

11th Sunday after Pentecost
August 24, 2025

Opening Hymn #17
Oh, Worship the King

1. Oh, worship the King
All glorious above:
Oh, gratefully sing
His power and His love,
Our Shield and Defender,
The Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor
And girded with praise!
2. Oh, tell of His might,
Oh, sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light,
Whose canopy space!
His chariots of wrath
The deep thunder-clouds form,
And dark is His path
On the wings of the storm.
3. This earth, with its store
Of wonders untold,
Almighty, Thy power
Hath founded of old,
Hath stablished it fast

By a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast,
Like a mantle, the sea.

4. Thy bountiful care
What tongues can recite?
It breathes in the air,
It shines in the light,
It streams from the hills,
It descends to the plain,
And sweetly distils
In the dew and the rain.

5. Frail children of dust
And feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust
Nor find Thee to fail.
Thy mercies, how tender,
How firm to the end,
Our maker, Defender,
Redeemer, and Friend!

6. O measureless Might,
Ineffable Love,
While angels delight
To hymn Thee above,
Thy humbler creation,
Though feeble their lays,
With true adoration
Shall sing to Thy praise.

Invocation

P We worship today in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C ♪**Amen.**

Confession & Absolution

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.

C ♪**Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord

C ♪**And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sins.**

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P & C **O most merciful God, who has given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us and hath given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgiveth us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He giveth power to become the sons of God and hath promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C ♪ **Amen.**

Gloria Patri

C ♪ **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

The Kyrie

C ♪ **Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Gloria in Excelsis – (Hymn #238 v.1)

All glory be to God alone,
Forevermore the Highest One,
Who doth our sinful race befriend,
And grace and peace to us extend.
Among mankind may His good will
All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.

The Salutation

P The Lord be with you

C ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

The Collect for the Day

P Let us pray..... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **✠Amen**

The First Lesson – Isaiah 66:18-23

¹⁸“For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, ¹⁹and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands afar off, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. ²⁰And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the Lord, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the Lord, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the Lord. ²¹And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the Lord. ²²“For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the Lord, so shall your offspring and your name remain. ²³From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the Lord.”

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 50:1-15

Antiphon – At the works of Your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.

The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth*

from the rising of the sun to its | setting.

Out of Zion, the perfection of | beauty,*

God | shines forth.

Our God comes; he does not keep | silence;*

**before him is a devouring fire, around him a mighty |
tempest.**

He calls to the heav- | ens above*

and to the earth, that he may judge his | people:

“Gather to me my | faithful ones,*

who made a covenant with me by | sacrifice!”

The heavens declare his | righteousness,*

for God him- | self is judge!

“Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, I will testify a- |
gainst you.*

I am | God, your God.

Not for your sacrifices do I re- | buke you;*

your burnt offerings are continually be- | fore me.

I will not accept a bull | from your house*

or goats | from your folds.

For every beast of the for- | est is mine,*

the cattle on a | thousand hills.

I know all the birds | of the hills,*

and all that moves in the | field is mine.

“If I were hungry, I would not | tell you,*

for the world and its full- | ness are mine.

Do I eat the | flesh of bulls*

or drink the | blood of goats?

Offer to God a sacrifice of thanks- | giving,*

and perform your vows to the | Most High,

and call upon me in the day of | trouble;*

I will deliver you, and you shall glo- | rify me.”

**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 – At the works of Your hands, O Lord, I lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.

The Second Lesson – Hebrews 12:4-29

⁴In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? “My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. ⁶For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.” ⁷It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? ⁸If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. ⁹Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. ¹²Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, ¹³and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. ¹⁴Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and

causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; ¹⁶that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. ¹⁷For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears. ¹⁸For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. ²⁵See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven. ²⁶At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” ²⁷This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, ²⁹for our God is a consuming fire.

Verse of the Day – Luke 13:29

Alleluia. People will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. Alleluia.

The Gospel – Luke 13:22-30

²²[Jesus] went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. ²³And someone said to him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And he said to them, ²⁴“Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. ²⁵When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ ²⁶Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’ ²⁷But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’ ²⁸In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. ²⁹And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. ³⁰And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”

Confession of Faith

Apostle's 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.

Hymn of the Day #415 (v. 1, 3, 6-7)

Lo, Many Shall Come from the East and the West

1. Lo, many shall come from the East and the West
And sit at the feast of salvation
With Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the blest,
Obeying the Lord's invitation.
Have mercy upon us, O Jesus!

3. Oh, may we all hear when our Shepherd doth call
In accents persuasive and tender,
That, while there is time, we make haste, one and all,
And find Him, our mighty Defender!
Have mercy upon us, O Jesus!

6. All trials are then like a dream that is past,
Forgotten all trouble and sorrow;
All questions and doubts have been answered at last;
Then dawneth eternity's morrow.
Have mercy upon us, O Jesus!

7. The heavens shall ring with an anthem more grand
Than ever on earth was recorded;
The blest of the Lord shall receive at His hand
The crown to the victors awarded.
Have mercy upon us, O Jesus!

Sermon Text – Hebrews 12:4-29

Sermon

***The Cross of Christ Is the Way
into the Kingdom of God***

Offertory

♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Prayer of the Church

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

P: God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, grant us repentant faith to strive to enter ever more deeply into Your blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. By the witness of Your saints, gather many from the very corners of this world to enter Your kingdom.

**1. Lord of all nations, grant me grace
To love all people, ev'ry race;
And in each person may I see
My kindred, loved, redeemed by Thee.**

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, You have called fathers to bring up their children in Your fear and love. Sanctify and sustain them through Your Word, that they would lovingly discipline their children and so show forth Your own divine care for Your baptized children.

2. Break down the wall that would divide

Thy children, Lord, on ev'ry side.

My neighbor's good let me pursue;

Let Christian love bind warm and true.

P: Almighty God, bless all those who care for the sick and attend to the dying; all those who care for our children; and our police, firefighters, emergency personnel and disaster-relief workers. Increase our generous support of those in need.

3. Forgive me, Lord, where I have erred

By loveless act and thoughtless word.

Make me to see the wrong I do

Will grieve my wounded Lord anew.

P: Lord, be with the sick and those who suffer, those troubled in mind or heart, the grieving in their sorrow, and the dying in their last days on earth [*especially* _____].

4. Give me Thy courage, Lord, to speak

Whenever strong oppress the weak.

Should I myself the victim be,

Help me forgive, rememb'ring Thee

P: O Lord, prosper Your Church, the preaching of the Word, and the work of all pastors and church workers. Guide and strengthen the catechumens and all who teach and learn Your Word. Give Your Church a holy confidence in Your eternal life

so she fears no worldly threat and ministers to the nations boldly and faithfully.

**5. With Thine own love may I be filled
And by Thy Holy Spirit willed,
That all I touch, where'er I be,
May be divinely touched by Thee.**

P: Lord God, You have drawn to Yourself believers from all nations and sanctified them in Holy Baptism as priests and Levites in Your Church. Fortify their faith and embolden their witness, that many may be gathered into the new heavens and new earth; through ***please stand*** Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who taught us to pray:

The 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, Amen, Amen.

Closing Hymn #527
Lord, It Belongs Not to My Care

1. Lord, it belongs not to my care
Whether I die or live;
To love and serve Thee is my share,
And this Thy grace must give.

2. If life be long, I will be glad
That I may long obey;
If short no laborer is sad
To end his toilsome day.

3. Christ leads me through no darker rooms
Than He went through before;
He that into God's kingdom comes
Must enter by this door.

4. Come, Lord, when grace has made me meet
Thy blessed face to see;
For if Thy work on earth be sweet.
What will Thy glory be?

5. Then shall I end my sad complaints
And weary, sinful days
And join with the triumphant saints
That sing my Savior's praise.

6. My knowledge of that life is small,
The eye of faith is dim;
But 'tis enough that Christ knows all,
And I shall be with Him.

Silent Prayer

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