

✠ Divine Service ✠

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(September 13, 2026)

SETTING THREE, pp. 184-202

Hymn of Invocation

*Come Down, O Love Divine, **LSB 501***

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

LSB 184

Exhortation

Kneel/Sit

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

Absolution

LSB 185

Stand

Introit

Psalm 143:1-2; antiphon: v. 9



[L] Deliver me from my enemies, | O LORD!*

I have fled to you for | refuge!

[C] Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for |
mercy!*

In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!

[L] Enter not into judgment with your | servant,*
for no one living is righteous be- | fore you.

[C] 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.

[L] Deliver me from my enemies, | O LORD!*

I have fled to you for | refuge!

Kyrie

LSB 186

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 189

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 50:15-21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this

command before he died, ¹⁷‘Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.’ And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father.” Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, “Behold, we are your servants.” ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, “Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones.” Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

L Fear the LORD, | you his saints,*
for those who fear him lack | nothing!

C Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,*
but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

Epistle

Romans 14:1–12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21–35

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

LSB 191

Sit: Children come forward to the altar steps

God's Word to His Lambs

Hymn of the Day

*I Leave All Things to God's Direction, **LSB 719***

Sermon

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

Sit

Offering

Kneel/sit

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all People according to their needs.

[Kneel or be seated]

--after each petition of the Prayer the following response is spoken--

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

--the Prayer of the Church concludes--

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.**

✠ Service of the Sacrament ✠

—If not a member of Grace Lutheran Church, please read the note on Holy Communion on the bulletin back page—

Preface LSB 194

Sanctus LSB 195

Lord's Prayer LSB 196

The Words of Our Lord LSB 197

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei LSB 198

Sit

Distribution

Distribution Hymn

*O Lord, We Praise Thee, **LSB 617***

Distribution Hymn

*If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee, **LSB 750***

Distribution Hymn

*Where Charity and Love Prevail, **LSB 845***

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

Post-Communion Collect

Salutation

LSB 201

Benedicamus

LSB 202

Benediction

Hymn to Depart

*On What Has Now Been Sown, **LSB 921***