrain

Text: Robin Mann, 1949

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## *918 GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT REDEEMER*

- 1 Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer,  
Pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;  
Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,

Feed me till I want no more;  
Feed me till I want no more.

2    Open now the crystal fountain  
      Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
      Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,  
      Be Thou still my strength and shield;  
      Be Thou still my strength and shield.

3    When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
      Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell's destruction,  
      Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises  
      I will ever give to Thee;  
      I will ever give to Thee.

Text: William Williams, 1717–91, abr.; (st. 1): tr. Peter Williams, 1722–96, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. William Williams, 1717–91  
Text: Public domain

**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell  
ev'ryone what He has done.  
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and  
proudly bear His name.  
He recalls His promises and leads His people  
forth in joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

**P** 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.  
**C** Amen.

*ANNOUNCEMENTS*

*707 OH, THAT THE LORD WOULD GUIDE MY WAYS*

1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways  
To keep His statutes still!

Oh, that my God would grant me grace  
To know and do His will!

2 Order my footsteps by Thy Word  
And make my heart sincere;  
Let sin have no dominion, Lord,  
But keep my conscience clear.

3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray,  
A stricter watch to keep;  
And should I e'er forget Thy way,  
Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.

4 Make me to walk in Thy commands—  
'Tis a delightful road—  
Nor let my head or heart or hands  
Offend against my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

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Book

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