



*PENTECOST SIXTEEN*

*September 13, 2026*

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP**

**THANK YOU** for joining us in God's house today! We cordially ask that our Guests with us today sign one of the guestbooks located at either the front or back entryways, or fill out a "Let's Get Acquainted" card located in the hymnal pew rack and place it in the collection plate.

**THANK OFFERING:** Members of Trinity give their offering as an expression of love and thankfulness to the Lord and to help support the Lord's work in our community and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

**RESTROOMS** are located at the back of the upper level (the annex), and in the basement (down the back stairs of the sanctuary or annex). Handicap access is available, please ask an usher for assistance.

**YOUNG FAMILIES / TODDLER BAGS** – We are **GLAD YOU BROUGHT YOUR CHILDREN** to our worship service. Jesus said: *"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."* We know that having little children in church can be a challenge, but **DO NOT WORRY** about it. Many of your fellow worshippers have been in your shoes and are just happy you brought your children with you. For your convenience, we have reserved the back rows of seating for parents with small children. These areas provide more flexibility for your family, as well as, easy access to move downstairs if necessary. A closed-circuit TV system allows families to continue participating in the service while downstairs. Pre-school **toddler bags** and **children's bulletins** are available for their enjoyment. Ask an usher for one to use during the service and please return the toddler bag afterwards.

***SERVICE OF THE WORD***

---

*Please note that for this service, our pianist will provide accompaniment for the hymns and all liturgy will be spoken.*

## 727 Where Charity and Love Prevail

CW 727



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there  
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear God's  
3 For - give we now each oth - er's faults as  
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known, let



God is ev - er found; brought here to - geth - er  
char - i - ty we learn; let us with heart and  
we our faults con - fess; and let us love each  
all con - ten - tion cease; be God's the glo - ry



by Christ's love, by love are we thus bound.  
mind and soul now love God in re - turn.  
oth - er well in Chris - tian ho - li - ness.  
that we seek, be ours his ho - ly peace.

5 Let us recall that in our midst  
dwells Christ, his only Son;  
as members of his body joined,  
we are in him made one.

6 For love excludes no race or clan  
that names the Savior's name;  
his family embraces all  
whose Father is the same.

Text: Latin, c. 9th cent.; tr. Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Tune: Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

Text: © 1960 World Library Publications, a division of GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 727703

Tune: Public domain

*PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE*

## INVOCATION

- M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: **And also with you.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.
- C: **Amen.**

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

- M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.
- C: **O taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Blessèd are they who take refuge in him.  
Your Word, O Lord, is eternal;  
it stands firm in the heavens.  
Your faithfulness continues forever.  
O taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Blessèd are they who take refuge in him.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, you graciously forgive us all our sins and abundantly provide for all our needs of body and soul. Give us confidence in your mercy, and teach us also to be merciful to our neighbor, that we willingly forgive all people, and judging only ourselves, lead blessed lives to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*PLEASE BE SEATED*

## First Reading

*Genesis 50:15–21*

<sup>15</sup>When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and will pay us back in full for all of the evil that we did to him."

<sup>16</sup>They sent the following message to Joseph: "Before he died your father commanded us, <sup>17</sup>'You are to tell Joseph, "Please forgive the offense of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.'" Now, please forgive the offense of the servants of the God of your father."

Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

<sup>18</sup>His brothers also came and fell down in front of him, and they said, "See now, we are your servants."

<sup>19</sup>Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring this to pass and to keep many people alive, as it is this day. <sup>21</sup>Now therefore, do not be afraid. I will nourish you and your little ones." He comforted them and spoke to them in a kind way.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# 103B Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Psalm 103B



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; to his feet your  
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to his peo - ple  
3 Fa - ther - like he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble  
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore him; you be - hold him



trib - ute bring. Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,  
in dis - tress. Praise him, still the same as ev - er,  
frame he knows. In his hand he gent - ly bears us,  
face to face. Sun and moon, bow down be - fore him;



ev - er - more his prais - es sing; Al - le - lu - ia,  
slow to chide, and swift to bless, Al - le - lu - ia,  
res - cues us from all our foes; Al - le - lu - ia,  
all who dwell in time and space, Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! praise the ev - er - last - ing King!  
al - le - lu - ia! glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!  
al - le - lu - ia! wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows!  
al - le - lu - ia! praise with us the God of grace!

Text: Henry F. Lyte

Tune: John Goss

Text and tune: Public domain

## Second Reading

*Ephesians 4:29—5:2*

<sup>29</sup>Do not let any unwholesome talk come from your mouths. Say only what is beneficial when there is a need to build up others, so that it will be a blessing to those who hear. <sup>30</sup>Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup>Get rid of every kind of bitterness, rage, anger, quarreling, and slander, along with every kind of malice. <sup>32</sup>Instead, be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ has forgiven us.

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, be imitators of God as his dearly loved children. <sup>2</sup>And walk in love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE*

## VERSE OF THE DAY

*Colossians 3:13*

Alleluia. Bear with each other and forgive one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.  
Alleluia.

**C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## Gospel

*Matthew 18:21–35*

<sup>21</sup>Then Peter came up and asked Jesus, “Lord, how many times must I forgive my brother when he sins against me? As many as seven times?”

<sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but I tell you as many as seventy-seven times. <sup>23</sup>For this reason the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>When he began to settle them, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. <sup>25</sup>Because the man was not able to pay the debt, his master ordered that he be sold, along with his wife, children, and all that he owned to repay the debt.

<sup>26</sup>“Then the servant fell down on his knees in front of him, saying, ‘Master, be patient with me, and I will pay you everything!’ <sup>27</sup>The master of that servant had pity on him, released him, and forgave him the debt.

<sup>28</sup>“But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him one hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began choking him, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’

<sup>29</sup>“So his fellow servant fell down and begged him, saying, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back!’ <sup>30</sup>But he refused. Instead he went off and threw the man into prison until he could pay back what he owed.

<sup>31</sup>“When his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were very distressed. They went and reported to their master everything that had taken place.

<sup>32</sup>“Then his master called him in and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt when you begged me to. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>His master was angry and handed him over to the jailers until he could pay back everything he owed.

<sup>35</sup>“This is what my heavenly Father will also do to you unless each one of you forgives his brother from his heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

PLEASE BE SEATED

## 587 Come Down, O Love Divine

CW 587



1 Come down, O Love di - vine, seek thou this soul of mine,  
2 O let it free - ly burn, till earth - ly pas - sions turn  
3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,  
4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,



and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing.  
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;  
and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—  
shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;



O Com-fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear,  
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,  
true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,  
no soul can guess his grace till it be - come the place



and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.  
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.  
and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.  
where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes his dwell - ing.

Text: Bianco da Siena, c. 1350–1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–1890

Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

Romans 13:1-10

<sup>1</sup>Everyone must submit to the governing authorities. For no authority exists except by God, and the authorities that do exist have been established by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore the one who rebels against the authority is opposing God's institution, and those who oppose will bring judgment on themselves.

<sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to evil. Would you like to have no fear of the one in authority? Do what is good, and you will receive praise from him, <sup>4</sup>because he is God's servant for your benefit. But if you do wrong, be afraid, because he does not carry the sword without reason. He is God's servant, a punisher to bring wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore it is necessary to submit, not only because of wrath, but also because of conscience.

<sup>6</sup>For this reason you also pay taxes, because the authorities are God's ministers, who are employed to do this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay what you owe to all of them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, and honor to whom honor is owed.

<sup>8</sup>Do not owe anyone anything except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>For the commandments—do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not covet (and if there is any other commandment)—are summed up in this statement: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup>Love does no harm to a neighbor, so love is the fulfillment of the law.

*“Christian Citizens, Pay All Your Debts!”*

*PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE*

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

**From there 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.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

### **THE 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.**

## 733 Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

CW 733



1 “For - give our sins as we for - give,”  
2 How can your par - don reach and bless  
3 In blaz - ing light your cross re - veals  
4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls



you taught us, Lord, to pray, but you a - lone can  
the un - for - giv - ing heart that broods on wrongs and  
the truth we dim - ly knew: how small are oth - ers’  
and bid re - sent - ment cease; then, bound to all in



grant us grace to live the words we say.  
will not let old bit - ter - ness de - part?  
debts to us, how great our debt to you!  
bonds of love, our lives will spread your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905–1987, alt.

Tune: A Supplement to Kentucky Harmony, Harrisonburg, 1820, ed. Ananias Davisson

Text: © 1969 Oxford University Press. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 727703

Tune: Public domain

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

**M:** Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **BENEDICTION**

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

**C: Amen, Amen, Amen.**

*PLEASE BE SEATED*

## 562 Jesus Paid It All

CW 562

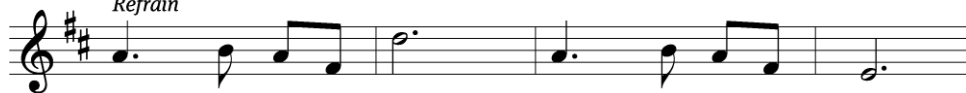


- 1 I hear the Sav - ior say, "Thy strength in - deed is small!  
2 Lord, now in - deed I find thy pow'r, and thine a - lone  
3 For noth - ing good have I where - by thy grace to claim;  
4 And when, be - fore the throne, I stand in him com - plete,



Child of weak - ness, watch and pray, find in me thine all in all."  
can \_ change the lep - er's spots and \_ melt the heart of stone.  
I'll \_ wash my gar - ments white in the blood of Cal - v'ry's Lamb.  
"Je - sus died my soul to save," my \_ lips shall still re - peat.

### *Refrain*



Je - sus paid it all, all to him I owe;



sin had left a crim - son stain, he washed it white as snow.

Text: Elvina M. Hall, 1820–1889

Tune: John T. Grape, 1835–1915

Text and tune: Public domain

**SERVING IN WORSHIP**

**Officiant**..... Pastor Ralph Stuebs  
**Pianist**.....Laura Sala  
**Deacons**.....Ron Roehm and Jim Tice  
**Ushers**..... Al Whitley and Tim Phelps  
**Altar Guild** ..... Marica Marion and Melissa Daugherty  
**Videographer** ..... Cindy Dresch

**COPYRIGHT INFORMATION**

**Service of the Word:** Christian Worship. © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.  
Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727703 and CCLI #1151741/CSPL126093

**Words and Music:** All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-727703 and  
CCLI #1151741/CSPL126093



