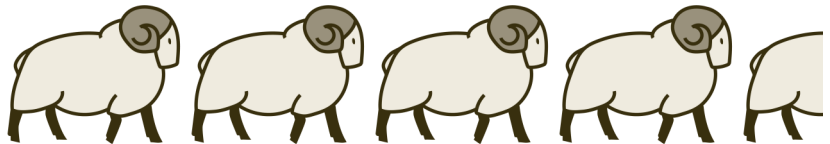


**September 1, 2024**  
**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**THE NEED FOR**



**FOLLOWERSHIP**

**Prepare for Worship**

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Gracious God, you nourish my faith with the good news that you have forgiven my sins in Christ. Let the gospel be proclaimed by all who come to worship today: by ministers called to preach the gospel, by musicians who adorn the gospel with beauty, and by all who proclaim the gospel in song and prayer. Let the miracle of your forgiving love touch my heart and the hearts of all.

Amen.

## Setting One

### 689 Renew Me, O Eternal Light



1 Re - new me, O e - ter - nal Light, and let my  
2 De - stroy in me the lust of sin, from all im -  
3 Cre - ate in me a new heart, Lord, that glad - ly  
4 Grant that I on - ly you may love and seek those



heart and soul be bright, il - lu - mined with the  
pure - ness make me clean. O grant me pow'r and  
I o - bey your Word. O let your will be  
things which are a - bove till I be - hold you



light of grace that is - sues from your ho - ly face.  
strength, my God, to strive a - gainst my flesh and blood.  
my de - sire and with new life my soul in - spire.  
face to face, O Light e - ter - nal, through your grace.

Text: tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.; Johann F. Ruopp, 1672–1708, abr. Tune: German, 15th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

### Invocation

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

**Amen.**

### Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

## **Absolution**

CW 154

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



**A - men.**

Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. A-722518

## Glory Be to God on High

CW 157



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



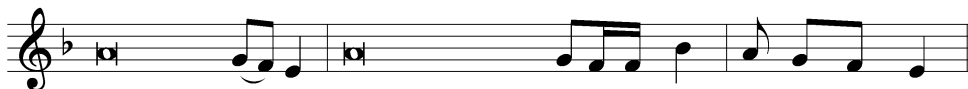
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



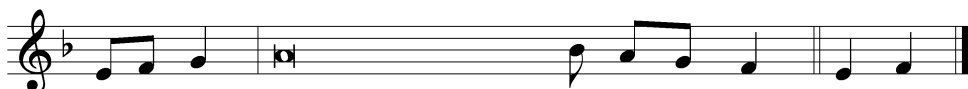
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## The Word

### Salutation

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Be seated*

## First Reading

### **Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-9 (NIV11)**

Now, Israel, hear the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup> Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you.

<sup>6</sup> Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.” <sup>7</sup> What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? <sup>8</sup> And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?

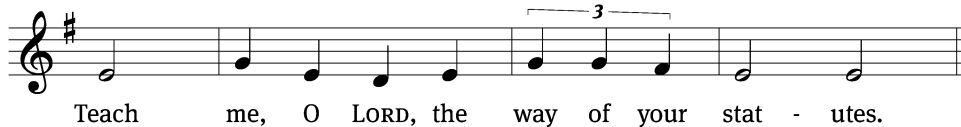
<sup>9</sup> Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## 119E Teach Me, O LORD

### Refrain



### Tone



Your statutes are / wonderful;  
therefore I o- / bey them.  
The unfolding of your words / gives light;  
it gives understanding to the / simple.  
Turn to me and have mer- / cy on me,  
as you always do to those who / love your name. *Refrain*

Direct my footsteps according / to your word;  
let no sin rule / over me.  
Redeem me from human op- / pression,  
that I may obey your / precepts.  
Make your face shine on your / servant  
and teach me / your decrees.  
**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son**  
**and to the Holy / Spirit,**  
**as it was in the be- / ginning,**  
**is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Tune: Thomas Pavlechko  
Setting: Thomas Pavlechko

Music: © 2004, 2012 Thomas Pavlechko, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 722518

## Second Reading

## Romans 9:30-10:4

What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who were not pursuing righteousness, have obtained righteousness, a righteousness that is by faith. <sup>31</sup>But Israel, while pursuing the law as a way of righteousness, did not reach it. <sup>32</sup>Why? Because they kept pursuing it not by faith, but as if it comes by works. They stumbled over the stumbling stone. <sup>33</sup>Just as it is written:

Look, I am putting a stone in Zion over which they will stumble  
and a rock over which they will fall.

