

# simple

(not easy)

September 19  
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Abiding Presence*  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
A PLACE OF GRACE. ALL ARE WELCOME.

# Welcome to Worship

*Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.*

## Prelude

*All Who Are Thirsty* Brenton Brown, Glenn Robertson  
Worship Band

*Stand*

## Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

☒ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

☑ Amen.

☒ Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

☒ God, our comforter,

☑ Like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

☒ All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in ☩ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

☑ Amen.

# Gathering Hymn

## All Are Welcome

Sing verses 1, 3, 4

Refrain

All are wel - come in this place. Be-hold Love's a-maz-  
- ing grace. All are wel - come! All are wel - come!  
Bring your hopes, bring your dreams. Mer-cy flows and Love  
re-deems! All are wel - come! All be-long!

Verses

1. Wel-come, all the bro-ken - heart - ed,      †      all who sor-row  
2. Wel-come, all who suf-fer vio - lence,      †      all who long for  
3. Wel-come, all who are for - got - ten,      †      ex-clud - ed and  
4. Wel-come, all who work for jus - tice,      bring-ing hope,  
1. and des - pair.  
2. safe - ty and for peace. }      You are not a - lone, for you  
3. dig - ni - ty de - nied!  
4. char - i - ty and peace!

1-4. are God's own! To-geth-er, we sing and we pro - claim!

to Refrain

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## Greeting and Prayer of the Day

- 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.

Let us pray. O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

*Sit*

## Welcome and Announcements

### First Reading: Jeremiah 11:18-20

Pew Bible page 622

<sup>18</sup>It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds.  
<sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!" <sup>20</sup>But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

## Special Music

*Step By Step*

David Strasser

*Sing twice*

*Worship Band*

Oh God, You are my God and I will ever praise You.  
Oh God, You are my God and I will ever praise You.

I will seek You in the morning  
And I will learn to walk in Your ways.  
And step by step You'll lead me.  
And I will follow You all of my days.

## Second Reading: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

Pew Bible page 982

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

<sup>4:1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

<sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8a</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

## Children's Sermon

*Stand*

### Gospel Acclamation

*Awesome God*

*Sing twice*

Our God is an awe - some God, he  
reigns from heav - en a - bove with wis - dom,  
pow'r, and love— our God is an awe - some God!  
Our God is an awe - some God! Our God is an awe - some God!

## Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

Pew Bible page 821

☐ The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the ninth chapter.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>30</sup>[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; <sup>31</sup>for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” <sup>32</sup>But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” <sup>34</sup>But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” <sup>36</sup>Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

☐ The gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

**Sermon**

**Pastor Steve Cox**

*Refrain/Estribillo*



To - ma, oh Dios, mi vo - lun - tad, y haz - la tu - ya, na -  
Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord,



da más; to - ma, sí, mi co - ra - zón  
to thee; take my mo - ments and my days;



y tu tro - no en él ten - drás. ten - drás.  
let them flow in cease - less praise. less praise.



1 Que mi vi - da en - te - ra es - té  
2 Take my hands and let them move  
3 Take my sil - ver and my gold,  
4 Take my voice and let me sing  
4 Take my will and make it thine;



con - sa - gra - da a ti, Se - ñor;  
at the im - pulse of thy love;  
not a mite would I with - hold;  
al - ways, on - ly for my King;  
it shall be no lon - ger mine;



que a mis ma - nos pue - da guiar el im -  
take my feet and let them be swift and  
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry  
take my lips and let them be filled with  
take my heart, it is thine own; it shall

*Refrain/Estribillo*



pul - so de tu a - mor.  
beau - ti - ful for thee.  
pow'r as thou shalt choose.  
mes - sag - es from thee.  
be thy roy - al throne.

## Apostles' Creed

☐ Let us confess our faith using the words of the 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

☒ Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

Each petition ends:

☒ Lord, in your mercy,

☑ hear our prayer.

☐ Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☑ Amen.

