

October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



8470 Landen Drive Maineville, Ohio

*At Abiding Word  
We gather around the Word (worship)  
We grow in the Word (education)  
And we share the Word with the world (outreach).*



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**Wisconsin Synod**  
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### **Welcome!**

To all who have gathered here this morning we welcome you in the name of Christ our Lord. Through him we have access to God in boldness and confidence. (Ephesians 3:12) Join us after the service for coffee. No Classes today.

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

Our worship service is open to all. The forgiveness received in the Lord's Supper is proclaimed to all throughout the service. However, the Bible teaches that the Lord's Supper is to be received by those who have been instructed about its meaning and the unity it expresses.

*For this reason, we ask that guests speak with the Pastor  
before partaking of the Holy Supper.*

### **Cause (Law) /Effect (Dependence)**

When Jesus returns, will he find faith on the earth? As Jesus neared the completion of his journey to Jerusalem, he invited his disciples to consider that important question. As we too reflect on Jesus' question, it would be easy to assume that any decrease in faith we observe in the world corresponds with an increase in secularism, outright unbelief, and total disdain for God and his Word.

That type of unbelief certainly can be observed in our world and perhaps in growing amounts. As we reflect on Jesus' question, however, an entirely different form of unbelief also needs to be considered. The absence of the faith Jesus seeks isn't always complete rejection of the Bible and the God the Bible reveals. Just as often, it can be faith in God and his Word, but a faith that depends on one's own obedience to God's law. This opinion legis, or "opinion of the law," will always turn faith's attention toward good works.

The divine teaching needed to expel the opinio legis is exactly what Jesus provides us this week. He uses God's law for its chief purpose, namely, to expose our sin and crush our natural pride. In his hands, God's law is a powerful tool used to create in us the repentance he seeks. That repentance leaves us totally dependent on God to do what is possible only for him.

*Stand*

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

**CONFESSION**

*CW 155*

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.  
**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**e have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**We have done those things that we should not have done,**

**and we have not done those things that we should have done.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

**Amen.**

## 579 His Mercy Is More



1 What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done?  
2 What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam,  
3 What rich - es of kind - ness he lav - ished on us;



Om - ni - scient, all - know - ing, he counts not their sum;  
what Fa - ther so ten - der is call - ing us home!  
his blood was the pay - ment, his life was the cost.



thrown in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore,  
He wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor;  
We stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford;



our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.  
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.  
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.



*Refrain*  
Praise the Lord! His mer - cy is more!



Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn; our



sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more!

*The refrain for stanza 3 is sung three times (twice, with no break between, then a final time).*

Text: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; Matt Papa, b. 1983

Tune: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; Matt Papa, b. 1983

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## THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord, keep your household, the church, in continual godliness, and set us free from all adversities that, under your protection, we may serve you with true devotion and holy deeds; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### 632 Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear



1 Lord, o - pen now my heart to hear, and through your  
2 Your Word in - spires my heart with - in; your Word grants  
3 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the



Word to me draw near. Let me your Word e'er pure re -  
heal - ing from my sin. Your Word has pow'r to guide and  
Spir - it, Three in One, shall glo - ry, praise, and hon - or



tain; let me your child and heir re - main.  
bless; your Word brings peace and hap - pi - ness.  
be now and through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Johannes Clearius, 1611-1684 (sts. 1, 3); 1: Matthias Loy, 1828-1910 (st. 2); Mark A. Jesko, b. 1952  
Tune: Geistliche Lieder zu Wittenberg, Wittenberg, 1545, ed. Joseph Klug  
Text (st. 2): © 1993 Mark A. Jesko, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 719498  
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**FIRST READING****DEUTERONOMY 10:12–22**

<sup>12</sup>And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, <sup>13</sup>and to observe the Lord's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?

<sup>14</sup>To the Lord your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it. <sup>15</sup>Yet the Lord set his affection on your ancestors and loved them, and he chose you, their descendants, above all the nations—as it is today. <sup>16</sup>Circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer. <sup>17</sup>For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. <sup>18</sup>He defends the cause of the fatherless and the widow, and loves the foreigner residing among you, giving them food and clothing. <sup>19</sup>And you are to love those who are foreigners, for you yourselves were foreigners in Egypt. <sup>20</sup>Fear the Lord your God and serve him. Hold fast to him and take your oaths in his name. <sup>21</sup>He is the one you praise; he is your God, who performed for you those great and awesome wonders you saw with your own eyes. <sup>22</sup>Your ancestors who went down into Egypt were seventy in all, and now the Lord your God has made you as numerous as the stars in the sky.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 90C WE LIVE, O LORD, WITHIN YOUR GRACE

- 1 We live, O Lord, within your grace,  
for you have been our dwelling place;  
before the mountains came to be,  
you are true God eternally.
- 2 A thousand years within your sight  
pass like a watch within the night,  
like yesterday when it is through,  
the briefest blink in all you view.
- 3 You say to children of the earth:  
“Return to dust, which gave you birth!”  
We grow like grass beneath the sun,  
but wither when our day is done.
- 4 The fury of your wrath dismays!  
Your light our secret sin displays!  
Our years are measured by our strength,  
yet toil and trouble is their length!
- 5 So teach us, Lord, to count our days;  
make wise our hearts to seek your ways.  
How long, O LORD, till you return?  
How much, O LORD, for you we yearn!
- 6 Your steadfast love will satisfy  
and be our joy until we die.  
Though evil days may grieve our soul,  
we trust that you will make us whole.
- 7 Lord, let your work to us be shown,  
your glory by our children known.  
Your favor rest on us each day;  
establish all our work, we pray.
- 8 O Father, Son, and Spirit, be  
our dwelling place eternally,  
and when the mountains are no more,  
your name we ever will adore!

**SECOND READING****1 JOHN 2:15–17**

<sup>15</sup>Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. <sup>16</sup>For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. <sup>17</sup>The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***MATTHEW 22:37*

Alleluia. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. Alleluia.

**GOSPEL****LUKE 18:18–30**

<sup>18</sup>A certain ruler asked him, “Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

<sup>19</sup>“Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. <sup>20</sup>You know the commandments: ‘You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.’”

<sup>21</sup>“All these I have kept since I was a boy,” he said.

<sup>22</sup>When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

<sup>23</sup>When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was very wealthy. <sup>24</sup>Jesus looked at him and said, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup>Indeed, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

<sup>26</sup>Those who heard this asked, “Who then can be saved?”

<sup>27</sup>Jesus replied, “What is impossible with man is possible with God.”

<sup>28</sup>Peter said to him, “We have left all we had to follow you!”

<sup>29</sup>“Truly I tell you,” Jesus said to them, “no one who has left home or wife or brothers or sisters or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God <sup>30</sup>will fail to receive many times as much in this age, and in the age to come eternal life.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

***HYMN: WHAT IS THE WORLD TO ME***

***717***

## **SERMON on LUKE 18:18–30**

### **NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Offering**

**Prayer of the Church**

# THE SACRAMENT

## PREFACE

*CW 165*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up 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 and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

## ♪ SANCTUS ♪

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts: heav'n and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

**Amen.**

## **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.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## **♪ AGNUS ♪**

**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.**

*Be seated*

## DISTRIBUTION

***HYMN: HERE, O MY LORD, I SEE YOU FACE TO FACE***

**660**

*Stand*

***HYMN: IN PEACE AND JOY I NOW DEPART***

**949**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## BLESSING

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.

**Amen.**

***HYMN: WHERE YOUR TREASURE IS***

**828**

### Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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