The one who believes in him will not be put to shame.

<sup>1</sup>Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God on behalf of the Israelites is that they may be saved. <sup>2</sup>Indeed, I testify about them that they have a zeal for God, but it is not consistent with knowledge. <sup>3</sup>Since they were ignorant of the righteousness from God and sought to establish their own righteousness, they did not submit to the righteousness from God. <sup>4</sup>For to everyone who believes, Christ is the end of the law, resulting in righteousness.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## Gospel Acclamation

CW 161



*Refrain*



*Tone*



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## Gospel

## Mark 7:1–8,14-15,21–23

The Pharisees and some of the experts in the law came from Jerusalem and gathered around Jesus. <sup>2</sup>They saw some of his disciples eating bread with unclean (that is, unwashed) hands. <sup>3</sup>In fact, the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they scrub their hands with a fist, holding to the tradition of the elders. <sup>4</sup>When they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions they adhere to, such as the washing of cups, pitchers, kettles, and dining couches. <sup>5</sup>The Pharisees and the experts in the law asked Jesus, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders? Instead they eat bread with unclean hands.”

<sup>6</sup>He answered them, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites. As it is written:

These people honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.

<sup>7</sup>They worship me in vain, teaching human rules as if they were doctrines.

<sup>8</sup>“You abandon God’s commandment but hold to human tradition like the washing of pitchers and cups, and you do many other such things.”

<sup>14</sup>He called the crowd to him again and said, “Everyone, listen to me and understand.

<sup>15</sup>There is nothing outside of a man that can make him unclean by going into him. But the things that come out of a man are what make a man unclean.

<sup>21</sup>In fact, from within, out of people’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual sins, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, greed, wickedness, deceit, unrestrained immorality, envy, slander, arrogance, and foolishness. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things proceed from within and make a person unclean.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Be seated*

**Good News for Kids**

## 740 O God, My Faithful God



1 O God, my faith - ful God, O Foun-tain ev - er flow - ing,  
2 Grant me the strength to do with read - y heart and will - ing  
3 Keep me from say - ing things that lat - er need re - call - ing;  
4 Lord, let me win my foes with kind - ly words and ac - tions,



who good and per - fect gifts in mer - cy are be - stow - ing,  
what - ev - er you com - mand, my call - ing here ful - fill - ing,  
grant that no i - dle words may from my lips be fall - ing,  
and let me find good friends for coun - sel and cor - rec - tion.



give me a health - y frame, and may I have with - in  
that I do what I should while trust - ing you to bless  
but when with - in my place I must and ought to speak,  
Help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small



a con - science free from blame, a soul un - hurt by sin.  
the out - come for my good, for you must give suc - cess.  
then fill my words with grace lest I of - fend the weak.  
and by your Spir - it's might to live in peace with all.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Johann Heermann, 1585–1647, abr.  
Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 3rd ed., Meiningen, 1693 Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon God's Decree about His Decrees Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Stand

## **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**

Eternal God, you are the Father of all whom you have made and you protect and preserve all your human creatures. You create the times and places in which people live, you cause the sun to shine and the rain to fall on the just and unjust, you bid us to hold in our hearts not only those we know and love, but all people in all places and circumstances.

**Hear us, Lord, as we pray.**

Lead us to see in the lives of all people the working of your eternal plan. Preserve us from an arrogance that elevates our service and sacrifice above that of others. Lead us to appreciate the gifts you give to all people and to give you thanks with our acceptance and humility.

**Hear us, Lord, as we pray.**

For all the descendants of Adam and Eve, for all peoples and nations, those in lands far away from us, those who differ from us in race, language, and culture, that in some way they might come to see the light of your Son;

**For these we pray, O Lord.**

For those who bring food from the earth, who tend flocks and herds, who cultivate the ground, who find food in the sea, and who bake our daily bread, that they may know you, as we do, to be the giver of every good and perfect gift; **For these we pray, O Lord.**

For those who help us in times of trouble, for lawyers, doctors, emergency workers, counselors, funeral directors, and all whose life interests focus on difficult times, that they may see themselves as those who extend your divine hand to the hurting;  
**For these we pray, O Lord.**

For all who support us day by day, often without our notice, janitors and maids, cooks and servers, secretaries and technicians, and so many more, that they may enjoy the grateful thanks we children of God owe them; **For these we pray, O Lord.**

For people who live in great poverty or endure war and political unrest or experience oppression and tyranny, that their quest for security might lead them to search where you may be found. **For these we pray, O Lord.**

For those who endure physical and mental afflictions every day and those who are tortured by disease and tormented by fears. Let them find in us Christ-like compassion and meaningful help; **For these we pray, O Lord.**

For all in our congregations who work hard each day to gain their daily bread and then work hard again to support and participate in the gospel ministry, that they may be spared fatigue and frustration as they use their leisure time for the sake of your Son;

**For these we pray, O Lord.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

Eternal Father, give us a sense of purpose as we live our lives in the roles you have designed for each of us. Help us to see your divine plan in our calling and make us content as we carry out our tasks. Give us joy to know that we live for you and for others as the servants of Christ Jesus.

**In his name we pray. Amen.**

*Be seated*

**Offering**

## 817 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart



1 Lord, thee I love with all my heart; I pray thee,  
2 Yea, Lord, 'twas thy rich boun - ty gave my bod - y,  
3 Lord, let at last thine an - gels come, to A - br'ham's



ne'er from me de - part, with ten - der mer - cy cheer me.  
soul, and all I have in this poor life of la - bor.  
bos - om bear me home that I may die un - fear - ing;



Earth has no plea - sure I would share; yea, heav'n it -  
Lord, grant that I in ev - 'ry place may glo - ri -  
and in its nar - row cham - ber keep my bod - y



self were void and bare if thou, Lord, wert not near me.  
fy thy lav - ish grace and help and serve my neigh - bor.  
safe in peace - ful sleep un - til thy re - ap - pear - ing.



And should my heart for sor - row break, my trust in thee can  
Let no false doc - trine me be - guile; let Sa - tan not my  
And then from death a - wak - en me that these mine eyes with



noth - ing shake. Thou art the por - tion I have sought; thy precious  
soul de - file. Give strength and pa - tience un - to me to bear my  
joy may see, O Son of God, thy glo - rious face, my Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and  
cross and fol - low thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and  
and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, for - sake me not! I trust thy Word.  
Lord, my God and Lord, in death thy com - fort still af - ford.  
tend, my prayer at - tend, and I will praise thee with - out end.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Martin M. Schalling, 1532–1608  
Tune: Zwey Bücher . . . Tablatur, Strassburg, 1577 Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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.**

## 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.**

## 705 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot - steps by your Word, and make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep,
- 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands—'tis a de - light - ful road—



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!  
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.  
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.  
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt. Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870 Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

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## **Welcome to Lincoln Heights!**

We are glad you are here today to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Please speak with an usher for any help.

## **Yellow Cards**

Please fill out a yellow card and place it in the offering plate when passed. Thank you.

## **In Our Prayers**

The Lord is eager to hear the prayers of thanks and petitions for help from his people. Please keep these members and families in your prayers. Contact Pastor to add someone to this list: Ukraine Ray & Gloria Overson, Sherry Just and Randy Michael- shut-ins Pat Oswald, Makenzie Phippen, Steve Carter- health Nichelle Hoey and Nura Jenka - expecting Kale Weis & Payton Yilek, Lucas Gilman & Karri Pippett, Daniel Pfeifer & Paige Harmon, Isaiah Luellen & Andie Schlabach - engaged couples

