

ELM GROVE EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
945 Terrace Dr., Elm Grove, WI 53122  
Phone (262) 797-2970

**Rev. Eric C. Skovgaard, Administrative Pastor ♦ Vicar Sam Lee**  
**Rev. Carl J. Egloff, Pastor Emeritus ♦ Miss Stephanie Bahr, Interim Principal**

**The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Sunday, September 13, 2020 – 8:00 a.m.**

**Divine Service 2**

**Preparatory Prayer:** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord. Amen (On entering a church in LSB)

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

*How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord* – Robert A. Hobby

Hymn of Invocation

How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord – LSB 853

1 How clear is our vocation, Lord,  
When once we heed Your call:  
To live according to Your Word  
And daily learn, refreshed, restored,  
That You are Lord of all  
And will not let us fall.

3 We marvel how Your saints become  
In hindrances more sure;  
Whose joyful virtues put to shame  
The casual way we wear Your name  
And by our faults obscure  
Your pow'r to cleanse and cure.

2 But if, forgetful, we should find  
Your yoke is hard to bear;  
If worldly pressures fray the mind,  
And love itself cannot unwind  
Its tangled skein of care:  
Our inward life repair.

4 In what You give us, Lord, to do,  
Together or alone,  
In old routines or ventures new,  
May we not cease to look to You,  
The cross You hung upon—  
All You endeavored done.

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Stand

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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.**

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 103:1–12

P Bless the LORD, O my soul,

C **and all that is within me, bless his holy name!**

P Bless the LORD, O my soul,

C **and forget not all his benefits,**

P who forgives all your iniquity,

C **who heals all your diseases,**

P who redeems your life from the pit,

C **who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

P who satisfies you with good

C **so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

P The LORD works righteousness

C **and justice for all who are oppressed.**

P He made known his ways to Moses,

C **his acts to the people of Israel.**

P The LORD is merciful and gracious,

C slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

P He will not always chide,

C **nor will he keep his anger forever.**

P He does not deal with us according to our sins,

C **nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

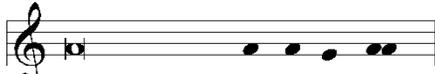
P For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

C **so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**

P as far as the east is from the west,

C **so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

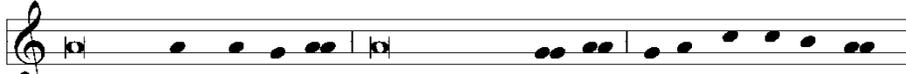
**ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



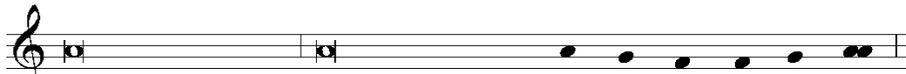
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



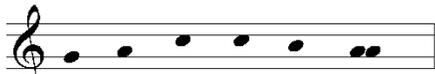
and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



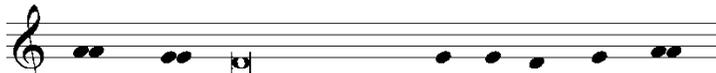
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

## Hymn of Praise

### Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 170

- A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.  
C **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:  
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:  
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.  
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord.  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.  
C **And also with you.**
- P Let us pray.  
O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

Sit

### 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 pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." <sup>16</sup>So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, <sup>17</sup>'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression 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 before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. <sup>21</sup>So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

### Epistle

Romans 14: 1-12

<sup>1</sup>As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. <sup>2</sup>One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand. <sup>5</sup>One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. <sup>6</sup>The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he

gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. <sup>7</sup>For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. <sup>8</sup>If 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. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. <sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; <sup>11</sup>for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."  
<sup>12</sup>So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

C **Alleluia.**

**Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21-35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup> Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven."<sup>23</sup>Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup>And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.'<sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.'<sup>29</sup>So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'<sup>30</sup>He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup>And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup>So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

A This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

- 1 O Christ, who called the Twelve  
To rise and follow You,  
Forsaking old, familiar ways  
For ventures bold and new:  
Grant us to hear Your call  
To risk security  
And, bound in heart and will to You,  
Find perfect liberty.
- 2 O Christ, who taught the Twelve  
The truth for ages sealed,  
Whose words and works awakened faith,  
The ways of God revealed:  
Instruct us now, we pray,  
By Your empow'ring Word.  
True teacher, be for all who seek  
Their light, their life, their Lord.
- 3 O Christ, who led the Twelve  
Among the desolate  
And broke as bread of life for all  
Your love compassionate:  
Lead us along the ways  
Where hope has nearly died  
And help us climb the lonely hills  
Where love is crucified.
- 4 O Christ, who sent the Twelve  
On roads they'd never trod  
To serve, to suffer, teach, proclaim  
The nearer reign of God:  
Send us on ways where faith  
Transcends timidity,  
Where love informs and hope sustains  
Both life and ministry.
- 5 O Christ, the apostles' Lord,  
The martyrs' strength and song,  
The crucified and risen King  
To whom the saints belong:  
Though generations pass,  
Our tribute still we bring,  
Our hymns a sacrifice of praise,  
Our lives an offering.

