

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(September 27, 2026)

SETTING THREE, pp. 184-202

Hymn of Invocation

May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill, LSB 698

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 147:1–5; antiphon: v. 6



- L** The LORD lifts up the | humble;*
he casts the wicked | to the ground.
- C** **Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our
God;***
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.
- L** The LORD builds up Je- | rusalem;*
he gathers the outcasts of | Israel.
- C** **He heals the broken- | hearted*
and binds | up their wounds.**
- L** He determines the number | of the stars;*
he gives to all of | them their names.
- C** **Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power;*
his understanding is beyond | measure.**
- 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** The LORD lifts up the | humble;*
he casts the wicked | to the ground.

Kyrie

LSB 186

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Sit

Old Testament Reading

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.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalms 91:11; 103:1

L He will command his angels concerning you*
to guard you in | all your ways.

C Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

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.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:23–27

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

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

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.”

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

*Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word, **LSB 655***

Sermon

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

Sit

Offering - *"O God, Our Help in Ages Past/ Doxology" - Grace Youth Ensemble*

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	<i>LSB 194</i>
Sanctus	<i>LSB 195</i>
Lord's Prayer	<i>LSB 196</i>
The Words of Our Lord	<i>LSB 197</i>
Pax Domini	
Agnus Dei	<i>LSB 198</i>

Sit

Distribution

Distribution Hymn *Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service, **LSB 848***

Distribution Hymn *When Morning Gilds the Skies, **LSB 807***

Distribution Hymn *Holy Spirit, Light Divine, **LSB 496***

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 199*

Thanksgiving *LSB 200*

Post-Communion Collect

Salutation *LSB 201*

Benedicamus *LSB 202*

Benediction

Hymn to Depart *Almighty Father, Bless the Word, **LSB 923***