## Sharing God's Peace

☐ The peace of Christ be with you always.

☑ And also with you.

*Great one another with a sign of God's peace saying **Peace be with you** or similar words.*

*Sit*

## Offering Message

### Offering Music

*Every Good Gift*

Clayton Brooks

*Worship Band*

*Stand*

## Offering Prayer

☒ Let us pray: God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☒ **Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

☒ The Lord be with you.

☒ **And also with you.**

☒ Lift up your hearts.

☒ **We lift them to the Lord.**

☒ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

☒ **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Eucharistic Prayer

☒ Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory...

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

☒ **Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

☒ Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

☒ **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

*Sit*

## Invitation to Communion

Communion Anthem

*At the Table of the Lord*  
*Sanctuary Choir*

Jay Althouse

*Stand*

## Communion Blessing

☒ The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in God's grace.

☑ **Amen.**

## Post Communion Prayer

☒ Let us pray: Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☑ **Amen.**

## Blessing

☒ People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, ✚ one God, bless you now and forever.

☑ **Amen.**

# Sending Hymn

*Sing twice*

*You Are Holy*

1\*



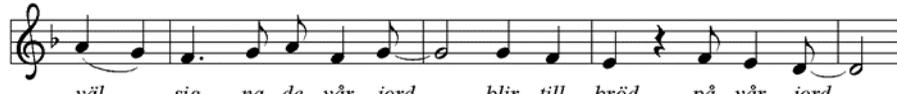
Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer  
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.  
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.

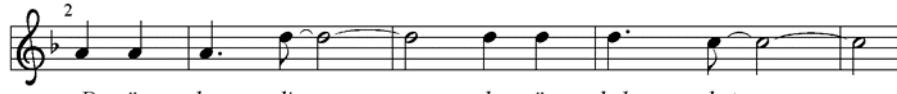


Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,  
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here

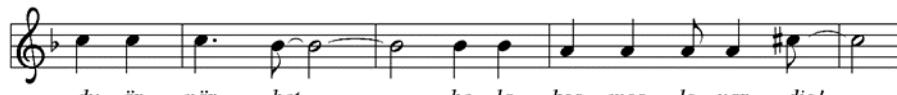


väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.  
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

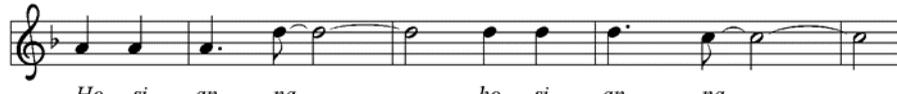
2



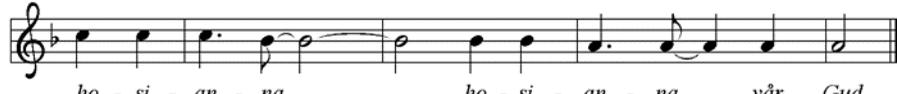
Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,  
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!  
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,  
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.  
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

\* May be sung in canon.

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945  
Music: DU ÄR HÄLIG, Per Harling  
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South America, and Central America, including the Caribbean.

## Dismissal

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God.

## Postlude

*The Joy of the Lord*

*Worship Band*

Llewellyn, Cash, Gilkeson

## Serving in Worship

<b>Lector</b> Bud Rech Barbara Rodgers Rich Lesperance	<b>Assisting Minister</b> Donna Stewart Leni Kirkman Sally Mask	<b>Sound</b> Olivia Garza Mary Jo Bolster John Perry  <b>Video</b> Jason Scarlett
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Send us a message and we'll be in touch



*Steven Cox, Senior Pastor*

*Dr. Shelbie Simmons, Minister of Music*

*Mike Ceyanes, Minister of Youth Faith Formation*

*Chip Wilson, Minister of Adult Faith Formation and Multimedia*

*Sue Evans, Business Manager*

*Gaye Hank, Communications Manager*

*Frances Harrelson, Day School Director*



**Abiding Presence**

**LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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