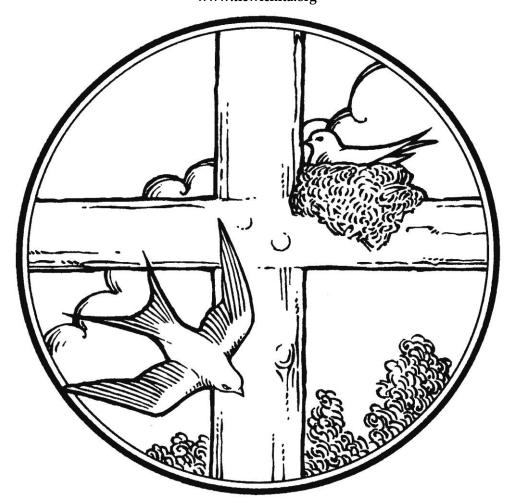
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

611 S. ERIE Wichita, KS 67211 316-685-1571 www.tlcwichita.org



Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

+ SUNDAY OF THE LILIES OF THE FIELD +

September 17, 2023

Anxious Bondage vs. Confident Trust

"You cannot serve God and money" (Matt. 6:24–34), for they require two contrary forms of service. Worry is the worship given to the false god of mammon, an unbelieving anxiousness and focus on the things of this world. Faith is the worship of the true God, a confident trust that He is a loving Father who will care for all of our needs in both body and soul. The widow of Zarephath served God — that is, she believed the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah that the bin of flour would not be used up nor would the jar of oil run dry (1 Kings 17:8–16). He who feeds the birds and clothes the flowers will certainly provide for our daily needs. For He has already provided for our eternal needs, clothing us with Christ's righteousness in Baptism and feeding us His body and blood for our forgiveness. With such confidence we are liberated from worry and freed to do good with our material resources, especially to those who are of the household of faith (Gal. 5:25–6:10).

Communing at this Altar

The Lord's Supper is celebrated and offered here every Lord's day!

*Guests wishing to join our confession and receive this Holy Sacrament now, and in the future, are asked to meet with the pastor before communing.

Because we consider communing at this altar a public declaration of fellowship in what our church believes, teaches, and confesses, we welcome to commune those who:

- ♦ are baptized into the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Mt 28:19);
- tonfess Jesus Christ as their personal Savior from sin;
- discern the Lord's Body and Blood as truly present, together with the bread and wine (1 Cor 11:29), as taught by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in the Small Catechism;
- reamine themselves and repent, as instructed in the Scriptures (1 Cor 11:28);
- believe the words of Jesus, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins" (Mt 26:28); If this is **not** your confession, or you're seeking a church home and wish to learn more about Trinity, our Pastor will gladly meet with you after the service. In the meantime, we welcome you forward for a blessing during the distribution. Simply come forward and, when

kneeling, *cross your arms over your chest*, indicating that you'd like to receive a blessing. As you commune, select either the individual cup or the common chalice.

Communicants who cannot easily come to the altar will be communed in the pew. *Please notify an usher or the Pastor beforehand if you need such assistance.*

To help prepare yourself to receive the Lord's Body and Blood you may read "<u>Christian Questions with Their Answers</u>" found on pages 329 and 330 of the hymnal.



+ THE DIVINE SERVICE +

Setting Three, Lutheran Service Book, p.184

HYMN OF INVOCATION ~ *Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings*

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 \triangle Please stand and face the cross as it enters.

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

INVOCATION

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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ⅓ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

Ps. 86:4, 6, 15a, 16; antiphon: Ps. 86:1a, 2b, 3

INTROIT

Incline your ear, O Lord, and | answer me,*

save Your servant, who trusts in You – You | are my God.

Be gracious to me, | O Lord,*

for to You do I cry | all the day.

- P Gladden the soul of Your | servant,* for to You, O Lord, do I lift | up my soul.
- Give ear, O Lord, | to my prayer;*
 listen to my | plea for grace.
- P But You, O Lord, are a God merciful and | gracious;*

3

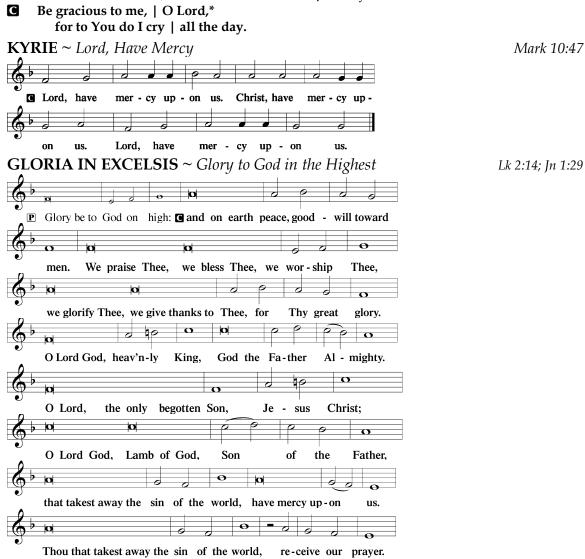
turn to me and be gra- | cious to me;

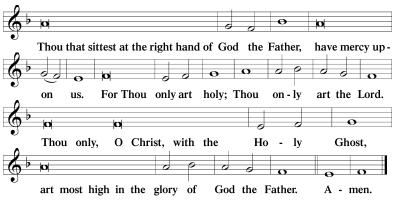
- give Your strength to Your | servant,*
 and save the son of Your maid- | servant.
- Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
 and to the Holy | Spirit;
 as it was in the be- | ginning,*

*You may bow your head at this point in praise of the Name of the Holy Trinity

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Incline your ear, O Lord, and | answer me,*
save Your servant, who trusts in You – You | are my God.





SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.



P Let us pray.

Sit

O Lord, we implore You, let Your continual pity cleanse and defend Your Church; and because she cannot continue in safety without Your aid, preserve her evermore by Your help and goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



OLD TESTAMENT READING

1 Kings 17:8-16

⁸Then the word of the LORD came to him, ⁹"Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you." ¹⁰So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink." ¹¹And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." ¹²And she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die." ¹³And Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴For thus says the LORD the God of Israel, 'The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth.'" ¹⁵And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days. ¹⁶The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL Ps. 118:8–9

- A It is better to take refuge | in the Lord* than to | trust in man.
- It is better to take refuge | in the Lord* than to trust in | princes.

EPISTLE READING

Galatians 5:25-6:10

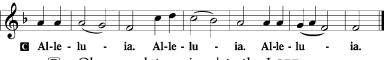
²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. ²⁶Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

¹Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. ²Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. ³For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. ⁵For each will have to bear his own load. ⁶One who is taught the word must share all good things with the one who teaches. ⁷Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. ⁸For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. ⁹And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA



Oh come, let us sing | to the LORD;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal- | vation!



HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 6:24-34

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



²⁴[Jesus said:] "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money. ²⁵"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one

of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³²For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.



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

*You may genuflect
and was made man;
in reverence of the incarnation

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,

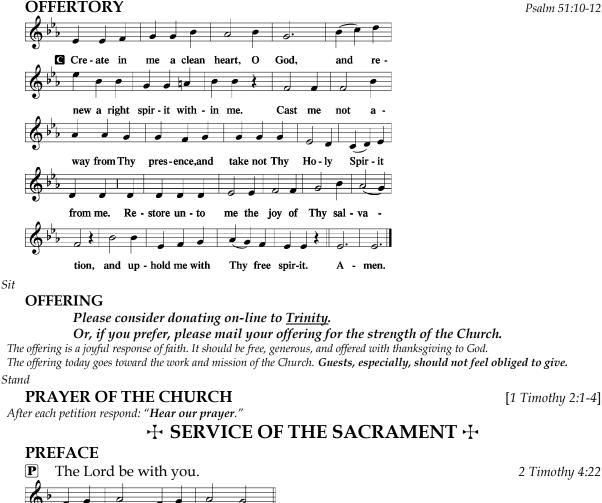
and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ What God Ordains Is Always Good **SERMON**

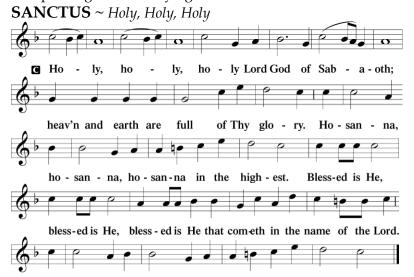
760

Stand



C And with thy spir - it. Lift up your hearts. Colossians 3:1 ■ We lift them up un - to the Lord. Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God. Psalm 136 right C It is meet and to do.

It is truly meet, 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, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9

Matthew 6:9-13

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;

Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

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 \(\frac{1}{2}\) deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25

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."



DISTRIBUTION

Please take a moment and read 'COMMUNING AT THIS ALTAR' in the front cover of the bulletin. Guests are invited to please speak with the Pastor before communing for the first time.

Prayer Before Reception of Holy Communion

O Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof; but speak only Your Word, and my soul will be healed. I will take the Bread of Heaven and call upon the Name of the Lord. What shall I give to the Lord for all that He has given to me? I will take the Cup of Salvation and call upon the Name of the Lord. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS ~

With The Lord Begin Your Task	869
Children of the Heavenly Father	725
All Depends On Our Possessing	732
Love Divine, All Love Excelling	700

Prayer After Reception of Holy Communion

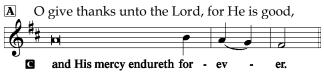
I live, and yet not I, but Christ lives in me. What we have received with our mouths, O Lord, let us keep with faithful hearts, that this Gift given us in earthly time may bring us to eternal salvation. Amen.

Additional prayers to prepare for receiving the Sacrament are found in the front cover of the hymnal.

Luke 2:29-32



THANKSGIVING Psalm 107:1



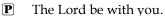
A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS

2 Timothy 4:22; Psalm 103:1





A Bless we the Lord.



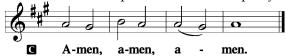
BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



 \triangle Please remain standing and face the cross in reverence as it processes out.

CLOSING HYMN ~ *How Firm a Foundation, O Saints of the Lord*

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