

THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 18, 2026

“The Word of the Lord is Ringing Out”

THE WELCOME

THE OPENING HYMN *“God Whose Almighty Word”*

1 God, whose almighty word
Chaos and darkness heard
And took their flight:
Hear us, we humbly pray,
And where the Gospel day
Sheds not its glorious ray,
Let there be light!

3 Spirit of truth and love,
Life-giving, holy dove,
Speed forth Your flight;
Move on the water's face,
Bearing the lamp of grace,
And in earth's darkest place
Let there be light!

2 Lord, who once came to bring,
On Your redeeming wing,
Healing and sight,
Health to the sick in mind,
Sight to the inly blind:
Oh, now to humankind
Let there be light!

△ 4 Holy and blessed Three,
Glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, love, might!
Boundless as ocean's tide,
Rolling in fullest pride,
Through the earth, far and wide,
Let there be light!

THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

(please be seated)

THE INTROIT Psalm 121:1-4, 7-8; antiphon: Psalm 121:5 (ESV)



The Lord is your | keeper;*
the Lord is your shade on your | right hand.
I lift up my eyes | to the hills.*
From where does my | help come?
My help comes | from the Lord,*
who made | heaven and earth.
He will not let your | foot be moved;*
He who keeps you will not | slumber.
Behold, He who keeps | Israel*
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep.
The Lord will keep you from all | evil;*
He will | keep your life.
The Lord will keep your going out and your | coming in*
from this time forth and for- | evermore.
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.
The Lord is your | keeper;*
the Lord is your shade on your | right hand.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *(sung)* And also with you.

P: Let us pray. O God, the Protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our Ruler and Guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 45:1-7 (ESV)

Thus says the LORD to His anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: "I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. For the sake of My servant Jacob, and Israel My chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides Me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know Me, that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides Me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. I form

light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the LORD, who does all these things.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 (ESV)

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers loved by God, that He has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(please stand)

THE VERSE *(sung) (page 156 in front of the hymnal)*

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 22:15-22 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

C: *(sung)* Glory to You, O Lord.

Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle Him in His words. And they sent their disciples to Him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that You are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and You do not care about anyone's opinion, for You are not swayed by appearances. Tell us, then, what You think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put Me to the test, you hypocrites? Show Me the coin for the tax." And they brought Him a denarius. And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" They said, "Caesar's." Then He said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard it, they marveled. And they left Him and went away.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: *(sung)* Praise to You, O Christ.

THE 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 and was made man; 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.

(please be seated)

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE HYMN OF THE DAY #649 *"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"*



1 Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne We pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share our mu - tual woes, Our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
4 When here our path - ways part, We suf - fer bit - ter pain;
5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free



The fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds Is like to that a - bove.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our com-forts and our cares.
And of - ten for each oth - er flows The sym - pa - thiz-ing tear.
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart, We hope to meet a - gain.
And per-fect love and friend-ship reign Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

THE SERMON *"The Word of the Lord is Ringing Out"* Text: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS *"Baptized into Your Name"* (#590, verse 4)

All that I am and love most dearly—Receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely; Help me Your faithful child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own Serve any will but Yours alone.

(please stand)

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Each portion concludes with the following response: "Let us pray to the Lord," "Lord, have mercy.")

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 WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PAX DOMINI ~ THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always

C: *(sung)* Amen.

THE AGNUS DEI ~ LAMB OF GOD

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 peace.

(please be seated)

THE DISTRIBUTION AND HYMNS

#629 "What Is This Bread"

1 What is this bread? Christ's bod - y
2 What is this wine? The blood of
3 So who am I, That I should
4 Yet is God here? Oh, yes! By
5 Is this for me? I am for -

ris - en from the dead: This bread we break,
Je - sus shed for mine; The cup of grace
live and He should die Un - der the rod?
Word and prom - ise clear, In mouth and soul
giv - en and set free! I do be - lieve

This life we take, Was crushed to pay for our re -
Brings His em - brace Of life and love un - til I
My God, my God, Why have You not for - sak - en
He makes us whole— Christ, tru - ly pres - ent in this
That I re - ceive His ver - y bod - y and His

lease. O taste and see— the Lord is peace.
sing! O taste and see— the Lord is King.
me? O taste and see— the Lord is free.
meal. O taste and see— the Lord is real.
blood. O taste and see— the Lord is good.

#549 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
2 Crown Him, ye mar-tyrs of our God, Who from His al - tar call;
3 Ye seed of Is-rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,
4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da-vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.

5 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget

The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.

6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,

On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.

7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng

We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.

#643 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

1 Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,
2 With praise and thanks - giving To God ev - er - liv - ing,
The peo - ple of God from His dwell - ing take leave.
The tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face.
The Sup - per is end - ed. O now be ex - tend - ed
Our faith ev - er shar - ing, In love ev - er car - ing,
The fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
Em - brac - ing His chil - dren of each tribe and race.
The seed of His teach - ing, Re - cep - tive souls reach - ing,
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;
Shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
U - nite us as one in this life that we share.
His grace did in - vite us, His love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing With praise and thanks - giv - ing
To work for God's king - dom and an - swer His call.
Give hon - or to Christ and His name that we bear.

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(please stand)

THE DISMISSAL

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✕ in peace.

C: Amen.

THE POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, . . . ; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance on you and ✠ give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

(please be seated)

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS