

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2025**

**IN THE NAME OF JESUS, WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S!**

8:00 A.M. & 10:30 a.m.



*THE ENTRANCE RITE*

*PRELUDE*

*Suite of Second (Psalm) Tone: 2.Duo  
L-N Clérambault*

*WELCOME*

*ENTRANCE HYMN*

*Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us*

LSB 711

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| <p><b>1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us;<br/>Much we need Your tender care.<br/>In Your pleasant pastures feed us,<br/>For our use Your fold prepare.<br/>Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,<br/>You have bought us; we are Yours.<br/>Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,<br/>You have bought us; we are Yours.</b></p> <p><b>2 We are Yours; in love befriend us,<br/>Be the guardian of our way;<br/>Keep Your flock, from sin defend us,<br/>Seek us when we go astray.<br/>Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,<br/>Hear us children when we pray.<br/>Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,<br/>Hear us children when we pray.</b></p> | <p><b>3 You have promised to receive us,<br/>Poor and sinful though we be;<br/>You have mercy to relieve us,<br/>Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.<br/>Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,<br/>Early let us turn to You.<br/>Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,<br/>Early let us turn to You.</b></p> <p><b>4 Early let us seek Your favor,<br/>Early let us do Your will;<br/>Blessèd Lord and only Savior,<br/>With Your love our spirits fill.<br/>Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,<br/>You have loved us, love us still.<br/>Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,<br/>You have loved us, love us still.</b></p> |
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*INVOCATION*

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

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

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

*Kneel. Silence is observed for reflection and self-examination.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy upon us. In your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**Amen.**

*KYRIE (Stand)*

LSB 944

For the peace from above and for our salvation; and for the peace of the whole world and the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

**Kyrie Eleison; Christe Eleison; Kyrie Eleison.** *(Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy.)*

For the well-being of the Church of God; and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

**Kyrie Eleison; Christe Eleison; Kyrie Eleison.**

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

**Kyrie Eleison; Christe Eleison; Kyrie Eleison.**

- 1    **Splendor and honor, majesty and power  
Are Yours, O Lord God, fount of ev'ry blessing,  
For by Your bidding was the whole creation  
Called into being.**
- 2    **Praised be the true Lamb, slain for our redemption,  
By whose self-off'ring we are made God's people:  
A priestly kingdom, from all tongues and nations,  
Called to God's service.**
- 3    **To the Almighty, throned in heav'nly splendor,  
And to the Savior, Christ our Lamb and Shepherd,  
Be adoration, praise, and glory given,  
Now and forever.**

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY*

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd,  
**without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost  
forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live  
and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*THE LITURGY OF THE WORD*

*FIRST LESSON    (Be seated)*

Ezekiel 34:11-24

“For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them with good pasture, and on the

mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

“As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(8:00) PSALM 119:169-176 (Sung responsively)*

Let my cry come before you, O LORD;  
give me understanding according to your word!  
Let my plea come before you;  
deliver me according to your word.  
My lips will pour forth praise,  
for you teach me your statutes.  
My tongue will sing of your word,  
for all your commandments are right.  
Let your hand be ready to help me,  
for I have chosen your precepts.  
I long for your salvation, O LORD,  
and your law is my delight.  
Let my soul live and praise you,

and let your just decrees help me.  
I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant,  
for I do not forget your commandments.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*(10:30) ANTHEM*

*Jubilation Choir*

*Day by Day  
One and All Rejoice 278*

- 1 Day by day, Your mercies, Lord, attend me,  
Bringing comfort to my anxious soul.  
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, You send me  
Draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.  
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,  
Brings to naught the burdens of my quest;  
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,  
Where, at last, I'll find eternal rest.
- 2 Day by day, I know You will provide me  
Strength to serve and wisdom to obey;  
I will seek Your loving will to guide me  
O'er the paths I struggle day by day.  
I will fear no evil of the morrow;  
I will trust in Your enduring grace.  
Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow;  
Till in glory I behold Your face.
- 3 Oh, what joy to know that You are near me  
When my burdens grow too great to bear;  
Oh, what joy to know that You will hear me  
When I come, O Lord, to You in prayer.  
Day by day, no matter what betide me,  
You will hold me ever in Your hand.  
Savior, with Your presence here to guide me,  
I will reach at last the promised land.

I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(10:30) CHILDREN'S SERMON*

*ALLELUIA VERSE (Stand)*

LSB 952

**Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!**

*GOSPEL*

Luke 15:1-10

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found

the coin that I had lost.’ Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

*SERMON (Be seated)*

Grace, mercy and peace be to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior Jesus. Amen. Dear friends in Christ:

Have you ever been lost? In these days of smart phones and GPS, perhaps you haven’t.

But most of us have. And it’s not a good feeling. Years ago, I got lost a couple of times while driving around the Iowa countryside – back in those days when all we had were paper maps that didn’t show all the roads. And I’ve been lost a couple times recently too, while hiking out in the woods, when I lost both the trail and my cell phone coverage.

Being lost is scary. But being spiritually lost is the scariest of all. And this is the type of lostness Jesus addresses in today’s Gospel reading.

As he often does, Jesus speaks to the problem by telling stories. The first story he shares tells of a lost sheep. The second tells of a lost coin. And if we were to read on in this great chapter, we would hear Jesus tell a third story – one about a lost son, a prodigal son. We read that story a few months ago, back in Lent.

Today’s sermon will look at these stories and suggest from them two different ways in which one can be “lost” and one way in which a state of lostness can come about. We will also pause after each of these “ways” and point out how God helps people when they’re lost. For God is all about seeking and saving the lost.

The first and main way that one can be lost is to be lost in sin. This is the state of being lost suggested by the context of Jesus’ stories, for he tells them after noticing how the Pharisees grumbled because he was eating with sinners. It’s also the way suggested by Jesus’ own words, given twice, when he talks about the joy which comes when “sinners repent.”

The Pharisees reacted to Jesus in the way they did because they knew, very correctly, that sin is a problem. Sin hurts people and breaks relationships. People who continue to

sin find that their lives become a mess. Their sin brings down others too. This is why the Pharisees felt that it was best for people to avoid such people.

In the story of the lost sheep, lostness is portrayed as being alone and in a scary situation. A lost sheep won't normally survive since it can't fend for itself and doesn't have the protection of the flock or its shepherd.

In the same way, sinners are often scared and alone. They've run out of people who will trust them, and they find themselves around those who are dangerous.

Still, sinners can sometimes appear that they're doing just fine. They might even have more friends than good people. The Prodigal Son seemed to have many friends – at least until his money ran out. And those sinners with whom Jesus was eating had obviously gathered as a group.

Many people, as we know, believe that it's better to laugh with the sinners than cry with the saints. But of course, these people forget that saints can laugh too, and that the laughter of sinners doesn't last very long.

What I've found is that most sinners know they're in trouble. They may joke about everything being okay, but deep down they know otherwise. They know they've lost their way, and they fear their cause may be lost.

Even so, there are still some sinners who aren't aware of their sinfulness. They've either been told that what they're doing is okay or they just don't see how their actions cause others pain. In today's second reading, Paul describes himself as a great sinner – the “foremost of sinners” – pointing out how he was a blasphemer, a persecutor, and an insolent opponent. But at the time he was committing these sins, he didn't think he was doing anything wrong. It was only later that he realized the truth.

The church teaches us to confess sins that are “known and unknown; things done and left undone.” And that's because we are sometimes ignorant of our sins.

More importantly, the church teaches us also to confess that we are all sinful and unclean. Yes, there are some who sin more than others. But we dare not single them out without also admitting our own sin. As the scripture says: “*We all sin and fall short of the glory of God*” (Romans 3:23). When we talk about those who are lost in sin, we must include ourselves as well.



The good news, however, is that God has mercy on sinners. Paul spoke to this in his letter to Timothy – the part we read today – when he said: *“But I received mercy... and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.”* Later in this same reading, Paul said: *“The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.”*

When explaining all this to Timothy, Paul adds that God had mercy on him *“because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief.”* And these words might lead us to believe that God only forgives those sins which are committed in ignorance. But that’s not the case. In his letter to the Romans, Paul speaks very candidly about his struggles with sin even after his conversion. In chapter seven he states: *“For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing”* (7:18-19). Paul concludes his thoughts in that section by saying: *“Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?” Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus”* (7:24-25, 8:1).

God showed his great mercy to us by sending Jesus to save us from our sin. And Jesus showed this mercy as he ate with sinners.

I believe it’s safe to say that during his time spent at table with those sinners, Jesus included words of encouragement for them to repent. And I’m sure he read the room and offered these words at the times and in ways that would be most effective.

But just as much, Jesus’ presence with those sinners that day was a sign of his mercy toward them. He entered their world, endured the shameful looks of those who disapproved, and showed that he cared.

And it is with this same love that Jesus invites us to his banquet table. He welcomes us to come into his presence and engage with him. And yes, a part of that engagement will include encouragement to repent of our sins.

Repentance is an acknowledgement of our guilt and a pledge to do better. Jesus’ love, however, is not conditional on us doing better. Jesus will eat with us while we’re still sinners, because he is still working on us. *“God shows his love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us”* (Romans 5:8).

Jesus came to call sinners. We see this in Jesus’ teaching about being lost.

And Jesus' teaching here also then suggests a second point that is related to this. That point is that people are also lost when they are separated from Christ's church.

When Jesus uses the illustration of a sheep wandering away from the flock, he has in mind more than just the sinful actions which separate a person from God. He also in mind the separation which takes place within God's family.

God wants us to live in community with one another. And he wants us to be in a community that teaches, lives and reinforces the faith.

We sheep are meant to be in a flock, meaning a church. We are not to go the way of faith alone. Can you be a Christian without a church? Not really. You certainly can't be a good one.

What I've noticed over the years is that people will wander from the church for many reasons. Some will decide that they no longer want to fit it into their busy schedules. Others get scared off by its demands, especially the ones that tell us to interact with one another, forgive one another and support one another. Still others simply question whether the church is helping them.

Whatever the reason for walking away, such going it alone is a case of being lost. Those without a church home are like sheep who have wandered from the flock. We in America like to celebrate the rugged individual and lift up the value of independence, but these values don't reflect God's will for living as his people.

Once again, the good news is that Jesus comes after us when we wander. He will even leave the rest of the flock to do so – we are that important to him!

Notice in these stories how Jesus highlights God's joy when a person is found. And notice, too, how this joy is then shared. Both the shepherd who finds his lost sheep and the woman who finds her lost coin call their friends and neighbors and say: "Rejoice with me." This group rejoicing indicates how important this restoration is to both God and the community.

The ways in which God searches for us are not always clear. The scriptures tell many stories where God extends a blessing or a curse for the purpose of catching people's attention so that they might return to him in faith. And this indicates to us that God will work this way in our lives too.

But one way we know for sure that God will act is by sending called and appointed messengers. We know this because Jesus has commissioned his church to go and make disciples of all nations, and because he calls people to lead and serve in his church.

This thought then leads us to our third point about being lost from today's reading. Sometimes people are lost because of the failures of the church's leaders.

This point is suggested by the story of the lost coin. The coin didn't get lost by wandering off on its own. Rather, someone either moved it, or the owner simply misplaced it.

This echoes the message given by the prophet Ezekiel which we read in today's first reading. There Ezekiel records God saying: "*I, I myself, will search for my sheep and will seek them out.*" God searches on his own because the spiritual shepherds he had appointed to do this work weren't doing their job. This is stated clearly in the verses right before our reading.

Yes, people are sometimes lost because their leaders take them in the wrong direction or neglect them. And knowing this, we who lead in the church should see this message as a strong call to responsibility and integrity.

Today, this particularly means pastors. But it also means all of us who have a spiritual leadership role, including teachers, parents, and other church workers.

Sometimes we leaders fail because we get too busy with our own concerns. And sometimes we're afraid to speak out as we should. Sometimes we're simply not faithful.

This is why God's promise given through Ezekiel is so important. God himself will seek out the lost. And this is a great word of comfort, given to each of us.

Jesus makes the seeking and saving mission of God abundantly clear – both in his stories like the ones we are considering today and in his actions. A few chapters after today's reading, Luke tells of a time when Jesus spotted a rich tax collector named Zacchaeus and asked if he could stay at his house. Jesus' request was a means of seeking out this sinner – one whom most people wouldn't want to associate with. When Jesus gave his request, Zacchaeus was so moved by this that he promptly repented of his sins.

Whereupon Jesus said to him, "*Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost*" (19:10).

Jesus also tells us that there is joy in heaven when such repenting happens. And this message should lead us to be joyful too. The church is to welcome sinners and eat with them – calling them to repentance and showing them mercy.

How wonderful it is to celebrate the repentance of others. And how wonderful it is to have received mercy ourselves.

May God then lead us in our seeking of others, and in our rejoicing at being found. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

*HYMN OF THE DAY (Stand)*

*Amazing Grace*

LSB 744

- 1   Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—  
     That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found,  
     Was blind but now I see!**
- 2   The Lord has promised good to me,  
     His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
     As long as life endures.**
- 3   Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
     I have already come;  
His grace has brought me safe thus far,  
     His grace will lead me home.**
- 4   Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail  
     And mortal life shall cease,  
Amazing grace shall then prevail  
     In heaven's joy and peace.**
- 5   When we've been there ten thousand years,  
     Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
     Than when we'd first begun.**

**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 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence 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.**

### OFFERING

***Offerings** support the church's mission work – both here and through our many partners. Offerings may be placed in the box at the sanctuary entrance or sent to the church through our website or the mail. **Fellowship Cards** help us welcome new people and track participation. Please fill one out and place it in the offering box following the service.*

### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

That we would be guarded against self-righteousness that sees no need to hear of Christ and His redemption; that we would be preserved in His Word and grace; and that we would always be about the proclamation of repentance and the forgiveness of sins for the sake of Christ, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For pastors, that God would bless them in shepherding His people whom He has gathered and in seeking those who have wandered away; and for all of us as we attend to these tasks according to our vocations, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the households of this congregation, that all may live in love that issues from a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all entrusted with public office in our land, that they would know wisdom and courage to serve our nation according to God's holy will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

That the shepherd of God's sheep, Christ Jesus, would also bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, having mercy especially upon those on our prayer list, all who look to Him for deliverance, and those we name in our hearts at this time... let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those Christ feeds today with His own holy body and blood, that we would be guarded from impenitence and resistance to God's promises and thus receive the forgiveness, life and salvation that he offers, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For grace to proclaim the triumph of the cross throughout the world, so that all would rejoice in the victory of that love which hate could not destroy and that life which death could not overcome, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

We entrust all these petitions to Your care, loving Father, confident in Your great mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who is worshiped together with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*OFFERTORY*

*Create in Me*

(LSB 956)

**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. Amen.**



## *SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT*

### *PREFACE (Stand)*

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 him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good, 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...

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:

### *SANCTUS*

(LSB 961)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessèd, blessèd, blessèd is He  
who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

### *PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING*

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

### *THE WORDS OF OUR LORD*

*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 peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

*AGNUS DEI*

(LSB 962)

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
grant us Your peace,  
grant us Your peace,  
grant us Your peace.**

*THE COMMUNION (Be seated)*

*Those wishing to commune at the foot of the steps should come forward first. Those wishing to commune at the altar rail should come forward after these, front rows first, from both sides of the aisle. After receiving, all should return to their seats. A common dismissal will be given at the end.*



**1** Jesus sinners doth receive;  
Oh, may all this saying ponder  
Who in sin's delusions live  
And from God and heaven wander!  
Here is hope for all who grieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

**2** We deserve but grief and shame,  
Yet His words, rich grace revealing,  
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim;  
Here our ills have perfect healing.  
Firmly in these words believe:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

**3** Sheep that from the fold did stray  
No true shepherd e'er forsaketh;  
Weary souls that lost their way  
Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh  
In His arms that they may live:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