## **Prepare for Next Sunday**

For a simple devotional reading plan, review the readings for this week on Monday through Wednesday. Then read the Scripture for next Sunday on Thursday through Saturday. The Word for next Sunday: *Isaiah 35:4-7a, Acts 3:1-10, Mark 7:31-37*

## **Thank You to Today's Helpers**

**Accompanist:** Buffy Kokke

**Altar Guild:** Abbey Norton & Tammy Rummel

**Counters:** Greg Lewis & Jeff Overson

**Mowing 9/1-9/7:** Lee Bowman

**Streaming:** Benjamin Weber

**Ushers 8 am:** Dennis Moural & Jon Holmen

**Ushers 10:30:** TBA

## **Next Sunday's Servants**

**Accompanist:** Donna Bakken

**Altar Guild:** Abbey Norton & Tammy Rummel

**Counters:** Karl Kuhrt

**Mowing 9/8-9/14:** Dave Covell

**Streaming:** Benjamin Weber

**Ushers 8 am:** Dennis Moural & Jon Holmen

**Ushers 10:30:** TBA

## **Online Giving**

Thank you for your generous and cheerful offerings to the Lord.



[www.LHELC.org/giving](http://www.LHELC.org/giving)

## **Thank You**

Thank you to Pastor Schmidt for sharing God's Word with us this morning.



## **Wednesday Evening Christian Education**

### **Catechism & Bible History**

*5:30-6:30 pm*

Catechism is for 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students and focuses on the basic doctrines of the Bible using the Small Catechism. Bible History is for 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students and goes through 58 of the most important stories of the Bible.

### **Choir**

*5:30 pm*

Teens and adults of all singing abilities are invited to join the choir.

### **Evening Prayer Service**

*6:30-6:45 pm*

All are invited for this time of song, prayer and Scripture. We will walk through Isaiah together this year closing each night with your choice of evening hymns.

### **Bible Class—Revelation**

*6:45-7:30 pm*

God “reveals” his wonderful plan to bring us through this life into the eternal life.

### **Children’s Handbells**

*6:45-7:30 pm*

5th-12th grade students are invited to join. Students will learn the proper techniques to play the real handbells and play for services when ready.

## **Forward in Christ - Sept. 2024**

This month’s issue is available on the shelf outside the sanctuary or at

[www.forwardinchrist.net](http://www.forwardinchrist.net) if you prefer.

“Our sins, not his, his blood, not ours.”

Read how an autistic man uses his poetry to share the light of the gospel with the world around him. (page 18)

“When teachers learn more, others learn even more.” Discover how four called workers prioritize continuing education and use what they learn to benefit their ministries. (page 12)

“In Christ alone, God’s people win, whether in life or in death.” A pastor shares his grief, and his hope, after losing his wife and child in a fire. (page 10)

Our Mission is to nurture each other in God's Word and spread the Good News of Christ to all.

**THIS WEEK AT LINCOLN HEIGHTS  
Sept. 1 - 8, 2024**

|           |          |                                    |
|-----------|----------|------------------------------------|
| Sunday    | 8:00 am  | Worship                            |
|           | 9:00 am  | Homeless Meal Delivery             |
|           | 10:30 am | Worship                            |
|           | 10:30 am | Kunama Worship                     |
|           | 1:00 pm  | Sudanese Meeting                   |
| Wednesday | 5:30 pm  | Catechism and Bible History        |
|           | 5:30 pm  | Choir                              |
|           | 6:30 pm  | Evening Prayer                     |
|           | 6:45 pm  | Bible Class                        |
|           | 6:45 pm  | Children's Hand Bell Practice      |
| Thursday  | 10:00 am | Women's Fellowship Group           |
|           | 4:45 pm  | Wedding Rehearsal                  |
| Saturday  | 4:00 pm  | Game Night                         |
| Sunday    | 8:00 am  | Worship with Communion             |
|           | 9:00 am  | Homeless Meal Delivery             |
|           | 9:15 am  | Sunday School                      |
|           | 9:15 am  | Bible Class                        |
|           | 10:30 am | Worship with Communion             |
|           | 10:30 am | Kunama Worship                     |
|           | 2:00 pm  | Wedding - Kale Weis & Payton Yilek |

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