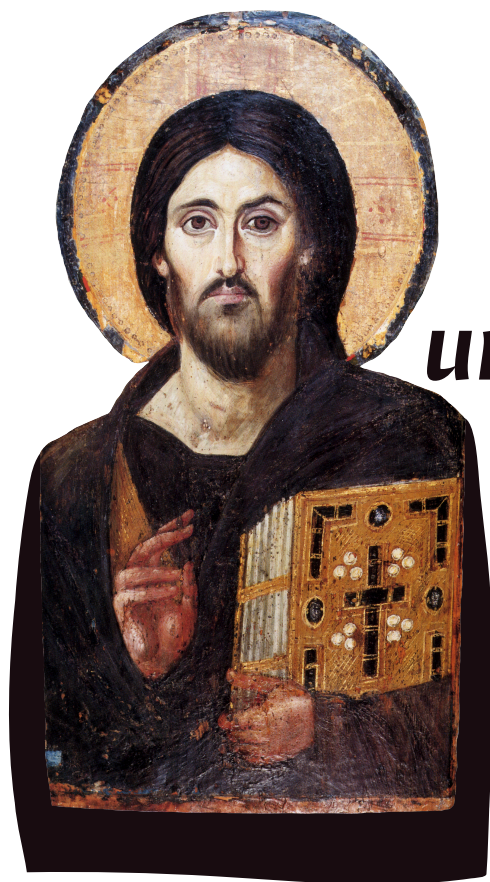




unexpected **TRUTHS**

THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST:
REAL REPENTANCE

OCTOBER 4, 2026 ✠ 8:00 AM & 10:15 AM



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WELCOME

We're glad you're here and want you to feel comfortable!

WHAT TO EXPECT

The service is printed here except for hymns which are found in the blue hymnal in the pew. Join in as you're comfortable.

FOR FAMILIES

Children are welcome here! We know and Jesus knows that little kids have a hard time sitting quietly sometimes. They are still welcome here. Jesus said: Let the little children come to me! If needed, the entryway has audio so you can still participate.

NEED HELP?

Ask anyone—we're glad to help.

Pastors Boettcher and Peil would love to meet you - please introduce yourself!

HOLY COMMUNION

If you're a visitor today, please see our note to you about Holy Communion on page 8.

Thanks for being with us. God bless you through His Word.

UNEXPECTED TRUTHS: Real Repentance Looks Different

It might be expected for someone to look sorry when they are caught doing something wrong. You might even see tears and hear words of apology. But you might not be surprised if the shock of being caught wears off and so does the intensity of the repentance.

Real repentance looks different. God doesn't want us to simply go through religious motions like some sort of show. God's desire is that our repentance would demonstrate sincere sorry over sin. It might be unexpected, but God wants us to see the grace and forgiveness he has shown us in Christ, and in response, to love him back deeply and sincerely

THE DIVINE SERVICE

 *The congregation speaks and sings the words in **BOLD** type.* 

HYMN 927 God Himself Is Present

INVOCATION

Please stand at the minister's direction if you are able

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

Matthew 28:19

Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

1 John 1:8

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

1 John 1:9

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

silence for reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of 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.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

The simple prayer, "Lord, have mercy" has been the hope-filled cry of Christians for many centuries. We pray to Jesus, who is Lord and Christ, and ask for his help based on his mercy. Kyrie is a Greek word that means "Lord" and eleison means "have mercy".

The minister sings: Lord Jesus, You raise us to new life: Kyrie eleison, eleison, Kyrie.

All sing: **Kyrie eleison, eleison, Kyrie.**

The minister sings: Lord Jesus, You forgive us our sins: Christe eleison, eleison, Christe.

All sing: **Christe eleison, eleison, Christe.**

The minister sings: Lord Jesus, You feed us with Your body and blood: Kyrie eleison, eleison, Kyrie.

All sing: **Kyrie eleison, eleison, Kyrie.**

GLORY BE TO GOD IN HEAVEN *(Gloria in Excelsis)*

Tune: HYFRYDOL

1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en, peace to those he
2 On - ly Son of God the Fa - ther, Lamb who takes our

loves so well. On the earth let all his peo - ple speak his
sin a - way, now with him in tri - umph seat - ed— for your

grace, his won - ders tell: Lord, we praise you for your
mer - cy, Lord, we pray: Je - sus Christ, most high and

glo - ry, might - y Fa - ther, heav - en's King; hear our
ho - ly, Sav - lor, you are God a - lone in the

joy - ful ad - o - ra - tion and ac - cept the thanks we bring.
glo - ry of the Fa - ther with the Spir - it, Three in One!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated.

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

A strong warning to Christians who have grown dismissive of their sin.

The word of the Lord came to me:
“What do you people mean by
quoting this proverb about the land
of Israel:

“ ‘The parents eat sour grapes,
and the children’s teeth are set on edge’?

“As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign
Lord, you will no longer quote this proverb
in Israel. For everyone belongs to me, the
parent as well as the child—both alike
belong to me. The one who sins is the one
who will die. [...]

“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not
just.’ Hear, you Israelites: Is my way unjust?
Is it not your ways that are unjust? If a
righteous person turns from their
righteousness and commits sin, they will
die for it; because of the sin they have
committed they will die. But if a wicked
person turns away from the wickedness

they have committed and does what is just
and right, they will save their life. Because
they consider all the offenses they have
committed and turn away from them, that
person will surely live; they will not die. Yet
the Israelites say, ‘The way of the Lord is
not just.’ Are my ways unjust, people of
Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust?

“Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each
of you according to your own ways,
declares the Sovereign Lord. Repent! Turn
away from all your offenses; then sin will
not be your downfall. Rid yourselves of all
the offenses you have committed, and get
a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you
die, people of Israel? For I take no pleasure
in the death of anyone, declares the
Sovereign Lord. Repent and live!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 25B | I Lift My Soul To You

The Church sings Psalm 25 in services that encourage a Christian life of repentance and faith.



1 I lift my soul to you, LORD, I trust, O God, in you.
2 Your cov-e-nant and mer-cy are with me all my days

Send forth your truth to guide me, and teach me what to do,
to com-fort and to bless me, to keep me in your ways.

Re-mem-ber your great mer-cy, your ev-er-last-ing love;
When-ev-er I look up-ward, I find you wait-ing there,

for-give me, God, my Sav-ior, my guilt and sin re-move,
to bear me and to keep me all safe be-neath your care.

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1-11

Moved by Christ’s love and empowered by the Spirit, we seek to imitate the humility of Jesus.

Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God
something to be used to his own

advantage;
rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you will not despise.
Alleluia!

Psalms 51:17

THE HOLY GOSPEL

This lesson is the basis of the sermon.

Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you this authority?”

Jesus replied, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. John’s baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?”

They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin’—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.”

So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.”

Then he said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

Matthew 21:23-32

“What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’

“ ‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

“Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go.

“Which of the two did what his father wanted?”

“The first,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, O Christ!

Be seated.

HYMN 685 | Through Simple Water, Drawn and Poured

SERMON MATTHEW 21

Please stand

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there 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.

Be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity.. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

We pray for... Mike and Joeleen Jones, Betty Moser, John Farrel (all with health struggles), Judy (Nancy Brandt's sister diagnosed with cancer), Bob Bruce (in hospice care), Francine Bailey (recovering from surgery), Brent's son and baby Genti (both in need of transplant), Jean Beifuss (recovering from surgery)

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

OFFERING



Moved by God's love in Christ, we return to God our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him.

There is an offering plate in the entry way for those who wish to give in that way.

One time or recurring GIFTS can be given through an account on our app: Church Center (QR Code on the left.)

*Or, for a one time gift, text **Give + dollar amount (example: Give\$5)** to **1 (844) 791-0302**. You'll receive a link to follow in response.*

A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS *Children and those who are not communicant members of our church may come forward for a blessing. Those who do are asked to cross their arms on their chest to indicate this.*

Prince of Peace practices closed communion, because the Bible teaches it and because we love you. That means we ask that only members of Prince of Peace or other congregations in our fellowship take the Lord's Supper this morning. This is not a judgment of anyone's faith, it is simply our desire to uphold what God says in 1 Corinthians 10 and 11 about who should receive Holy Communion and how. Because we believe from these words that Jesus' body and blood is really present in and with the bread and wine, we want to be sure that it is received in the manner He has commanded us.

Please speak to Pastor Boettcher or Pastor Peil about communing with us in the future if you're not part of our congregation. **Thank you for your understanding!**

THE SACRAMENT

Stand

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that

wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Tune: BRED DINA VIDA VINGAR



1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,
your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!
Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!
in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.
"Ho - san - na in the high - est!" our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament and deepen

our longing for the day when he will welcome us to his eternal feast.

Remember us in Your kingdom as we pray...

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD JESUS

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ✝ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; this is my ✝ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world, have mer - cy on us, *repeat as needed*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world, have mer - cy on us, *repeat as needed*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the
world, grant us peace.

Be seated

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN 526 **What Wondrous Love Is This**

HYMN 737 **Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way**

After the distribution, the minister speaks this blessing:

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go in peace. Your + sins are forgiven.

Amen.

Please stand

PRAYER

Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

His mercy endures forever.

Psalm 118:1

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BLESSING

Numbers 6:24-26

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated

CLOSING HYMN 927 Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing

