

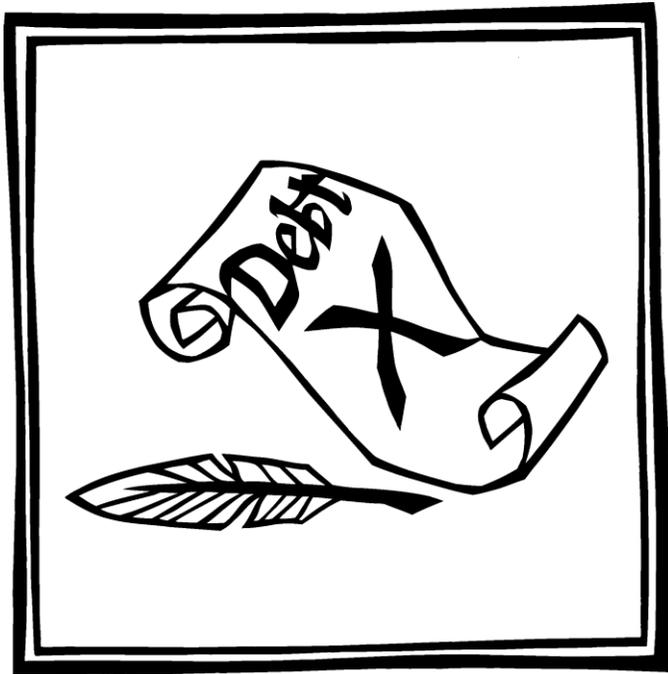
Welcome to online worship!



Sunday, September 13, 2020

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

1509 King Street • La Crosse, WI 54601
608-784-9335 • office@englishlutheran.org



Today's Worship Leaders

Pastor Glen Bickford
Pastor Becky Goche

Puppet Team:
Niki Pohnl, Irene TenEyck

Video Production Team:
Arthur Karbowski, Kathy Slindee,
Jennifer Jones

Musical Leaders:
Trevor DuPey, Alli Langer

Word & Prayers by:
The Farmer Family

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome to Worship

Blessing of Interim Pastor Glen Bickford

People of God, will you receive Pastor Glen Bickford as a messenger of Jesus Christ in this sometimes anxious time between settled pastors, sent to serve all people with the gospel of hope and salvation? Will you regard him as a servant of Christ and a steward of the mysteries of God? **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Will you pray for him, help and honor him for his work's sake, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ? **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Pastor Glen Bickford the office of Interim Senior Pastor is now committed to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever. **Amen.**

Installation of Teachers & Guides

Will you teach in accordance with the Holy Scriptures and the Confessions of the Lutheran Church? **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Will you be diligent in your study of the Holy Scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace and in prayer? **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

Children, youth and adults – parents and leaders of our congregation, will you pray for, encourage, and support these teachers and guides as they perform the ministry to which we have called them? **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Let us pray: O God of wisdom, in your goodness you provide faithful teachers for your Church. By your Holy Spirit, give all teachers insight into your Word, holy lives as examples to us all, and the courage to know and do the truth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We begin this 2020-2021 school year in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Gathering Song #452 Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death vs. 1, 3, 4, 5



- 1 A - wake, O sleep-er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;
- 2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,
- 3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,
- 4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;
- 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con- quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.
one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829
Text © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Greeting

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord **Amen.**

WORD

Psalm 103:8-13

⁸Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;

⁹**you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.**

¹⁰You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.

¹¹**For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.**

¹²As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.

¹³**As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O Lord.**

Lesson | Romans 14:1-12

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Young People's Message

Gospel Acclamation



Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Gospel | Matthew 18:21-35

The holy gospel according to Matthew the 18th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²¹Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon | Pastor Glen Bickford

In Memoriam...

We extend the sympathy of the Gospel to the family of Richard Rick upon his death on September 3. The white rose on the altar is in memory of Richard.