**4** I, a sinner, come to Thee  
With a penitent confession.  
Savior, mercy show to me;  
Grant for all my sins remission.  
Let these words my soul relieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

**5** Oh, how blest it is to know:  
Were as scarlet my transgression,  
It shall be as white as snow  
By Thy blood and bitter passion;  
For these words I now believe:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

**6** Now my conscience is at peace;  
From the Law I stand acquitted.  
Christ hath purchased my release  
And my ev'ry sin remitted.  
Naught remains my soul to grieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

**7** Jesus sinners doth receive;  
Also I have been forgiven;  
And when I this earth must leave,  
I shall find an open heaven.  
Dying, still to Him I cleave:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

1 Jesus comes today with healing,  
Knocking at my door, appealing,  
Off'ring pardon, grace, and peace.  
He Himself makes preparation,  
And I hear His invitation:  
"Come and taste the blessèd feast."

2 Christ Himself, the priest presiding,  
Yet in bread and wine abiding  
In this holy sacrament,  
Gives the bread of life, once broken,  
And the cup, the precious token  
Of His sacred covenant.

3 Under bread and wine, though lowly,  
I receive the Savior holy,  
Blood and body, giv'n for me,  
Very Lamb of God from heaven,  
Who to bitter death was given,  
Hung upon the cursèd tree.

4 God descends with heav'nly power,  
Gives Himself to me this hour  
In this ordinary sign.  
On my tongue His pledge receiving,  
I accept His grace, believing  
That I taste His love divine.

5 Let me praise God's boundless favor,  
Whose own feast of love I savor,  
Bidden by His gracious call.  
Wedding garments He provides me,  
With a robe of white He hides me,  
Fits me for the royal hall.

6 Now have I found consolation,  
Comfort in my tribulation,  
Balm to heal the troubled soul.  
God, my shield from ev'ry terror,  
Cleanses me from sin and error,  
Makes my wounded spirit whole.

*NUNC DIMITTIS*

(LSB 937)

1 Lord, bid Your servant go in peace,  
Your word is now fulfilled.  
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn,  
This child so long foretold.

2 This is the Savior of the world,  
The Gentiles' promised light,  
God's glory dwelling in our midst,  
The joy of Israel.

3 With saints of old, with saints to come,  
To You we lift our voice;  
To Father, Son, and Spirit blest  
Be honor, love, and praise.

*PRAYER (Stand)*

*BENEDICTION*

*SENDING HYMN*

*Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me*

LSB 722

- 1 Lord, take my hand and lead me  
Upon life's way;  
Direct, protect, and feed me  
From day to day.  
Without Your grace and favor  
I go astray;  
So take my hand, O Savior,  
And lead the way.**
- 2 Lord, when the tempest rages,  
I need not fear,  
For You, the Rock of Ages,  
Are always near.  
Close by Your side abiding,  
I fear no foe,  
For when Your hand is guiding,  
In peace I go.**
- 3 Lord, when the shadows lengthen  
And night has come,  
I know that You will strengthen  
My steps toward home.  
Then nothing can impede me,  
O blessed Friend;  
So take my hand and lead me  
Unto the end.**

*ANNOUNCEMENTS (Be seated)*

*DISMISSAL*

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE  
Clérambault

*Suite of Second (Psalm) Tone: 4 Basse de Cromorne*

L-N

*FLOWERS: In Honor of Dick Holzheimer.* By The Holzheimer Family

*In memory of Mildred Siebrass. Laid to rest in Trinity Lutheran Cemetery, Blue Hill Nebraska September 6, 2025.* By Aaron and Holly Siebrass

*FELLOWSHIP CONTRIBUTOR:* Board of Spiritual Life

Those serving:

8:00 a.m.:

Greeter: Steve Berg  
Comm. assist: Jim Easterly  
Reader: Michael Chamberlain

10:30 a.m.:

Greeter: SP Youth  
Comm. assist: SP Youth/Dan Buuck  
Reader: SP Youth  
Acolyte: Joshua Wang  
AV Assistants: Hannes Buuck, Andreas Buuck

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