

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, September 28, 2025

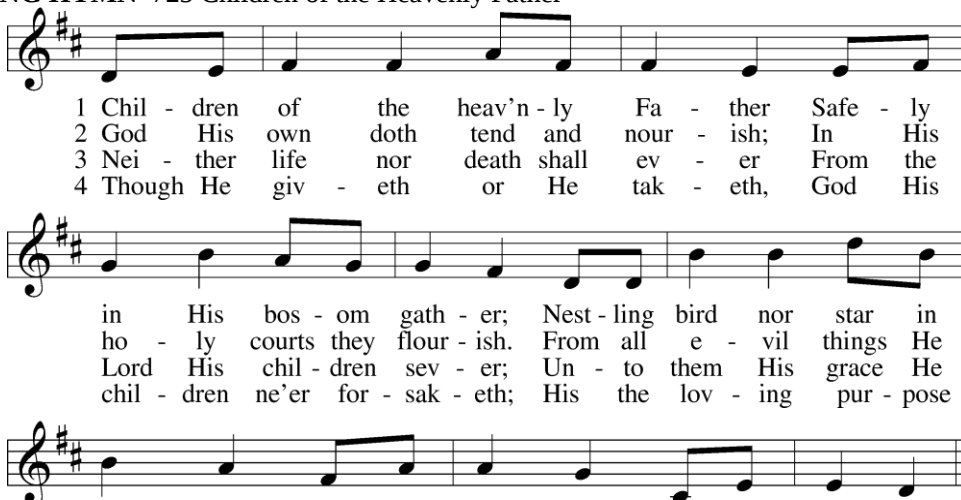
PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

Stand

OPENING HYMN 725 Children of the Heavenly Father



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His

in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose

heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958
Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, 1873, Sweden Text: Public domain Tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

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.

Sit

✠ Confession and Absolution ✠

P In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth, and He made us in His own image to live in fellowship with Him. Yet, like Adam and Eve, we have listened to the serpent's voice, doubted God's Word, and chosen our own way.

C We confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have hidden from Your presence, O Lord, and have blamed others rather than taking responsibility for our sin.

P Like the people in Noah's day, our thoughts and intentions are often bent toward evil. We build towers to our own glory instead of walking humbly with You.

C Forgive us, Lord. Wash us, and make us clean.

P Like Abraham, we have not always trusted in Your promises but have taken matters into our own hands.

C Forgive us, Lord. Strengthen our faith.

P Like Jacob, we have deceived and grasped for blessings in selfish ways. Like Joseph's brothers, we have let jealousy and bitterness harden our hearts.

C Forgive us, Lord. Reconcile us by Your mercy.

P O Lord, Your Word is written so that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing we may have life in His name. Yet we confess that we have not always lived as those who believe.

C Forgive us, Lord. Give us life in Jesus' name.

P The same Lord who spoke light into darkness has shined His mercy upon you; the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob has now worked salvation through the suffering, death, and resurrection of His Son for you. These things are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name.

Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of the 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.

C Amen.

VENITE

C O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joy-ful noise to the rock of our sal-va - tion.

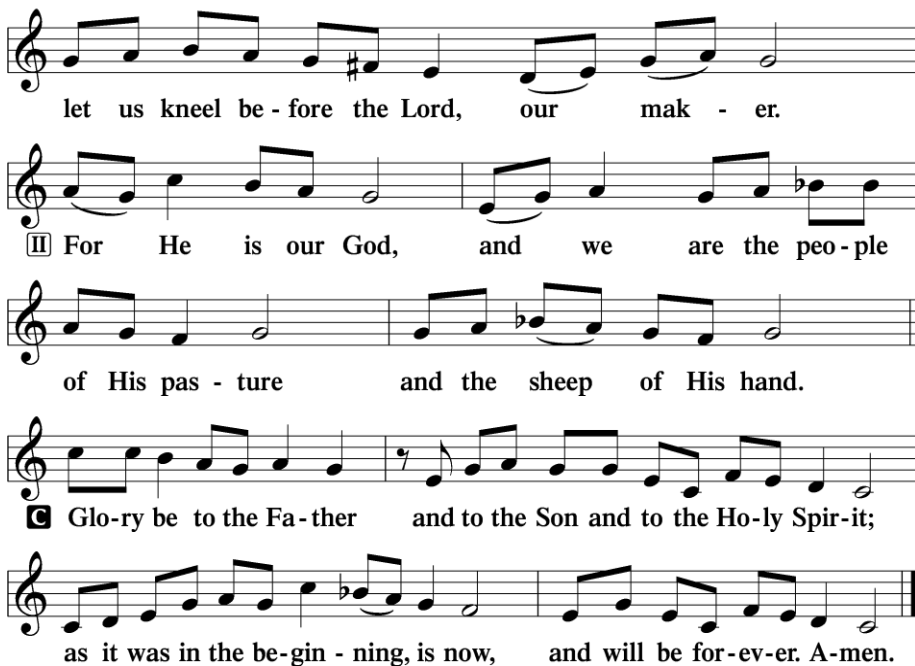
I Let us come in - to His pres - ence with thanks - giv - ing;
let us make a joy - ful noise to Him with songs of praise.