Hymn of the Day #721 Goodness is Strong than Evil



Good -ness is stron - ger than e - vil; love is stron - ger than hate;



light is stron - ger than dark - ness; life is stron - ger than death; vic - t'ry is



ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us. Vic - t'ry is



ours, vic - t'ry is ours, through God who loves us.

Text: From *An African Prayer Book*, Desmond Tutu, b. 1931

Music: GOODNESS IS STRONGER, John L. Bell, b. 1949

Text © 1995 Desmond Tutu, admin. Random House, Inc. and Lynn C. Franklin Associates, Ltd.

Music © 1996 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com
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Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THANKSGIVING

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Offering | englishlutheran.org/onlinegiving

Or text an amount (5, 10, 15 – no decimals or \$ sign) to 855.929.1663

The Hungry Jar is suspended until we can meet again in fellowship.

Offering Song #482 I Come with Joy **vs 1, 4, 5**



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

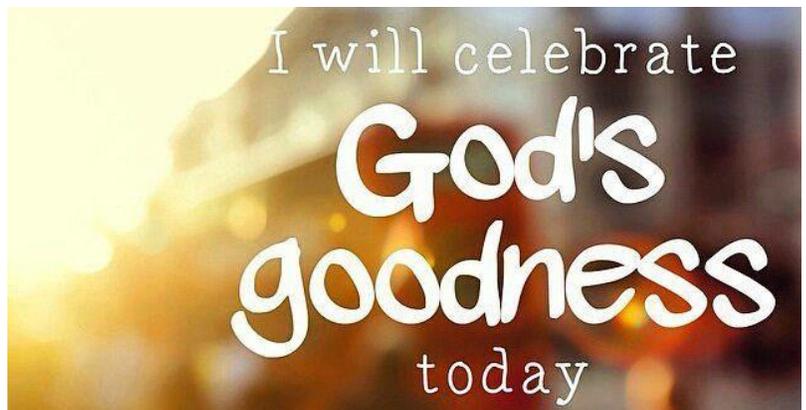
Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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Offering Prayer

Amen.



Lord's Prayer

Gary Walth

Gary Walth

Adagio

D G C/A G/B C G D C D



Our Fa - ther, who art - in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name, - Thy

G C/A G/B C G D C G Em



king - dom come, thy will - be done, on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this

Bm Em Bm G D G Am



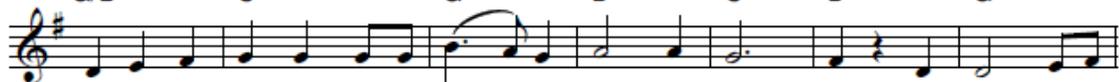
day our daily_ bread, and for give - all of our sins - As we for - give

D G Em D C D G C/A



those, as Christ for - gave those who sin a - gainst us, - And lead us not

G/B C G D C D G



in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil, for Thine is the

C/A G/B C G D C G



king - dom, the pow - er and the glo - ry, for - e - ver, A - men.

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SENDING

Announcements

Benediction/Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Song #544 Praise the Lord, Rise Up Rejoicing



1 Praise the Lord, rise up re - joic - ing, wor - ship, thanks, de -
2 Scat - tered flock, one shep - herd shar - ing, lost and lone - ly,
3 Sins for - giv - en, wrongs for - giv - ing, we go forth a -



vo - tion voic - ing: glo - ry be to God on high!
one voice hear - ing, ears at - ten - tive to your word;
lert and liv - ing in your Spir - it, strong and free.



Christ, your cross and pas - sion shar - ing, by this eu - cha -
by your blood new life re - ceiv - ing, in your bod - y,
Part - ners in your new cre - a - tion, seek - ing peace in



rist de - clar - ing yours the fi - nal vic - to - ry.
firm be - liev - ing, we are yours, and you the Lord.
ev - 'ry na - tion, may we faith - ful fol - l'wers be.

Text: Howard C. A. Gaunt, 1902–1983, alt.
Music: ALLES IST AN GOTTES SEGEN, Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, adapt.
Text © Oxford University Press.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Remember the poor. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

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