

**ST. PETERS – WORSHIP SCRIPT**  
**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST**  
**+ DIVINE SERVICE SETTING FOUR +**  
**September 3, 2023 10:45 AM**

**PRELUDE** “The Cross—Tree of Life Medley”

**WELCOME AND GREETING**

**OPENING HYMN** “How Great Thou Art” **LSB #801**

**O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder**  
**Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,**  
**I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,**  
**Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed; *Refrain***

*Refrain* **Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,**  
**How great Thou art! How great Thou art!**  
**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,**  
**How great Thou art! How great Thou art!**

**When through the woods and forest glades I wander,**  
**I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;**  
**When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur**  
**And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; *Refrain***

**But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,**  
**Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in—**  
**That on the cross my burden gladly bearing**  
**He bled and died to take away my sin; *Refrain***

**When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation**  
**And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!**  
**Then I shall bow in humble adoration**  
**And there proclaim: “My God, how great Thou art!” *Refrain***

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**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**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.**

P: Let us therefore come before His throne of grace with humble and sincere hearts to lay our burdens down.

*A moment of Self-reflection and Silent Confession*

P: Gracious Lord,

**C: We come before You, laying the burden of our sin at the foot of Your cross. We openly acknowledge our failure to follow Your plans for our lives. We have stumbled and fallen in our service to You. We have placed our agenda ahead of Yours. We have been shallow in our love toward You and toward those You have placed in our path. We cry out for mercy, trusting in Your promise to forgive us through the love of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

P: God has heard your cry for mercy and fulfills His promise to save and deliver you! Lavishing His grace upon you in Jesus, He enables you to love and forgive as He has first loved and forgiven you. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, as if Jesus himself were standing in front of you speaking these words, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the **†** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

**PSALM OF THE DAY (26)**

P: Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.

**C: Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and my mind.**

P: For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in your faithfulness.

**C: I do not sit with men of falsehood, nor do I consort with hypocrites.**

P: I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked.

**C: I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O LORD, proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your wondrous deeds.**

P: O LORD, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells.

**C: Do not sweep my soul away with sinners, nor my life with blood-thirsty men, In whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes.**

P: But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.

**C: My foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the LORD.**

**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.**

**KYRIE**

*(Sing, LSB page 204)*

**Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.**

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

**LSB #204**

**To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven  
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father;  
Your holy name, we sing—  
Our thanks for Your great glory,  
Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

**To You, O sole-begotten,  
The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior,  
You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus;  
Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated  
At God's right hand on high—**

**For You alone are holy;  
You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever,  
Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit  
Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory.  
"Amen!" our glad reply.**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

**SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**P:** Let us pray.

**C:** **Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING    Jeremiah 15:15–21

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and take vengeance for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance take me not away; know that for your sake I bear reproach. <sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. <sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of revelers, nor did I rejoice; I sat alone, because your hand was upon me, for you had filled me with indignation. <sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will you be to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail? <sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the Lord: “If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall be as my mouth. They shall turn to you, but you shall not turn to them. <sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, declares the Lord. <sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.”

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE            Romans 12:9-21

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. <sup>10</sup>Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. <sup>17</sup>Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” <sup>20</sup>To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

*(Stand and Sing, LSB page 205)*

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.  
These things are written that you may believe  
That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## **HOLY GOSPEL     Matthew 16:21-28**

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 16th Chapter.

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

<sup>21</sup>From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his life? Or what shall a man give in return for his life? <sup>27</sup>For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. <sup>28</sup>Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**P: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **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. *(Be Seated)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”**

**LSB #685**

Let us ever walk with Jesus,  
Follow His example pure,  
Through a world that would deceive us  
And to sin our spirits lure.  
Onward in His footsteps treading,  
Pilgrims here, our home above,  
Full of faith and hope and love,  
Let us do the Father’s bidding.  
Faithful Lord, with me abide;  
I shall follow where You guide.

Let us suffer here with Jesus  
And with patience bear our cross.  
Joy will follow all our sadness;  
Where He is, there is no loss.  
Though today we sow no laughter,  
We shall reap celestial joy;  
All discomforts that annoy  
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.  
Jesus, here I share Your woe;  
Help me there Your joy to know.

Let us gladly die with Jesus.  
Since by death He conquered death,  
He will free us from destruction,  
Give to us immortal breath.  
Let us mortify all passion  
That would lead us into sin;  
And the grave that shuts us in  
Shall but prove the gate to heaven.  
Jesus, here with You I die,  
There to live with You on high.  
Let us also live with Jesus.  
He has risen from the dead

**That to life we may awaken.  
Jesus, You are now our head.  
We are Your own living members;  
Where You live, there we shall be  
In Your presence constantly,  
Living there with You forever.  
Jesus, let me faithful be,  
Life eternal grant to me.**

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**SERMON**      **“30 Encouragements Boiled Down to TWO”**      **Romans 12:9-21**  
*(Sermon Outline provided on back of Announcements)*

**OFFERING**    *(As joyful givers, we clap for the offering)*

**OFFERING MUSIC**      **“Where He Leads, I Will Follow”**      E.W. Blandy

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT**      (Page 208ff LSB)

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 .....

**SANCTUS**      *(LSB page 208)*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord'  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

## **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.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

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:

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

### **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

**PAX DOMINI** ("Peace of the Lord") **AND AGNUS DEI** ("*Lamb of God*") (page 210)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

*(sing)* **O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away,  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

## **DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S BODY AND BLOOD**

### **NUNC DIMITTIS**

*(Sing LSB page 211)*

**O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace;  
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**



**POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

P: 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 in 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**

**CLOSING HYMN**

**“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”**

**LSB #427**

**In the cross of Christ I glory,  
Tow’ring o’er the wrecks of time.  
All the light of sacred story  
Gathers round its head sublime.**

**When the woes of life o’ertake me,  
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
Never shall the cross forsake me;  
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.**

**When the sun of bliss is beaming  
Light and love upon my way,  
From the cross the radiance streaming  
Adds more luster to the day.**

**Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure  
By the cross are sanctified;  
Peace is there that knows no measure,  
Joys that through all time abide.**

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**POSTLUDE**

**“Lift High the Cross”**

**Larry Shackley; arr.**

**\* \* \* \* \***

**HAVE A JOYFUL LORD’S DAY OF SERVICE AND PRAISE!**