



TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 6, 2024 at 8:45am & 11:15am

Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE • *Though I May Speak (O Waly Waly)*

Dale Wood (1934–2003)

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

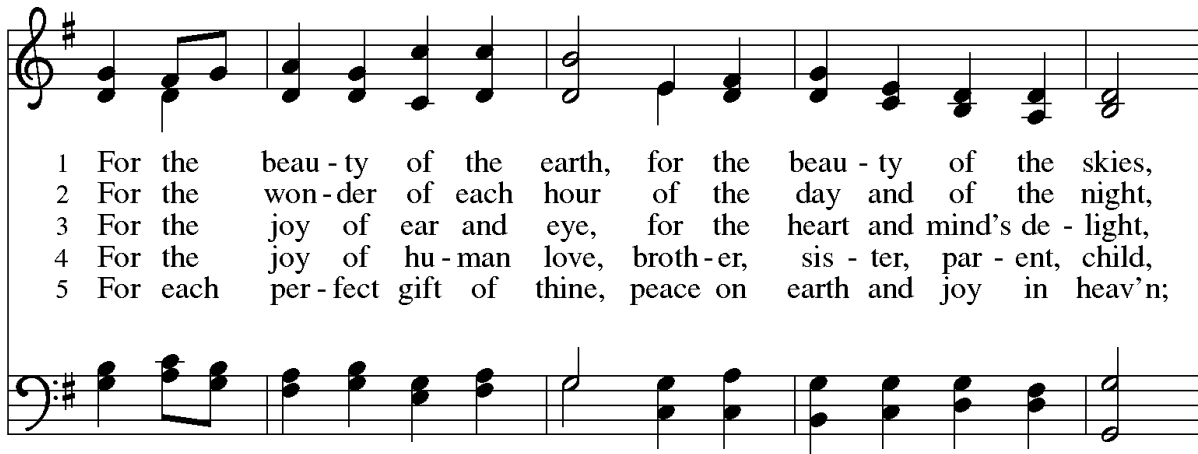
In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

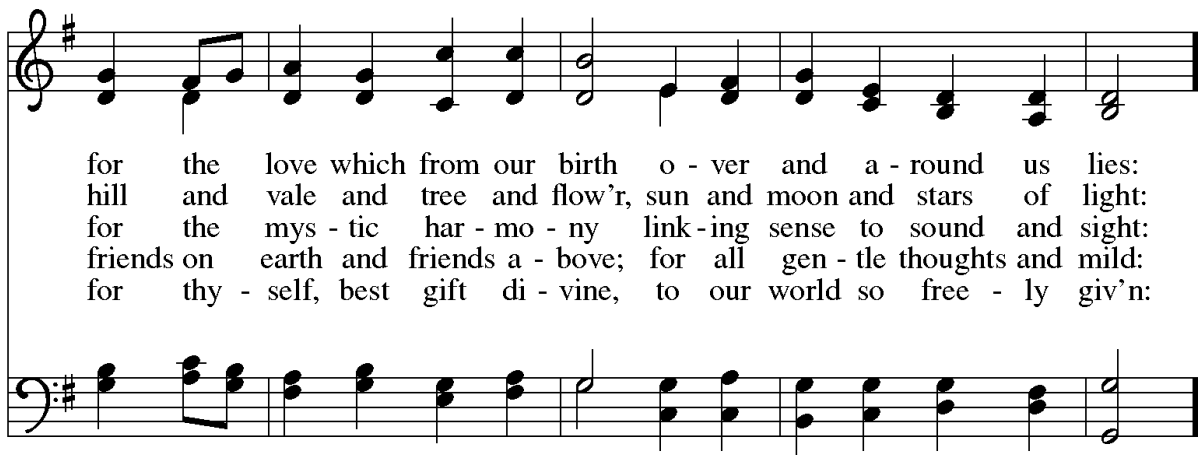
Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, 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. **Amen.**



1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

Refrain




Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE • ELW *Setting One*


Refrain




This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.




1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

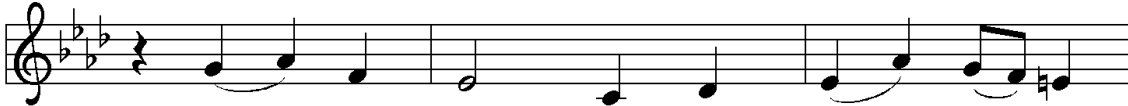


Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to




Refrain

hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Continued on the next page



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

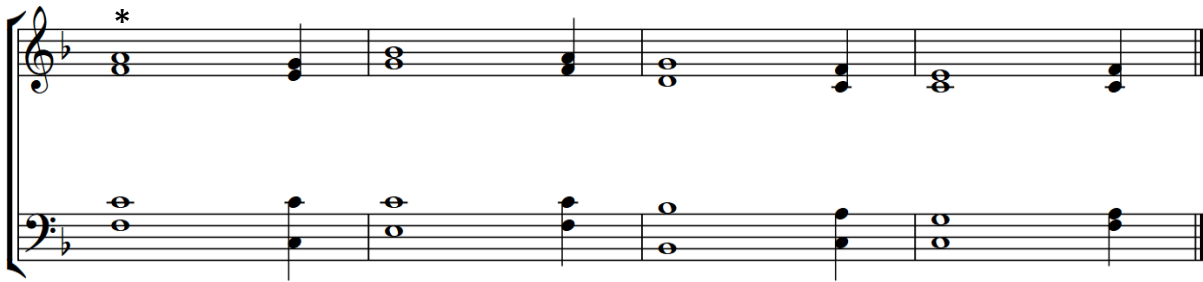
FIRST READING • Genesis 2:18-24

Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other “one flesh.” The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).

The Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.” Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



- 1 O Lord our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—
- 2 you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, ' to silence the foe and avenger.
- 3 When I consider your heavens, ' the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
- 4 what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?
- 5 Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.
- 6 You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:
- 7 all flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts of the field,
- *8 the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.
- 9 O Lord our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING • Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God's right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. Now

God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere, “What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, subjecting all things under their feet.” Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION • ELW Setting One

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia

All: Alleluia.
Choir/Cantor: If we love one another, God | lives in us*
and God’s love is perfect- | ed in us.
All: Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING • Mark 10:2-16

Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.

The holy gospel according to St. Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Miller

Please stand as you are able.

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
 2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
 3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
 4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.
 our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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

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.

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.

COMMISSIONING OF PRAYER PARTNERS

Dear Christian friends: Scripture reminds us “In everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.” Also, Saint Paul continues, “Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” Baptized into the priesthood of Christ we all are called to offer our gifts. It is our privilege to recognize, thank and support those engaged in the ministry of Prayer Partners.

You who stand before us deserve our deepest thanks for your commitment to regular intercession on behalf of each disciple in this congregation, a foundational ministry of this community of faith. Having offered yourselves in ministry as a Prayer Partner, will you follow our Lord’s example of humble service?

Prayer Partners: Yes, with God’s help.

People of God, will you support these saints who intercede for us, and regularly lift them in your prayers of thanksgiving, sharing in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all of us?

Prayer Partners: Yes, with God’s help.

Prayer Partners, thank you for accepting this powerful spirit-filled ministry, serving as examples of faith active in love. God’s blessings be with you always.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God’s good creation, and all who are in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

All may share a sign of Peace.

Please be seated.

THE MEAL

OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at saintlukegive.us
You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

(8:45) OFFERTORY ANTHEM • *Bless the Lord*
RSCM Choristers & Schola Cantorum

Andrew Carter

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

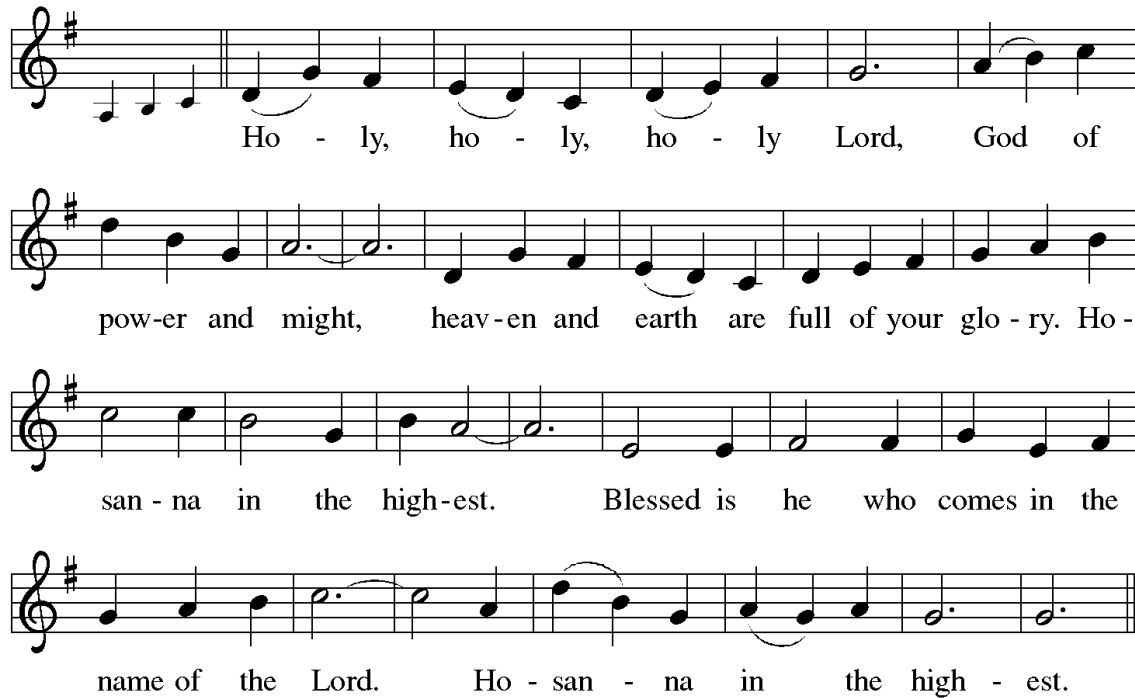
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS • ELW *Setting One*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Please pray in your own preferred language.

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.

Padre Nuestro, que estas en los cielos,
santificado sea tu nombre,
venga a nosotros tu reino,
hagase tu voluntad,
asi en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia;
perdona nuestras ofensas,
como nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden;
y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion,
mas libranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
el poder, y la gloria,
por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

Thanks be to God!

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are stations at the foot of the chancel steps.

Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ.

(Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server)

Then receive in the individual cup the blood of Christ. You may deposit your cup in the basket near the side wall. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's supper are also encouraged to come forward. Those who wish to receive the sacrament in the pew, please inform an usher. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say:

Amen.

AGNUS DEI • ELW *Setting One*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



1 Al - though I speak with an - gel's tongue, my faith, my
 2 For love is pa - tient, love is kind, and nev - er
 3 For now we peer at dark - ened glass; our vi - sions
 4 The gifts are man - y, the Bod - y one, and in - to



knowl - edge all sur - pass, but have no love, my gifts are
 vain with boast - ing pride; love bears all things, all things en -
 end; our tongues all cease. In part we know, in part now
 one are all bap - tized. Be - lov - ed, share one heart, one



vain as clang - ing gong or blar - ing brass.
 dures. All things must end; love will a - bide.
 see: then we will see love face to face.
 mind, one hope, one faith, one love in Christ.

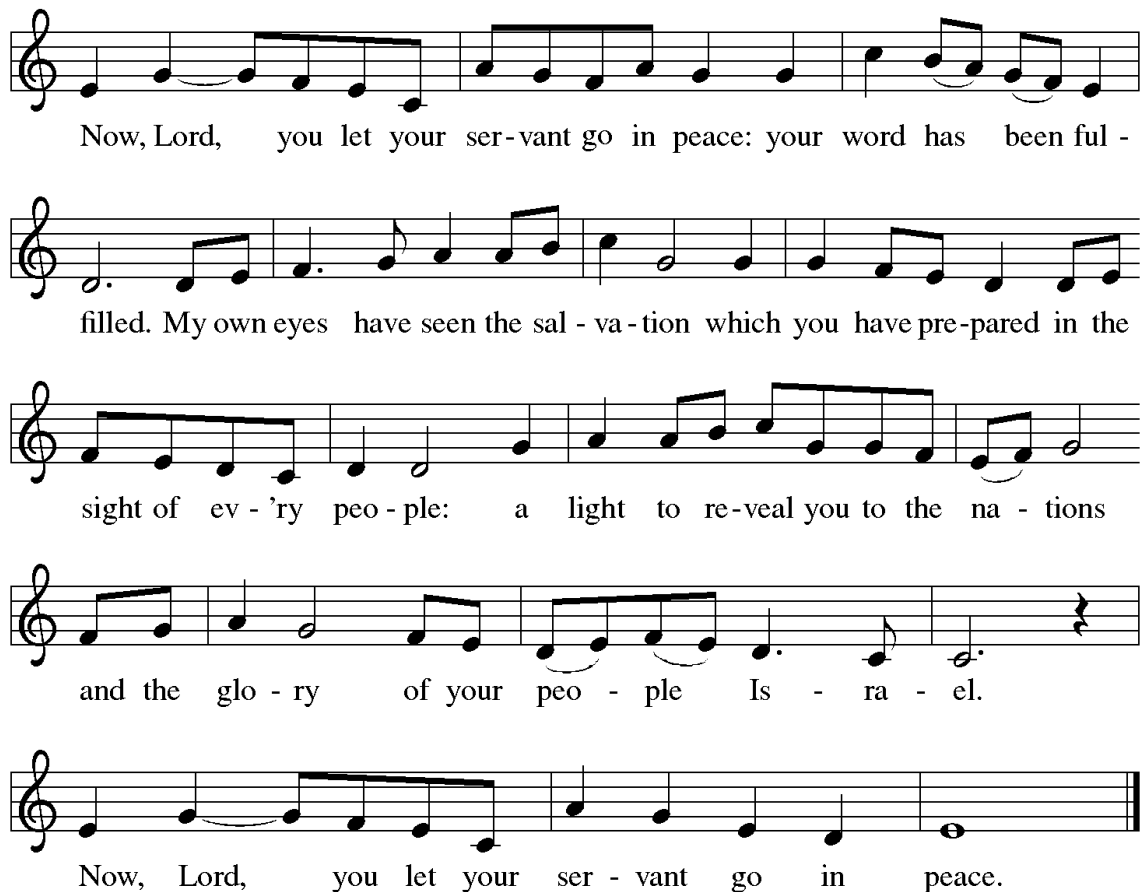
POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Please stand as you are able.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you,
 and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

NUNC DIMITIS • ELW *Setting One*



Now, Lord, you let your ser-vant go in peace: your word has been ful -
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the
sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: a light to re-veal you to the na - tions
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voic - es,
 2 Oh, may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Fa - ther now be giv - en,

who won-drous things has done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
 with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us,
 the Son, and Spir - it blest, who reign in high - est heav - en,

who, from our moth - ers' arms, has blest us on our way
 and keep us all in grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
 the one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heav'n a - dore;

with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE • *Now Thank We All Our God*

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877–1933)

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WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTERS

The Rev. Connie A. Miller
Senior Pastor

The Rev. Richard Zawistoski
Confirmation Pastor

ASSISTING MINISTER

Deacon Kyle Warfield
Director of Discipleship and High School Ministries

READERS

Kristina Schendt, Prayer Partner **8:45**
Greg Sanders, Prayer Partner
Carol Darnell, Prayer Partner **11:15**
Charles Helling, Prayer Partner

MUSICIANS

Adam Scott Graham
Director of Music

Alix Evans
Assistant Director of Music

RSCM Choristers & Schola Cantorum (8:45)

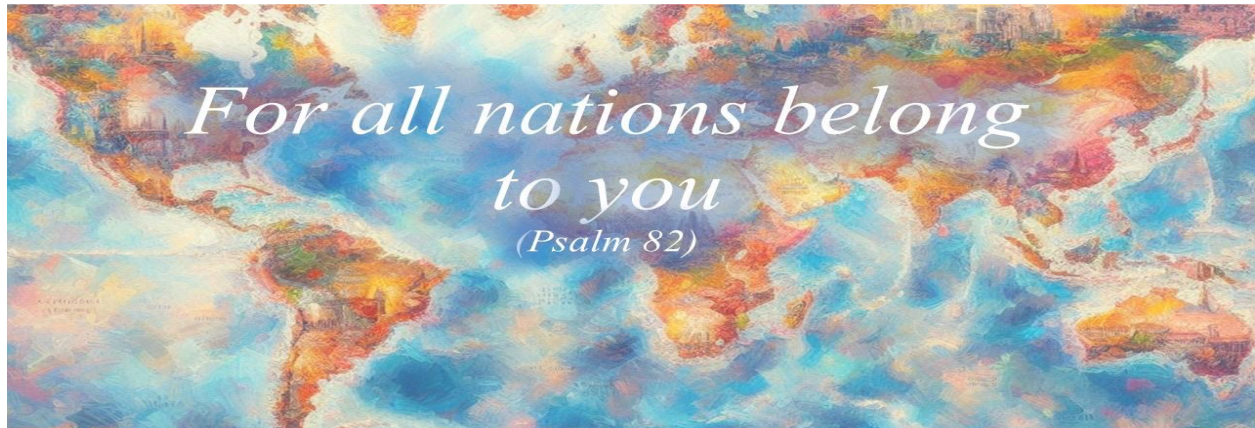
THE FLOWERS ABOUT THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving to God for the life and witness of Marcia's beloved husband Roger Alan Laundry.

COMMEMORATIONS:

Monday, October 7 – Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, pastor in North America, died 1787: Divided Lutherans in America asked leaders in Europe to send someone who could take charge and unite their work. Muhlenberg was sent, and was effective in organizing the American Lutherans. Among other accomplishments, his liturgical principles became the basis for the Common Service of 1888.

Thursday, October 19 – Massie L. Kennard, renewer of the church, died 1996 (TFF): A native of Chicago, Kennard was a major figure in supporting and working toward ethnic and racial inclusiveness in the former Lutheran Church in America. Ordained in 1958, he served in positions including Director for Minority Concerns of the Division for Mission in North America.

Discipleship in a Democracy: Responding to the Threat of Christian Nationalism



**Concerned about threats to democracy in America,
occasioned by the rise of Christian Nationalism?**

Plan to participate in this event:

**Friday October 25 – Saturday October 26, 2024
Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20910**

Details and Registration WWW.FLIV.US



Lead Organizer: Christians Against
Christian Nationalism



Presiding Bishop, ELCA
Special Video Message



U.S. Representative



Human Rights Advocate, Professor,
Author



Author, Martin Luther Studies



Senior Director for Witness in Society,
ELCA



President, Mekane Yesus Seminary
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Manager, Ecumenical & Inter-Religious
Relations, ELCA



Director for Theological Ethics, ELCA

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS, BORDER SERVICE PROJECT

Next Sunday, October 13, the Festival of St. Luke, our name Sunday, we will celebrate *God's Work, Our Hands* during worship and participate in a congregation service project between services. We will putting together **clothing kits for Border Servant Corps** (BSC) who will distribute them to recently arrived immigrants in Las Cruces, NM.

Along with worshipping and participating in the project on October 13, you can also help with the project by providing the necessary clothing. **Pick up a flyer in the narthex or see the website www.saintluke.us for all the details.** Any questions can be directed to Melissa Groen at mgroen@saintluke.us.

Let us all come together – a congregation service project! What a wonderful outreach!

Sunday, October 27

Reformation Celebration and Oktoberfest

10:00 a.m. ONE WORSHIP SERVICE

Special Children's Message

11:00 a.m. Live German Band, Delicious Food,

Bounce House, Root Biergarten, and More!



THIS WEEK AT SAINT LUKE

SUNDAY, October 06—Pentecost 20

7:30am Tech Rehearsal
8:00am Schola Cantorum
8:45am Worship (Hybrid)
10:00am Sunday School
10:00am Affirmation of Baptism Class
10:00am Up For Discussion
10:00am Prayer Partners Brunch
11:15am Worship (Hybrid)
5:00pm Misa Español
5:00pm AA
6:00pm Reception

MONDAY, October 07

9:00am CDS Classes
10:00am CDS Yoga
1:30pm CDS Aftercare

TUESDAY, October 08

9:00am CDS Classes
10:00am Mary/Martha Circle (Hybrid)
1:30pm CDS Aftercare
1:30pm Program Staff Meeting
7:00pm Reformation Bells

WEDNESDAY, October 09

9:00am CDS Classes
10:00am Women in Community
1:30pm CDS Aftercare
5:30pm RSCM Choristers
7:30pm Schola Cantorum

THURSDAY, October 10

9:00am CDS Classes
1:30pm CDS Aftercare
7:30pm Centering Prayer (Zoom)
8:30pm AA

FRIDAY, October 11

9:00am CDS Classes

SATURDAY, October 12

8:30am Men's Group
9:30am AA
10:00am Pumpkin Decorating
11:00am Al-Anon
3:00pm SLSHY Sunset Sailing

SUNDAY, October 13 – Festival of St. Luke

7:30am Tech Rehearsal
8:00am Schola Cantorum
8:45am Worship (Hybrid)
10:00am God's Work, Our Hands Service Project
11:15am Worship (Hybrid)
5:00pm AA

NB: Worship Services are in person and livestreamed