

St. John-St. James

Ev. Lutheran Church & School



Last Sunday after Pentecost

October 22 & 25

PRAYER UPON ENTERING GOD’S HOUSE

Heavenly Father, prepare my heart to worship you. Through your Word, make me sincerely repentant for the many sins which I have committed and reassure me of your loving kindness in my Savior, Christ Jesus. Through your Holy Spirit, keep my thoughts focused on the eternal truths which will be spoken and sung today. Guide and bless those leading in worship today. Make this service a celebration of your goodness and grace. In Jesus’ name. Amen.

WELCOME

God Spares No Expense to Prepare a Heavenly Banquet for Us

Opening Hymn:

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Christian Worship, Hymn # 375

**🎵 Verse 1 🎵 The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness fails me never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
And he is mine forever.**

**🎵 Verse 2 🎵 Where streams of living water flow,
My Savior gently leads me;
And where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feeds me.**

**🎵 Verse 5 🎵 You spread a table in my sight,
A banquet here bestowing;
Your oil of welcome, my delight;
My cup is overflowing!**

PLEASE STAND

INVOCATION

M The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M God our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 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.

C **Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

M For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

M For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C **Christ, have mercy.**

M For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

M Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

C **Amen.**

GLORY TO GOD

M The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

C Verse 1

♪ **I lay my sins on Jesus, The spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us
From the accursed load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus To wash my crimson stains.
White in his blood most precious
Till not a spot remains.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Grant, O merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BE SEATED

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 25:6-9

⁶On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine— the best of meats and the finest of wines. ⁷On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people’s disgrace from all the earth. The LORD has spoken. ⁹In that day they will say, “Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.”

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

(Confession of Faith continues on the next page.)

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 22:1-14

22 Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

⁴“Then he sent some more servants and said, ‘Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.’

(Gospel Lesson continues on the next page.)

⁵ “But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. ⁶ The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

⁸ “Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. ⁹ So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.’ ¹⁰ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹² He asked, ‘How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?’ The man was speechless.

¹³ “Then the king told the attendants, ‘Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ “For many are invited, but few are chosen.”

C Praise be to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day:

Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

Christian Worship, Hymn # 376

C Verse 1 **♫** **Jesus, your blood and righteousness**

**My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Mid flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift up my head.**

C Verse 2 **♫** **Bold shall I stand in that great day—**

**Who can a word against me say?
Fully through you absolved I am
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.**

(Hymn of the Day continues on the next page.)



Verse 3

♪ **Lord, I believe your precious blood,
Which at the very throne of God
Forever will for sinners plead,
For me—e'en for my soul—was shed.**

MESSAGE

Pastor Darin Aden

Philippians 4:4-13 **“Discover One of the Great Secrets of Life”**

- 1. Explore the Peace of the Lord**
- 2. Examine the Word of the Lord**
- 3. Experience the Strength of the Lord**

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. ⁹ Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰ I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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 SACRAMENT

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M 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.

C Amen.

A PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are a friend of the sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

(After all those communing have received Lord's Supper, we conclude our celebration)

M Now may this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in the true faith unto life everlasting.

C **Amen.**

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

M Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell everyone what he has done.

C **Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.**

M He renews his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving.

C **Alleluia! Alleluia!**

M Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

- M** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
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.

C **Amen.**

Closing Hymn:

When Peace Like a River

Christian Worship Supplement, Hymn # 760

C Verse 1

- ♪ **When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll—
Whatever my lot, though hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.**

C Verse 2

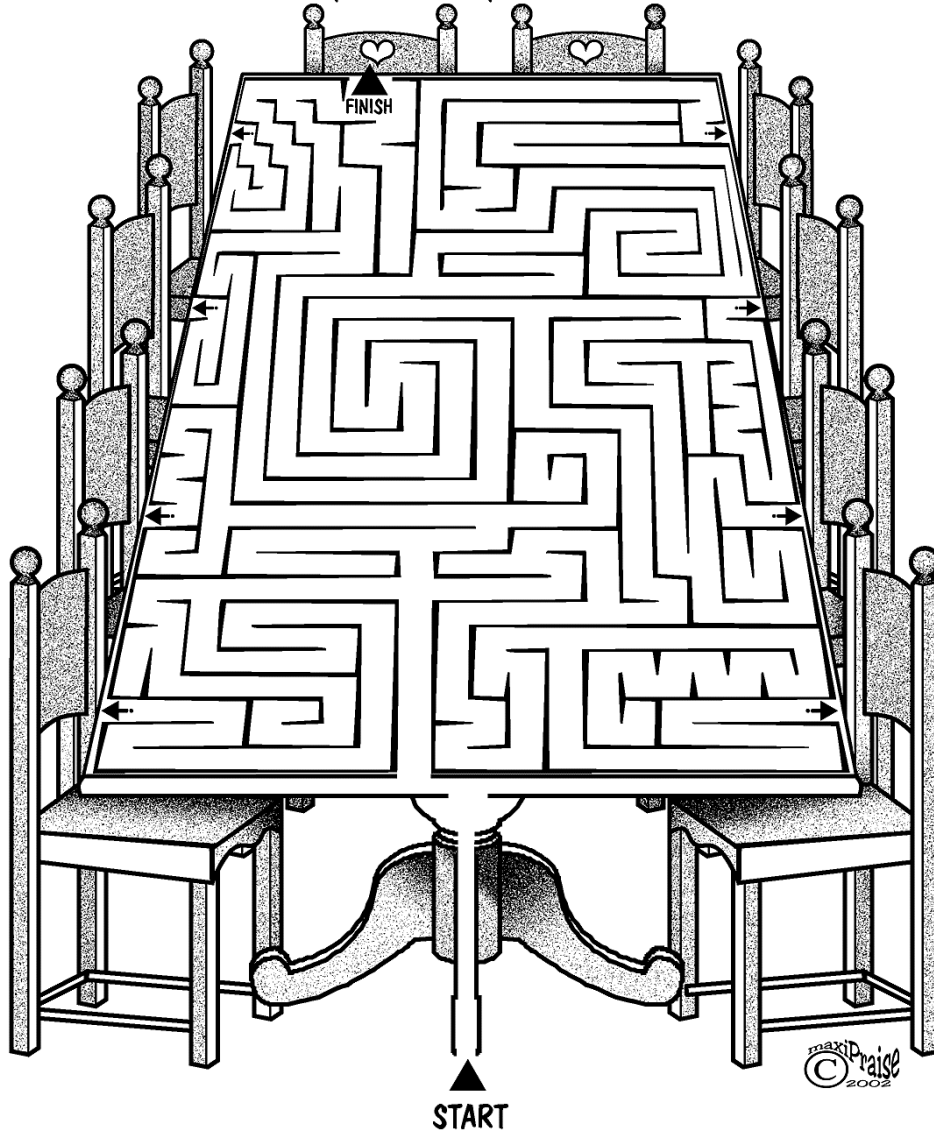
- ♪ **My sin—oh, the bless of this glorious thought—
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more:
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!**

C Verse 3

- ♪ **And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trumpet shall resound, and the Lord shall
descend;
Even so, it is well with my soul.**

The Seat to Take

If you take the advice of Jesus on which seat to take at a banquet, you might find that you will be shifted to a better position at the table. Move from the bottom of the table to the head. Then you can seat everyone else at the table.



Jesus advised that when you attend a banquet, a party or feast you should sit at the least important position at the table. Because if you sit in the best place and someone else arrives who is more important than you, you might find that you might be asked to shift to another seat. This would be very embarrassing. But if you sit in a humble seat the host might notice and move you to an important position and everyone will notice. Be humble and you will be honoured.