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Sermon

“Joseph, Sent Ahead for Blessing” (Genesis 50:15-21)

Stand

Nicene Creed

**C 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.**

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering

*O Christ Who Called the Twelve – Gilbert M. Martin*

*(Your offering can be left in the large brown box at the back of the nave,  
mailed into the Church Office at 945 Terrace Drive, Elm Grove, WI 53122, or  
given through the online Vanco link at the bottom of the [www.EGL.org](http://www.EGL.org) website.)*

Offertory

LSB 176

**C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,  
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

*Service of the Sacrament*

Preface

LSB 177

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 178

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:  
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

LSB 179

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
 C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

**C 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, grant us peace.**

Sit

**Distribution**

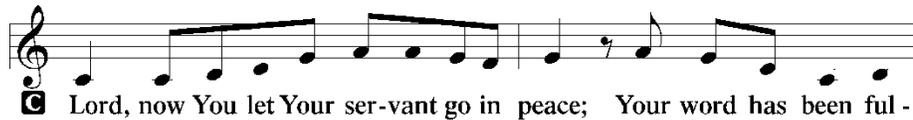
Hymn During Communion

Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way – LSB 857

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Lord, help us walk Your servant way<br/>     Wherever love may lead<br/>     And, bending low, forgetting self,<br/>     Each serve the other's need.</p> <p>2 You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord,<br/>     But pow'r You laid aside.<br/>     You lived Your years in servanthood;<br/>     In lowliness You died.</p> | <p>3 No golden scepter but a towel<br/>     You place within the hands<br/>     Of those who seek to follow You<br/>     And live by Your commands.</p> <p>4 You bid us bend our human pride<br/>     Nor count ourselves above<br/>     The lowest place, the meanest task<br/>     That waits the gift of love.</p> |
| <p>5 Lord, help us walk Your servant way<br/>     Wherever love may lead<br/>     And, bending low, forgetting self,<br/>     Each serve the other's need.</p>   |   |

Post-Communion Canticle

## Nunc Dimittis



**C** Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre -



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple; A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

## Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## Benediction

LSB 183

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

**C Amen.**

## Closing Hymn

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us – LSB 851

1 Lord of glory, You have bought us  
With Your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones  
That tremendous sacrifice;  
And with that have freely given  
Blessings countless as the sand  
To the unthankful and the evil  
With Your own unsparing hand.

2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You  
Gladly, freely of Your own.  
With the sunshine of Your goodness  
Melt our thankless hearts of stone  
Till our cold and selfish natures,  
Warmed by You, at length believe  
That more happy and more blessed  
'Tis to give than to receive.

3 Wondrous honor You have given  
To our humblest charity  
In Your own mysterious sentence,  
"You have done it all to Me."  
Can it be, O gracious Master,  
That You deign for alms to sue,  
Saying by Your poor and needy,  
"Give as I have giv'n to you"?

Public domain

4 Lord of glory, You have bought us  
With Your lifeblood as the price,  
Never grudging for the lost ones  
That tremendous sacrifice.  
Give us faith to trust You boldly,  
Hope, to stay our souls on You;  
But, oh, best of all Your graces,  
With Your love our love renew.

### Postlude

### Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us – Jan O. Bender

ALTAR PARAMENTS: The green paraments of the Pentecost season prompt us to remember that our life in Christ is one of growth, as branches connected to the Vine produce good fruit.

ALTAR FLOWERS: Placed by Karen Clark for blessings received.

Presiding Minister  
Lector  
Organist  
Elder  
Chancel Assistant  
Usher Team on duty

#### Participants

Pastor Skovgaard  
Vicar Sam Lee  
Richard C. Ewert  
Jason Krueger  
David Busse  
Emily Andrew, Jacob Boudro, Kailey Boudro, Tom Brojanac, Michael Brunner,  
Gene Brunner, Hannah D'Agostino, Tim D'Agostino, Lydia Ohde, Sam Thompson