



# 17th Sunday after Pentecost

## + Sunday, September 27, 2020 +

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### Invocation

L: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### Psalmody

*Psalm 25:1-10*

L: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

**C: O my God, in you I trust.**

L: Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

**C: Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.**

L: Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

**C: Remember not the sins of my youth; according to your steadfast love remember me!**

L: Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

**C: He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.**

L: All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,

**C: for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.**

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

**Amen.**

- [1] Father, we praise Thee,  
now the night is over.  
Active and watchful,  
standing all before Thee,  
Singing, we offer  
prayer and meditation;  
Thus we adore Thee.
- [2] Monarch of all things,  
fit us for Thy mansions;  
Banish our weakness,  
health and wholeness sending;  
Bring us to heaven,  
where Thy saints united  
Joy without ending.
- [3] All-holy Father,  
Son, and equal Spirit,  
Trinity blessed,  
send us Thy salvation;  
Thine is the glory,  
gleaming and resounding  
Through all creation.

**Old Testament****Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32**

*The word of the LORD came to me: "What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is*

*mine: the soul who sins shall die. Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live."*

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Epistle**

## **Philippians 2:1-18**

*So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being*

*born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.*

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel**

## **Matthew 21:23-27**

*And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'From man,' we are*

*afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."*

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Hymn**

**#526**

[1] You are the way; through You alone  
Can we the Father find;  
In You, O Christ, has God revealed  
His heart and will and mind.

[2] You are the truth; Your Word alone  
True wisdom can impart.  
You only can inform the mind  
And purify the heart.

[3] You are the life; the empty tomb  
Proclaims Your conqu'ring arm,  
And those who put their trust in You  
Not death nor hell shall harm.

[4] You are the way, the truth, the life;  
Grant us that way to know,  
That truth to keep, that life to win  
Whose joys eternal flow.

**Sermon** (video available at <https://youtu.be/W8KSqfNsVzU>)

## **Apostles' Creed**

**C: 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.**

## **Lord's Prayer**

**C: 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.**

## **Collect**

**L: Almighty God, you exalted your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**C: Amen.**

## **Blessing**

L: Let us bless the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

L: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

**C: Amen.**

## **Hymn**

**#648**

[1] Glorious things of you are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God;  
He whose word cannot be broken  
Formed you for His own abode.  
On the Rock of Ages founded,  
What can shake your sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
You may smile at all your foes.

[2] See, the streams of living waters,  
Springing from eternal love,  
Well supply your sons and daughters  
And all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint while such a river  
Ever will their thirst assuage?  
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver,  
Never fails from age to age.

[3] Round each habitation hov'ring,  
See the cloud and fire appear  
For a glory and a cov'ring,  
Showing that the Lord is near.  
Thus deriving from their banner

Light by night and shade by day,  
Safe they feed upon the manna  
Which God gives them on their way.

[4] Savior, since of Zion's city  
I through grace a member am,  
Let the world deride or pity,  
I will glory in Your name.  
Fading are the worldlings' pleasures,  
All their boasted pomp and show;  
Solid joys and lasting treasures  
None but Zion's children know.