

St. Matthew 21:23-32



FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

# SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 20, 2020

Prelude

*Love Eternal*

by Bridget Barclay

*All Glory Be To God*

by Henry Righting

\*The Processional Hymn

*What Wondrous Love Is This*

(ELW) No. 666

\*The Confession and Forgiveness

(ELW) page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: God of all mercy....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Most merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

\*The Apostolic Greeting

(ELW) page 138

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

**C: And also with you.**

\*The Kyrie (*sung response*)

(ELW) page 138

P: ....., let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

\*The Hymn of Praise

*Out of the Depths I Cry to You*

(ELW) No. 600



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this  
 I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when I was sink - ing down  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; to God and to the Lamb,  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free,



that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my  
 be - neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my  
 who is the great I AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will  
 I'll sing God's love for me, and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul?  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.



## Out of the Depths I Cry to You



1 Out of the depths I cry to you; O Lord God, hear me call - ing.  
 2 All things you send are full of grace; you crown our lives with fa - vor.  
 3 In you a - lone, O God, we hope, and not in our own mer - it.  
 4 My soul is wait - ing for you, Lord, as one who longs for morn - ing;



In - cline your ear to my dis - tress in spite of my re - bel - ling.  
 All our good works are done in vain with - out our Lord and Sav - ior.  
 We rest our fears in your good Word and trust your Ho - ly Spir - it.  
 no watch - er waits with great - er hope than I for your re - turn - ing.



Do not re - gard my sin - ful deeds. Send me the grace  
 We praise you for the gift of faith; you save us from  
 Your prom - ise keeps us strong and sure; we trust the cross,  
 I hope as Is - rael in the Lord, who sends re - demp -



my spir - it needs; with - out it I am noth - ing.  
 the grip of death; our lives are in your keep - ing.  
 your sig - na - ture, in - scribed up - on our tem - ples.  
 tion through the Word. Praise God for grace and mer - cy!



\*Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

**C: O Almighty and most Merciful God, through Your bountiful goodness, keep us from all things that may hurt us, that we, being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that You would have us do. Grant this, we pray, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

First Reading

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalm 25:1-9

<sup>1</sup>To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my trust in You;  
let me not be humiliated, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

**<sup>2</sup>Let none who look to You be put to shame;  
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.**

<sup>3</sup>Show me Your ways, O Lord, and teach me Your paths.

**<sup>4</sup>Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; in You have I trusted all the day long.**

<sup>5</sup>Remember, O Lord, Your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

**<sup>6</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to Your love and for the sake of Your goodness, O Lord.**

<sup>7</sup>Gracious and upright is the Lord; therefore He teaches sinners in His way.

**<sup>8</sup>He guides the humble in doing right and teaches His way to the lowly.**

<sup>9</sup>All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness to those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-4 [5-13] 14-18

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

\*The Gospel Acclamation (*sung*)

(ELW) page 142

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

\* The Gospel

Matthew 21:23-27 [28-32]

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.** (sung after announcement of the Gospel)

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.** (sung after conclusion of the Gospel)

Sermon

Seminarian, Justin Baker

\*The Hymn of the Day

*When Peace like a River*

(ELW) No. 785

\*The 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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; the forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting.  
Amen.**

# When Peace like a River

*It Is Well with My Soul*

785

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when  
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let  
3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my  
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast  
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my  
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I  
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.  
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

*Refrain*

It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
It is well with my soul,

\*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

\*Sharing of the Peace

The Musical Offering

*The Lord, My Shepherd*

by Laura Page

\*The Offertory

*Create in Me a Clean Heart*

(ELW) No. 188

\*The Lord's Prayer

**C: 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.**

Announcements

\*The Benediction (*sung response*)

**C: Amen, Amen, Amen.**

\*The Recessional Hymn

*You Servants of God*

(ELW) No. 825

\*The Dismissal (*response*)

**C: Thanks be to God.**

\*FLC Sending Hymn

*Be The Love of Christ*

arr. Michael Showalter

Roger Thornhill

Postlude

*Postlude in D*

by Larry Langford

## Create in Me a Clean Heart

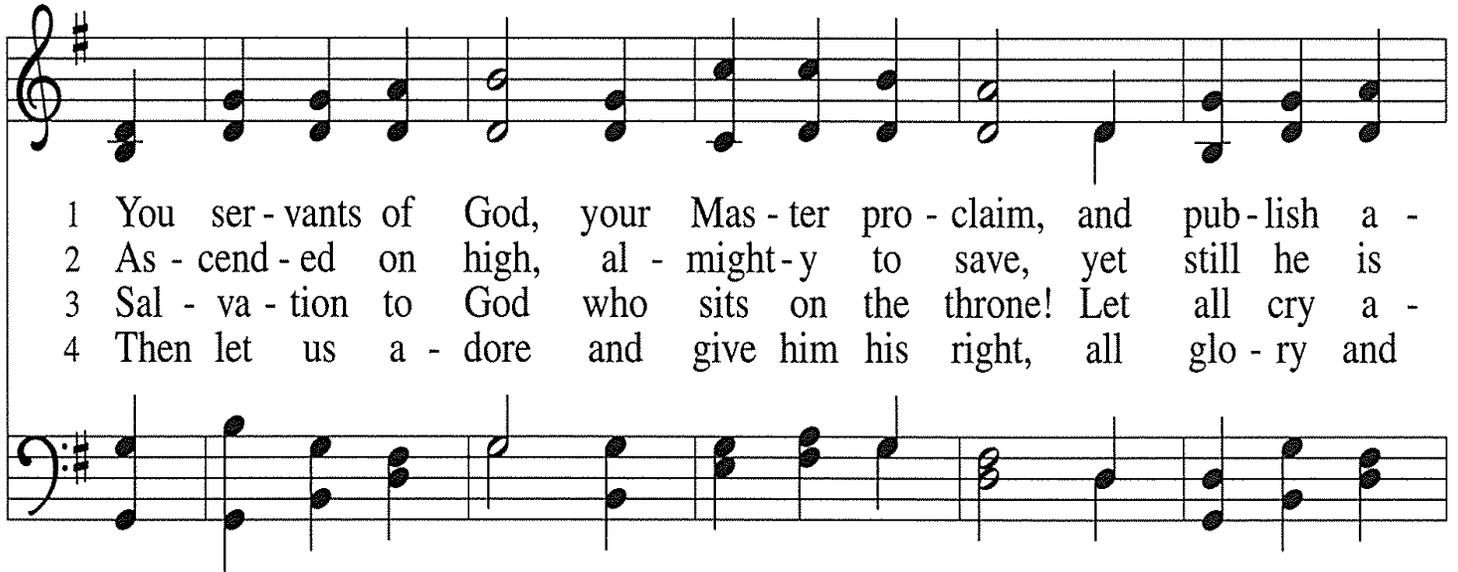
Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right

spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your

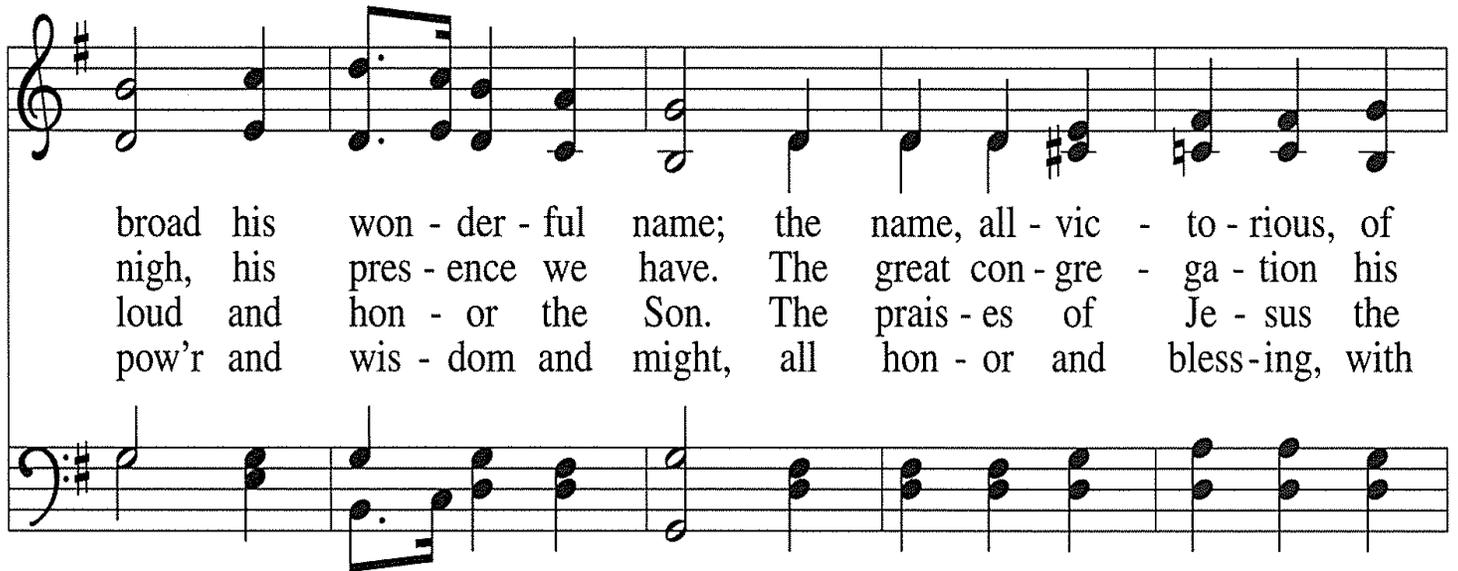
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -

store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,

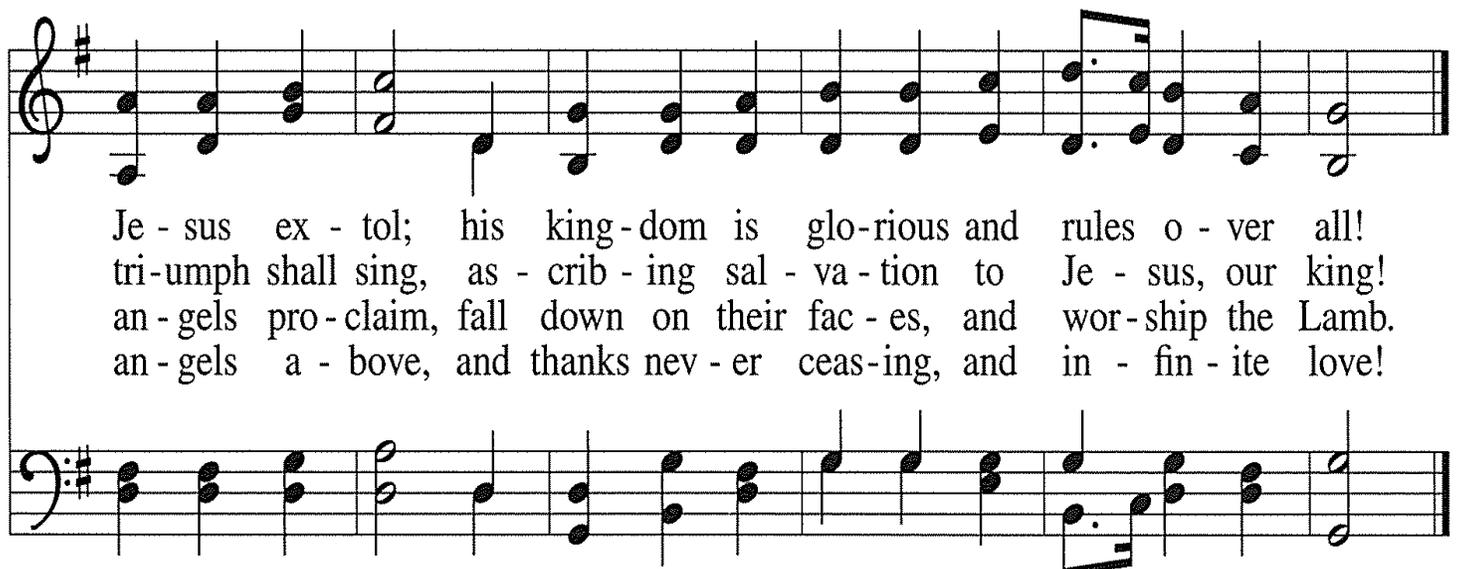
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.



1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -  
 2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is  
 3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -  
 4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of  
 nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his  
 loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the  
 pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!  
 tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!  
 an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.  
 an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

## **First Lutheran Church**

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The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

[revrob@flcwash.church](mailto:revrob@flcwash.church)

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

J. Judson Lacko, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Organist and Music Director: Bobbi Heastings

[barbara\\_heastings@comast.net](mailto:barbara_heastings@comast.net)

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**The Flowers on the Chancel** are given to the glory of God. All the praise, glory and thanks to our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ who has provided mansions for us in heaven, as we go home from this world that we've been honored to serve Him in. Amen George & Emogene Salvucci

**The Lay Reader** is Kimberly Grewe.

**Counters/Greeters** today are L. Coleman, K. Luketich, D. Schmidt.

**Welcome to our Visitors!** The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

**Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church?** Please contact Pastor Grewe.

**Nursery:** We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs for infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

**The Word in Season** for the next quarter is available in the Narthex.

**Bell Choir practice** on Thursday from 7-8 PM.

**The Flower Chart for 2020** is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date. Thank you.

**Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2020.** Please write your names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

**Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2020.** Please sign up.

**Please remember to continue contributing donations to our girls in Ethiopia.**  
**Please consider this as a call to help others in need.**

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**Please pray for those in need of healing:**

Betty Johnson, Janet Burke, Maureen Curry, Eveline Reihner, Rocky and Carol, Leah, Shari Kienzle, Joanne Reck, Chiquita, Patricia Zablony, Stacy Carroll, Byron Christian, Tilley Shawin, Billie Sue Serbak, Susan Westott, Fred Dupas, little Karson, Gertie Sten, Pastor Bruce and Marie Kreutzer, Melissa McCabe, baby Isaac Christian, Barbara Mounts, Joe Mecca, Sandy Hebrank, Anneliese Christian, Rachel Rogers, Lynn Hudak, Sonie Rea, Allan Zimmerman, Donna O. the Pollana family, Iva Romano, and Frank Kubichar.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS  
FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

PA Mental health support and referral line  
1-855-284-2494

WASHINGTON, PA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE  
1-877-225-3567

WASHINGTON COUNTY BHDS LINE  
724-228-6832

SCOTT BERRY DIRECT LINE  
724-250-4079 (FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY)

FOR OTHER NEEDS, CONTACT 211 OR THE CHURCH.

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**Church Offering Change:** In order to keep everyone safe we have changed how we collect the Sunday Offering. We do not have our ushers pass the plates around. Instead, we have one offering plate located by the last pew and one by the choir loft. Please place your offering in one of those plates. Feel free to place your offering in the plates during our Offertory if you did not do so on the way in.

**Listening for the Promise**  
**Weekly Devotional**  
**Pentecost 17 - September 27, 2020**

“Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus.”

- Philippians 2:3-5 -

St. Paul wrote to the Christians in Philippi encouraging them to be like Christ, to have the mind of Christ, and to empty themselves the way Christ did on the cross of Calvary. This is a tall order, to be sure, but it is the way of Jesus for those who love him and want to be more like him in this life.

This passage of the letter was actually a hymn that Paul was quoting. We don't know the exact source but the believers in the church at Philippi would have been familiar with the words. We can imagine them reading this letter and then singing along, “Though he was in the form of God, he did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.” I wonder what the tune sounded like!

We all know how much music helps to transmit the message of the gospel. We all have our favorites like, “Amazing Grace,” “The Old Rugged Cross,” and “Abide with Me,” to name a few. Each of these tried and true hymns are a part of our faith foundation. They speak to us deeply and profoundly of Jesus' love for us, his saving grace, and the sacrifice he made for humanity when he laid down his life for a sinful world. We may not know all the words to all the hymns but there are some that make us weep and some that fill us with joy, all because they are a part of us and connect us to Christ. We hear many sermons and they help us to think deeper about walking with Jesus, but the music touches us in a different way.

What are those songs that make you feel like Christ is close? Which ones remind you of his never failing promises? Which ones spur you on to love and service? For the Philippians, this hymn must have been a powerful one because all these years later, though we don't know the tune, the words stir us to a deeper faith and thanksgiving for what Christ has done for us. Amen.

## Fundraiser Painting with April Ryan

October 10, 2020

2pm at Thistledown Boutique

151 S. Main Street

Washington, Pa 15301

Cost \$30.00

\*\*\*\*This painting slightly modified with fall flowers and a cross in background

Make checks payable to Judy Sarver, money due October 4<sup>th</sup>

