

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

SEPTEMBER 4TH



CONCORDIA

Lutheran Church
Preschool & University Ministry

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CHOOSE LIFE!

AS WE GATHER

The first issue that naturally comes to mind to many Christians when hearing the phrase “Choose life!” is that of abortion, which chooses death, not life. And indeed, never should our witness to God’s gift of life be silenced! Beyond that, however, are all the other choices we make in our struggles between God’s good and gracious will for all and the universal disability of sin that constantly attempts to lead us away from God and His call to life. Today, God’s Word gives us the assurance that because our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has chosen to take our suffering and death into Himself by His cross, all who are baptized into His saving death are given the power of faith to love God and pursue His ways of life according to His good and gracious Law and Gospel. Blessed is the man whose “delight is in the law of the Lord” (Psalm 1:2).

+ PREPARATION +

834 O GOD, O LORD OF HEAVEN AND EARTH



1 O God, O Lord of heav'n and earth, Thy liv - ing
2 Our fa - tal will to e - qual Thee, Our reb - el
3 Thou cam - est to our hall of death, O Christ, to
△ 4 O Spir - it, who didst once re - store Thy Church that



fin - ger nev - er wrote That life should be an aim -
will wrought death and night. We seized and used in pride -
breathe our poi - soned air, To drink for us the dark
it might be a - gain The bring - er of good news



less mote, A death - ward drift from fu - tile birth.
ful spite Thy won - drous gift of lib - er - ty.
de - spair That stran - gled our re - luc - tant breath.
to men, Breathe on Thy clo - ven Church once more,



Thy Word meant life tri - um - phant hurled In splen - dor through
We housed us in this house of doom, Where death had roy -
How beau - ti - ful the feet that trod The road that leads
That in these gray and lat - ter days There may be those



Thy bro - ken world. Since light a - woke and life be - gan,
al - scope and room, Un - til Thy ser - vant, Prince of Peace,
us back to God! How beau - ti - ful the feet that ran
whose life is praise, Each life a high dox - ol - o - gy



Thou hast de - sired Thy life for man.
Breached all its walls for our re - lease.
To bring the great good news to man!
To Fa - ther, Son, and un - to Thee.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76, alt.

Tune: Jan O. Bender, 1909–94

Text and tune: © 1967 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005419

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 124:8; Isaiah 2:3, 5

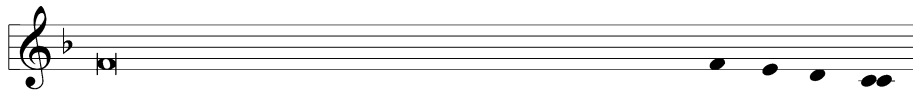
- P** Our help is in the name of the LORD,
C who made heaven and earth.
- P** Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD,
C that He may teach us His ways and that we may walk in His paths.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deuteronomy 30:14

- P** Since God graciously calls all people to come to Him to receive His love and life through repentance of sin and faith in His gift of forgiveness, let us confess our sin, take refuge in His mercy, and seek His grace for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Most merciful God, we come before You at Your gracious invitation. We repent of our sins in thought, word, and deed, both what we have done against Your Law and what we have failed to do in faithfulness to Your Law. We have not loved You with our whole being. We have failed to love our neighbors. We plead through the deliverance of Your Son’s suffering and death, forgive us our sins, and give us the will to choose life in His name. Amen.**
- P** “The word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it.” In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus 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. You are free. Choose life!
- C** Amen.

KYRIE



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

A For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For those who labor, those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 204



- C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shi - ped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.
C O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

¹⁵“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing

and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

READING

Psalm 1



¹Blessèd is the man
who walks not in the counsel of the | wicked,*
nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of | scoffers;

²but his delight is in the law | of the LORD,*
and on his law he meditates | day and night.

³He is like a tree
planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season,
and its leaf does not | wither.*
In all that he does, he | prospers.

⁴The wicked | are not so,*
but are like chaff that the wind | drives away.

⁵Therefore the wicked will not stand in the | judgment,*
nor sinners in the congregation of the | righteous;

⁶for the LORD knows the way of the | righteous,*
but the way of the wicked will | perish.

EPISTLE

Philemon 1–21

¹Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our beloved fellow worker ²and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier,
and the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, ⁵because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, ⁶and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. ⁷For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

⁸Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, ⁹yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— ¹⁰I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment.

¹¹(Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) ¹²I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. ¹³I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴but I preferred to

do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. ¹⁵For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Elizabeth O'Loughlin

VERSE

Galatians 6:14

C Alleluia. Far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 14:25–35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁵Now great crowds accompanied [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

³⁴"Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ³⁵It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence 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.

