



17th Sunday after Pentecost-Mission Festival
September 15, 2024

Opening Hymn #496

Hark! the Voice of Jesus Crying

1. Hark! the voice of Jesus crying,
"Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting,
Who will bear the sheave away?"
Loud and long the Master calleth,
Rich reward He offers thee;
Who will answer, gladly saying,
"Here am I, send me, send me"?
2. If you cannot speak like angels,
If you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus,
You can say He died for all.
If you cannot rouse the wicked
With the Judgement's dread alarms,
You can lead the little children
To the Savior's waiting arms.
- 3 If you cannot be a watchman,
Standing high on Zion's wall,
Pointing out the path to heaven,
Offering life and peace to all,
With your prayers and with your bounties
You can do what God demands;
You can be like faithful Aaron,
Holding up the prophet's hands.

4. Let none hear you idly saying,
"There is nothing I can do,"
While the souls of men are dying
And the Master calls for you.
Take the task He gives you gladly,
Let His work your pleasure be;
Answer quickly when He calleth,
"Here am I, send me, send me!"

Invocation

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Confession and Absolution

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

C: Amen

The Saints in Christ Are One in Every Place

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.

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.

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.

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 © 1996 Jubilate Hymns Ltd.; admin Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission.
Lutheran Service Book Hymn 838 License #100014283.*

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray...

... through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

The First Lesson – Romans 10:8-17

⁸ But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to

shame.”¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him.¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”¹⁴ How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?¹⁵ And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!”¹⁶ But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?”¹⁷ So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 96
WS pg. 26

Antiphon – Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord a new song.

Sing to the Lord, | bless His name;*

Proclaim the good news of His salvation from | day to day.

Declare His glory among the | nations,*

His wonders among all | peoples.

Oh, worship the Lord in the beauty of | holiness!*

Tremble before Him, | all the earth.

Antiphon – Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord a new song.

Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;*

Let the sea roar, and all its | fullness;

Let the field be joyful, and all that | is in it.*

Then all the trees of the woods will rejoice be- | fore the Lord.

For He is coming, for He is coming to | judge the earth.*

He shall judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples | with His truth.

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
And to the Holy | Spirit,
As it was in the be- | ginning,*
Is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Antiphon – Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord a new song.

The Gospel – Luke 24:36-48

³⁶ As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” ³⁷ But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸ And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate before them. ⁴⁴ Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

P: Blessed are they that hear the Word of God and keep it.

The Alleluia – sing

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

These words are written that we may believe
That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Confession of Faith – Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy Christian Church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

Hymn of the Day #767

Church of God, Elect and Glorious

1. Church of God, elect and glorious,
Holy nation, chosen race;
Called as God's own special people,
Royal priests and heirs of grace:
Know the purpose of your calling,
Show to all His mighty deeds;
Tell of love that knows no limits,

Grace that meets all human needs.

2. God has called you out of darkness
Into His most marv'lous light;
Brought His truth to life within you,
Turned your blindness into sight.
Let your light so shine around you
That God's name is glorified;
And all find fresh hope and purpose
In Christ Jesus crucified.

3. Once you were an alien people,
Strangers to God's heart of love;
But He brought you home in mercy,
Citizens of heav'n above.
Let His love flow out to others,
Let them feel a Father's care;
That they too may know His welcome
And His countless blessings share.

4. Church of God, elect and holy,
Be the people He intends;
Strong in faith and swift to answer
Each command your master sends:
Royal priests, fulfill your calling
Through your sacrifice and prayer;
Give your lives in joyful service
Sing His praise, His love declare.

Sermon Text – John 1:35-46

³⁵The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to

him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?”³⁹ He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour.⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.⁴¹ He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ).⁴² He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, “You are Simon the son of John. You shall be called Cephas” (which means Peter).⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.”⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”⁴⁶ Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.”

Sermon

Examples in Evangelism

Directing

Bringing

Inviting

Offertory – sing

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Prayer of the Church

(Congregation may remain seated)

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

P: Dear Father in heaven, with your gift of a Savior you restored hope for our fallen world and brought glory to your name. We thank you for the good news that you have reconciled the world to yourself through your Son.

**1. I hear the Savior calling! The gospel comes to me.
My eyes once closed in blindness Are opened now to see
That I myself was helpless To live eternally,
But, dying, Christ did save me, And now He calls for me!**

M: O Jesus, Lamb of God, we praise you for offering yourself as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of all. On the cross you declared the sacrifice for sins completed. At the open tomb, you assured the world that sinners are reconciled to God.

**2. I hear the Savior calling! He leads a soul to me,
A soul in bitter anguish, One needing to be free.
The gift I have to offer Is Christ, my Lord's decree
That all have been forgiven-My Savior calls for me!**

P: Lord of the Church, Bless our church with pastors and teachers who faithfully proclaim your Word. Lead many young men and women to study for the preaching and teaching ministries. By the power of your gospel, motivate them so that they do not become discouraged but continue in the course you have set before them.

**3. I hear the Savior calling! He gives this charge to me:
To serve the best I'm able, Whate'er the call may be.
Thus hand in hand with others Who share the gospel key
We spread the gospel tidings-My Savior calls for me!**

P: Holy Spirit, blessed Counselor, use your Word of Truth and power to break down the barriers to our witness, including fallen mankind's natural hatred for God and Satan's wicked work among us.

**4. I hear the Savior calling! He changes hearts for me.
From door to door I witness To bring my Savior's plea;
Yet nothing can be added, No word on bended knee,
Beyond the simple gospel-My Savior calls for me!**

P: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, send us by the power of your Word into the mission fields beyond the walls of our church. Give us hearing ears and seeing eyes that seize the opportunities you set before us to be your witnesses.

**5. I hear the Savior calling! His call has urgency!
Each moment souls are dying; Soon comes eternity.
And so, my precious Savior, This is my humble plea:
Prepare me for my mission For You are calling me!**

P: You taught us to pray: *stand*

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.**

The Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen

Closing Hymn #769

Lift High the Cross

Refrain:

Lift high the cross; the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

1. Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. [Refrain]

2. Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. [Refrain]

3. So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! [Refrain]

Silent Prayer

All scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®(ESV), copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Portions of the Liturgy from the Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book.

Prayer of the Church – Worship Supplement Hymn 770