

**ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
LWML SUNDAY
October 8, 2023 8:15 AM**

WELCOME

INVOCATION and LWML PLEDGE

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8)

C: In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have;

P: God has entrusted to His people the task of teaching all nations. We thank Him for the 75 years He has blessed the work of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

C: and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us.

P: That the joyous truth of the Gospel may be known in every generation;

C: We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life,

P: We are mindful of the shortness of time and uncertainties of life. Preserve our faithfulness and strengthen us for service in our communities and throughout the world.

C: to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen!

OPENING SONG

"See A Victory"

**The weapon may be formed but it won't prosper
When the darkness falls it won't pre -vail
'Cause the God I serve knows only how to triumph
My God will never fail
My God will never fail**

**I'm gonna see a victory, I'm gonna see a victory
For the battle belongs to You Lord
I'm gonna see a victory, I'm gonna see a victory
For the battle belongs to You Lord**

**There's power in the mighty Name of Jesus
Every war He wages He will win
I'm not backing down from any giant
I know how this story ends
I know how this story ends**

**I'm gonna see a victory, I'm gonna see a victory
For the battle belongs to You Lord
I'm gonna see a victory, I'm gonna see a victory
For the battle belongs to You Lord**

**I'm gonna see a victory, I'm gonna see a victory
For the battle belongs to You Lord
I'm gonna see a victory, I'm gonna see a victory
For the battle belongs to You Lord**

**You take what the enemy meant for evil
And You turn it for good, You turn it for good**

**You take what the enemy meant for evil
And You turn it for good, You turn it for good**

**You take what the enemy meant for evil
And You turn it for good, You turn it for good**

**I'm gonna see a victory, I'm gonna see a victory
For the battle belongs to You Lord
I'm gonna see a victory, I'm gonna see a victory
For the battle belongs to You Lord**

**I'm gonna see a victory, I'm gonna see a victory
For the battle belongs to You Lord
I'm gonna see a victory, I'm gonna see a victory
For the battle belongs to You Lord**

Song Select# 7129060

Ben Fielding, Chris Brown, Jason Ingram, and Steven Furtick

OLD TESTAMENT Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹The word of the Lord came to me: ²“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge?’ ³As I live, declares the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .

²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that

he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

³⁰"Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live."

R: This is the Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God.

TIME OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: The LORD takes no pleasure in the death of a sinner. He invites us to repent, to turn from our offenses and live a life of obedience. When we admit that we are wrong and that He is right, He forgives us for the sake of Jesus Christ who died in our place. He gives us a new heart and a new Spirit that we might live a life free from shame, regret and fear. Therefore, we need to confess our sins, and turn from sin and receive the LORD's forgiveness and the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus!

C: O merciful Lord, I thank You for giving me life when I deserved death. I do not want sin to be my downfall! I consider all the offenses that I have committed and turn away from them. I believe that Jesus became sin for me that I might be made right with you.

P: As we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just forgives our sins and makes us clean from all unrighteousness. As a called and ordained servant of the living Christ, I declare to you that God forgives you. He invites you now to receive the Holy Spirit's power that sets you free from sin and death.

C: I yield myself to you Holy Spirit! Have your way with me and thank you for your life-giving, life-changing grace. Amen.

SONG

“The Fathers House”

**Sometimes on this journey
I get lost in my mistakes
What looks to me like weakness
Is a canvas for Your strength
My story isn't over my story's just begun
Failure won't define me
'Cause that's what my Father does
Failure won't define me
'Cause that's what my Father does**

**Oo lay your burdens down
Oo here in the Father's house
Check your shame at the door
'Cause it ain't welcome anymore
Oo you're in the Father's house**

**Arrival's not the endgame
The journey's where You are
You never wanted perfect
You just wanted my heart
And the story isn't over
If the story isn't good
Failure's never final
When the Father's in the room
Failure's never final
When the Father's in the room**

**Oo lay your burdens down
Oo here in the Father's house
Check your shame at the door
'Cause it ain't welcome anymore
Oo you're in the Father's house**

**Prodigals come home the helpless find hope
Love is on the move
When the Father's in the room
Prison doors fling wide the dead come to life
Love is on the move
When the Father's in the room
Miracles take place the cynical find faith
Love is breaking through
When the Father's in the room
Jericho walls are quaking
Strongholds now are shaking**

**Love is breaking through
When the Father's in the room
Love is breaking through
When the Father's in the room**

**Oo lay your burdens down
Oo here in the Father's house
Check your shame at the door
'Cause it ain't welcome anymore
Oo you're in the Father's house**

**Oo lay your burdens down
Oo here in the Father's house
Check your shame at the door
'Cause it ain't welcome anymore
Oo you're in the Father's house**

Song Select # 7135153

Benjamin Hastings, Cory Asbury, and Ethan Hulse

Paul Baloche CCLI# 549168

EPISTLE Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

¹If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . .

¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Matthew 21:23-32

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

²⁸"What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. ³⁰And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him."

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CATECHETICAL CREED

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

That I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness.

Just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true!

SERMON **"Forgiveness Begins with Obedience"** **Matthew 21:23-32**
(Sermon Outline provided on back of Announcements)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

BAPTISM OF BEXLEY GAIL SIGMON

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC

"I Surrender"

**Here I am down on my knees again
Surrendering all surrendering all**

**Find me here Lord as You draw me near
Desp'rate for You desp'rate for You
I sur - render**

**Drench my soul as mercy and grace unfold
I hunger and thirst I hunger and thirst**

**With arms stretched wide I know You hear my cry
Speak to me now speak to me now**

**I sur - render I sur - render
I want to know You more
I want to know You more**

**I sur - render I sur - render
I want to know You more
I want to know You more**

**Like a rushing wind Jesus breathe within
Lord have Your way Lord have Your way in me
Like a mighty storm stir with - in my soul
Lord have Your way
Lord have Your way in me**

**Like a rushing wind Jesus breathe within
Lord have Your way Lord have Your way in me
Like a mighty storm stir with - in my soul
Lord have Your way
Lord have Your way in me**

**Like a rushing wind Jesus breathe within
Lord have Your way Lord have Your way in me
Like a mighty storm stir with - in my soul
Lord have Your way
Lord have Your way in me**

**Lord have Your way
Lord have Your way in me (To Ch 2)**

**I sur - render I sur - render
I want to know You more
I want to know You more**

Song Select 6177317
Matt Crocker

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

CLOSING SONG “You Are My King (Amazing Love)”

**I'm for - given be - cause You were forsaken
I'm accepted You were condemned
I'm a - live and well Your Spirit is within me
Be - cause You died and rose again**

**I'm for - given be - cause You were forsaken
I'm accepted You were condemned
I'm a - live and well Your Spirit is within me
Be - cause You died and rose again**

**Amazing love how can it be
That You my King would die for me
Amazing love I know it's true
It's my joy to honor You**

In all I do I honor You

**I'm for - given be - cause You were forsaken
I'm accepted You were condemned
I'm a - live and well Your Spirit is within me
Be - cause You died and rose again**

**Amazing love how can it be
That You my King would die for me
Amazing love I know it's true
It's my joy to honor You**

In all I do I honor You

**You are my King You are my King
Jesus You are my King Jesus You are my King**

**Amazing love how can it be
That You my King would die for me
Amazing love I know it's true
It's my joy to honor You**

**Amazing love how can it be
That You my King would die for me
Amazing love I know it's true
It's my joy to honor You**

**In all I do I honor You
In all I do let me honor You**

**Song Select #2456623
Billy Foote**

HAVE A WONDERFUL LORD'S DAY OF PRAISE AND SERVICE!