II For the Lord is a great God and a great king a-bove all gods.

I In His hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the moun - tains are His al - so.

II The sea is His, for He made it;
and His hand formed the dry land.

I O come, let us wor - ship and bow down;



let us kneel be - fore the Lord, our mak - er.

II For He is our God, and we are the peo - ple

of His pas - ture and the sheep of His hand.

C 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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you

P Almighty and faithful God, You judged the world with the waters of the flood, yet in mercy You preserved Noah and his family, and gave a sign of Your covenant never to forsake Your creation. Grant that we who have been brought safely through the waters of Baptism may trust Your unfailing promises, even as the world stands on the brink of destruction, and find our refuge in Christ, the ark of our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Genesis 6:5–8, 13–22; 7:6–10; 8:1, 13–20*

⁵The LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. ⁶And the LORD was sorry that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. ⁷So the LORD said, “I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them.” ⁸But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

¹³And God said to Noah, “I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth. ¹⁴Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. ¹⁵This is how you are to make it: the length of the ark 300 cubits, its breadth 50 cubits, and its height 30 cubits. ¹⁶Make a roof for the ark, and finish it to a cubit above, and set the door of the ark in its side. Make it with lower, second, and third decks. ¹⁷For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die. ¹⁸But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons’ wives with you. ¹⁹And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every sort into the ark to keep them alive with you. They shall be male and female. ²⁰Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground, according to its kind, two of every sort shall come in to you to keep them alive. ²¹Also take with you every sort of food that is eaten, and store it up. It shall serve as food for you and for them.” ²²Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.

⁶Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came upon the earth. ⁷And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him went into the ark to escape the waters of the flood. ⁸Of clean animals, and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, ⁹two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah. ¹⁰And after seven days the waters of the flood came upon the earth.

¹But God remembered Noah and all the beasts and all the livestock that were with him in the ark. And God made a wind blow over the earth, and the waters subsided.

¹³In the six hundred and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried from off the earth. And Noah removed the covering of the ark and looked, and behold, the face of the ground was dry. ¹⁴In the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth had dried out. ¹⁵Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶“Go out from the ark, you and your wife, and your sons and your sons’ wives with you. ¹⁷Bring out with you every living thing that is with you of all flesh—birds and animals and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth—that they may swarm on the earth, and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.” ¹⁸So Noah went out, and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him. ¹⁹Every beast, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that moves on the earth, went out by families from the ark.

²⁰Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and took some of every clean animal and some of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 24:29–31, 36–44*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²⁹“Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ³⁰Then will appear in heaven the sign of the Son of Man, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. ³¹And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

³⁶“But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. ³⁷As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. ⁴²Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

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.

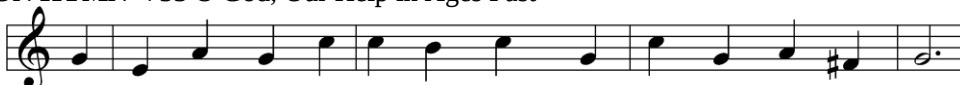
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the 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.

Sit

SERMON HYMN 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past



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.

Stand

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.

CLOSING HYMN 817 Earth and All Stars



1 Earth and all stars! Loud rush - ing plan - ets! Sing to the
2 Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blow - ing snow - storm! Sing to the
6 Knowl-edge and truth! Loud sound-ing wis - dom! Sing to the
7 Chil - dren of God, Dy - ing and ris - ing, Sing to the



Lord a new song! Oh, vic - to - ry! Loud shout-ing
Lord a new song! Flow - ers and trees! Loud rus - tling
Lord a new song! Daugh-ter and son! Loud pray - ing
Lord a new song! Heav - en and earth, Hosts ev - er -



ar - my! Sing to the Lord a new song!
dry leaves! Sing to the Lord a new song!
mem - bers! Sing to the Lord a new song!
last - ing, Sing to the Lord a new song!



Refrain
He has done mar - vel - ous things.



I too will praise Him with a new song!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009

Tune: David N. Johnson, 1922–87

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POSTLUDE

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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