573 LORD, 'TIS NOT THAT I DID CHOOSE THEE



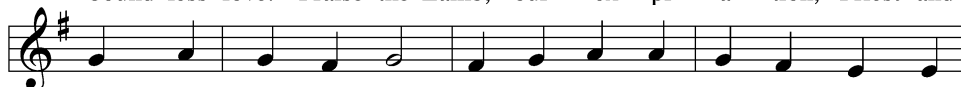
1 Lord, 'tis not that I did choose Thee; That, I know, could

2 It was grace in Christ that called me, Taught my dark - ened

△ 3 Praise the God of all cre - a - tion; Praise the Fa - ther's



nev - er be; For this heart would still re - fuse Thee Had Thy
 heart and mind; Else the world had yet en - thrall'd me, To Thy
 bound - less love. Praise the Lamb, our ex - pi - a - tion, Priest and



grace not cho - sen me. Thou hast from the sin that stained me
 heav'n - ly glo - ries blind. Now I wor - ship none a - bove Thee;
 King en - throned a - bove. Praise the Spir - it of sal - va - tion,



Washed and cleansed and set me free And un - to this
 For Thy grace a - lone I thirst, Know - ing well that,
 Him by whom our spir - its live. Un - di - vid - ed



end or - dained me, That I ev - er live to Thee.
 if I love Thee, Thou, O Lord, didst love me first.
 ad - o - ra - tion To the great Je - ho - vah give.

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** All praise, honor, and worship be to You, O God our Father, for by Your Law You have revealed to the world Your salvation from all sin and death and given to all new hearts and renewed minds through the repentance of our sins and faith in Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Help us to follow in His way to joyfully choose His life by means of His truth. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Grant that Your glorious Word and will of divine Law and Gospel be preached to the conversion, life, and joy of all throughout the world. Give all who preach, minister, and serve in Your Holy Church boldness and clarity of mind and spirit to rightfully proclaim Your whole Law and Your glorious Gospel. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** By Your Word and Spirit cause all who hear to have true repentance of their sins and true faith to grow in love toward You and their neighbors, and to purposely choose Your way of life daily in all their ways and deeds. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Guide our nation and our elected leaders in the ways of justice, peace, and the promotion of lives pleasing to You. Preserve and bless all who serve in the armed forces of our nation as well as those who work to preserve peace, safety, and health in our community. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Comfort and bring healing to all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or adversity, [*especially* . . .]. Give strength and the will to persevere to all who suffer any persecution for the faith. Help all to whom death draws near with the peace of a confident faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** With reverence and affection we remember before You, O Lord, all who have gone before us with the sign of faith. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

OFFERING

956 CREATE IN ME



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way
from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Text: Psalm 51:10–12 Tune: Johann Georg Winer, 1583–1651, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

- 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.**

PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new 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 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.

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 † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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 † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 210



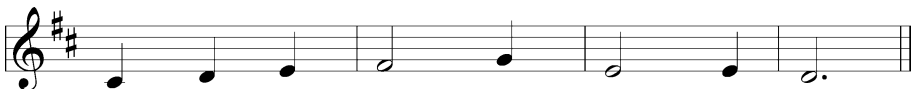
C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

+ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

425 WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

686 COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

633 AT THE LAMB'S HIGH FEAST WE SING

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 211



C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;



A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is



to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -



peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; 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

- 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.

333 ONCE HE CAME IN BLESSING



1 Once He came in bless - ing, All our sins re -
2 Now He gent - ly leads us; With Him - self He
3 Soon will come that hour When with might - y
4 Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, From our sins re -



dress - ing; Came in like - ness low - ly,
feeds us Pre - cious food from heav - en,
pow - er Christ will come in splen - dor
lease us. Keep our hearts be - liev - ing,



Son of God most ho - ly; Bore the cross to
Pledge of peace here giv - en, Man - na that will
And will judg - ment ren - der, With the faith - ful
That we, grace re - ceiv - ing, Ev - er may con -



save us; Hope and free - dom gave us.
nour - ish Souls that they may flour - ish.
shar - ing Joy be - yond com - par - ing.
fess You Till in heav'n we bless You.

Text: Johann Horn, c. 1490–1547; (sts. 1, 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006
Tune: Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534 Text (sts. 2–3): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005419 Text (sts. 1, 4) and tune: Public domain

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Prayers

Prayers of Praise and Thanksgiving

Prayers of thanks for **Coltyn Guenthner** who is celebrating his birthday.

Prayers of Comfort and Healing

For all who suffer from **anxiety and depression**.

For all who suffer from Covid 19.

Prayers for comfort and understanding for **all those who are battling cancer**.

For **Shay Connell** as she recovers from a heart transplant.

Healing for **Bill Gratz**.

For **Tim C.** as he was diagnosed with throat cancer.

Baby **Griffin** who has kidney problems.

Healing for Julie Denison.

For **Virginia**, the mother of LeeAnn as she has broken her pelvis and has a liver infection.

Other Prayers

Safety for **all who are traveling**.

All who serve in our **armed forces** and their **families**.

For students and teachers as they prepare to return to school.

*Can we pray for you? Share your prayer requests by email at office@concordiapullman.org
or fill out one of the white cards in the pews and place it in the offering plate.*