

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

08-17-2025

Greg Fetzner, Pastor

J.V. Trautwein, Pastor Emeritus

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for our sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

GATHERING HYMN [ELW#468 – “Around You, O Lord Jesus”](#)

P From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

C **And also with you.**



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, creator of the universe, we are filled with wonder at all your works and overwhelmed by your infinite wisdom. We praise you for your majesty; yet even

more we rejoice that you do not forget us, yet desire to know and care for us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

PSALM 139:1-6, 13-18

L ¹Lord, you have searched me out; O Lord, you have known me.

C ²You know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.

L ³You trace my journeys and my resting-places and are acquainted with all my ways.

L ⁴Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O Lord, know it altogether.

L ⁵You encompass me, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

C ⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain to it.

L ¹³For you yourself created my inmost parts;

you knit me together in my mother's womb.

**C ¹⁴I will thank you because I am marvelously made;
your works are wonderful, and I know it well.**

**L ¹⁵My body was not hidden from you,
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths of the earth.**

C ¹⁶Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb;

all of them were written in your book;
my days were fashioned before they came to be.

L ¹⁷How deep I find your thoughts, O God! How great is the sum of them!

**C ¹⁸If I were to count them, they would be more in number than the sand;
to count them all, my life span would need to be like yours.**

JOHN 1:43-51

L A reading from the Gospel of John: ⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the Law and also the Prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called

you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN OF THE DAY: [ELW#798 – “Will You Come and Follow Me”](#)

SERMON: [\(Sermon Audio Link\)](#)

L Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

A brief silence.

L Raise up faithful leaders for your church around the world. Inspire global missionaries with a spirit of accompaniment, as they walk alongside our partners in the gospel in solidarity, interdependence, and mutuality. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

L Safeguard rivers and lakes from pollution. Sustain the work of conservationists, policy makers, and advocacy groups seeking to protect fresh water sources. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

L Bridge divisions across partisan lines. Strengthen cooperative efforts among lawmakers who enact policies that protect our neighbors who are most vulnerable. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

L Embrace all who suffer in isolation: for those who are incarcerated or detained, those who are fleeing from unsafe environments, and those who are sick or homebound. We pray for Heidi Brackbill, Rebecca Brennan, the Elshafei family, Jeff Fultz, Mark Hughes, Charlotte Leer, Wendy Neumann, