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The Rev. Robert Vogl Brian Larson, Cantor

Assisting Minister: Dave Faller Lector: Kate Mingle
Communion Distribution: Fay Faller, Mary Parada
October 5, 2025 at 9:30am

17th Sunday after Pentecost

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.



Worship note: “Isaiah in a Vision Did of Old” (hymn 868) is a chorale by Martin Luther, his setting of the Sanctus (or “Holy”) of the mass. This was part of his effort to translate and sing the mass in German. The text is based on a story from Isaiah and traditionally begins with the seraphim’s cry of “holy, holy, holy.” However, here (uniquely), Luther also included the scripture leading up to and contextualizing that moment. We will be singing this Sanctus during the weeks leading up to Reformation Sunday. Think of these weeks as “practice” for Reformation. Jump in and sing as best you can even if it’s not familiar, and remember that mistakes are okay!

GATHERING

Prelude

Grazioso, Ayre, Bourrée

Georg Philipp Telemann

Welcome

Stand

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper. **Amen.**

Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful and loving God, **we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.**

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of + Jesus, your sins are forgiven! **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn 733

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no
2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear



shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in
pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright



pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.
man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.
hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by



morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy



hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960
Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

Apostolic 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.

Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer-cy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

*For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.*

*For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.*

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



A - men.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sit

WORD

First Reading: Lamentations 1:1-6

Jeremiah's announcement of destruction has become a reality. Now Judah is in exile in Babylon. The book of Lamentations contains five poems mourning the exile. In this passage, Jerusalem is portrayed as a widow with no one to comfort her.

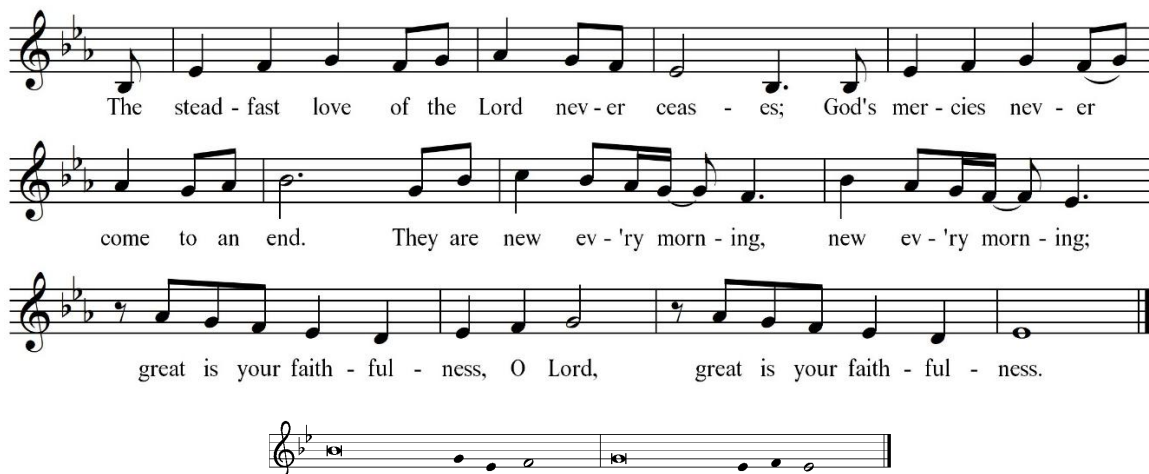
A reading from Lamentations. ¹ How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She that was a princess among the provinces has become subject to forced labor. ² She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers, she has no one to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her; they have become her enemies. ³ Judah has gone into exile with suffering and hard servitude; she lives now among the nations; she finds no resting place; her pursuers have all overtaken her in the midst of her distress. ⁴ The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate; her priests groan; her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter. ⁵ Her foes have become the masters; her enemies prosper because the LORD has made her suffer for the multitude of her transgressions; her children have gone away, captives before the foe. ⁶ From daughter Zion has departed all her majesty. Her princes have become like stags that find no pasture; they fled without strength before the pursuer.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: Lamentations 3:19-26

Refrain is sung by the choir and repeated by all.

Verses are sung choir/congregation.



¹⁹ The thought of my affliction¹ and my homelessness is worm-¹ wood and gall!

²⁰ **My soul continually¹ thinks of it and is bowed¹ down within me.**

²¹ But this I¹ call to mind, and therefore I¹ have hope: **Refrain**

²⁴ “You are all that I have,”¹ says my soul, “therefore I will hope in¹ you, O LORD.”

²⁵ **You are good to those who¹ wait for you, to all that¹ search for you.**

²⁶ It is good that one¹ should wait quietly for the salvation¹ of the LORD. **Refrain**

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

A reading from Second Timothy. ¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, ² To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. ³ I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. ⁸ Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹² and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. ¹³ Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

All sing the Alleluias; Choir sings the Verse.



The word of the Lord en-^ldures forever.

That word is the good news that was an-^lnounced to you. (1 Pet. 1:25)

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶ The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. ⁷ "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!' "

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

Sermon

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Please stand when the hymn introduction begins.

Hymn of the Day 1063

God of the Fertile Fields

1 God of the fer - tile fields, sha - per of
2 We would be stew - ards true, hold - ing in
3 As grows the hid - den seed to fruit that
4 God of the coun - try - side, dear to the

earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
trust from you all that you give; help us in
serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
love to share, teach us like you to care
toil be used, no gift of yours a - busied,
lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.

that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.
Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

Apostles' 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.

Sit or kneel

Prayers of Intercession

A: Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

O God of the church, you give the church a treasure in Jesus Christ. Draw us into the gift of faith passed down from generation to generation. Remind your people that faith the size of a mustard seed is enough. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

O God of creation, you nourish the earth with grace and mercy. Bring favorable weather during the harvest season and sustain all creation along with all who labor in the field. Ensure the welfare of animal companions whose presence offers comfort, safety, and joy. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

O God of nations and communities, you govern and guard the world. Give leaders and people in authority a spirit of making just and righteous laws. Bring peace to countries affected by war and violence.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

O God of those in need, you care for those who are sick, oppressed, bereaved, lonely, and poor. Come to the help of all in need. Help us to trust that you will come to us at the right time.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

O God of this congregation, you nurture our faith. Thank you for those of all ages who teach, lead, and learn in this congregation and beyond. Give growth to the seeds of faith watered by faithful examples of baptismal living. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

O God of ages past, thank you for the witness of those who have died in faith. May the faith of those who now rest in your merciful arms, like Lois and Eunice, shape our faith in your Son, Jesus Christ.

God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

P: We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Stand

Peace The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

Sit

Setting the Table + Presentation of Gifts

Choir

If You Only Had Faith

Caribbean melody

“If you only had faith, just like a little seed of mustard,” this is what Jesus has said.

“You would be able to tell this mountain: Move away! Move away!”

And then the mountain will move away, will move away, will move away.

Stand

Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray. Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our 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:



I - sa - iah in a vi - sion did of old the Lord of hosts en - throned on
high be - hold, whose splen - did train was wide out - spread un - til its stream - ing
glo - ry did the tem - ple fill. A - bove God's throne the shin - ing ser - a - phim
with six - fold wings did rev - erence un - to him. With two each ser - aph hid his
glo - rious face, and two a - bout his feet did in - ter - lace, and with the
oth - er two he soared on high, and one un - to an - oth - er thus did cry:
"Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly
is the Lord of hosts! His glo - ry fill - eth all the earth!" The beams and lin - tels
at their cry - ing shook, and all the house was filled with bil - lowing smoke.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976
Music: JESAJA, DEM PROPHETEN, Martin Luther

Eucharistic Prayer

Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

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.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal, and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh, Power of the Most High, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Invitation to Communion

Gluten-free wafers are available. Please ask your server.

Red wine and white grape juice are available in each tray.



Lamb of God

1. O Je-sus Christ, true Lamb of God, you take the sin of the
2. O Je-sus Christ, true Lamb of God, you take the sin of the

world a - way; O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
world a - way; have mer-cy on us, Je - sus Christ,

have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
and grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
 4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
 be thou my guide; bid dark - ness turn to day, wipe sor - row's
 shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -

guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
 love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
 tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
 trust re-move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887
 Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Stand

Table Blessing and Communion Prayer

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

A: Let us pray. O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants.

Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

SENDING

Blessing

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn 851

When in Our Music God Is Glorified



1 When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied, and ad - o -
 2 How oft, in mak - ing mu - sic, we have found a new di -
 3 So has the church, in lit - ur - gy and song, in faith and
 4 And did not Je - sus sing a psalm that night when ut - most
 5 Let ev - 'ry in - stru - ment be tuned for praise; let all re -



ra - tion leaves no room for pride, it is as
 men - sion in the world of sound, as wor - ship
 love, through cen - tu - ries of wrong, borne wit - ness
 e - vil strove a - gainst the light? Then let us
 joy who have a voice to raise; and may God



though the whole cre - a - tion cried:
 moved us to a more pro - found
 to the truth in ev - 'ry tongue: Al - le - lu - ia!
 sing, for whom he won the fight:
 give us faith to sing al - ways:

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000
 Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924

Sit

Announcements

Dismissal Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

Voluntary

Trumpet Tune

G.P. Telemann

*Everyone is invited to enjoy light refreshments and conversation
 in the fellowship hall following worship.*

The comic strip *Agnus Day* is a lectionary-based comic strip. Each week, Rick (the one with the dark nose) and Ted discuss one of the assigned readings from the Common Lectionary. Their conversation drives at a point and sometimes sparks a laugh. *Agnus Day* is the creation of Pastor James Wetzstein, a Lutheran pastor who serves as one of the campus pastors at Valparaiso University. *Agnus Day* appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org.



Commemorations this Week

Monday, October 6 William Tyndale, translator, martyr, died 1536 Tyndale was ordained a priest in England, and wished to translate the Bible into English. He was opposed in this by King Henry VIII, causing him to flee to Germany. He completed the New Testament in 1525, but before he could finish the Old Testament, he was tried for heresy and burned at the stake.

Tuesday, 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.

Faith beyond Measure

Matters of faith are sometimes tricky to comprehend. Faith is a relationship of trust in God. But how do we measure it? It is, by definition, unquantifiable. Of course, that does not stop us from trying. We want to grade our faith, and we look on the outside for signs of a high faith score.

How often do we mistake material success for God's blessing? It is tempting to look at other people and think they must be more faithful than we are because they have or do more than we do. But there is a flaw in that logic. Quite often, looks can be deceiving. We have all suffered disappointment a time or two (or ten!). Life sometimes deals us more than we can handle. We could have faith the size of a bowling ball, but sometimes things just don't work out.

Jesus' understanding of faith seems different from his disciples' or our own. He teaches the apostles that even the tiniest amount of faith possesses transformative power capable of altering entire realities. The "size" of faith is irrelevant.

God gives every one of us a seed of faith. It is a gift freely given, nurtured through baptism and communion. We build confidence in that faith through worship, prayer, and community. While we struggle to measure our faith, we can increase our confidence and willingness to act on it. When that confidence is low, we can lean on those around us. When it is high, we can strive to build up others, encouraging them in their own relationship with God.

God is calling all of us to be willing and confident servants, sending us out into the world to act on our faith. Like a giant, wild bush that grows from the tiniest seed, our faith can grow, spread, and thrive beyond measure.

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Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)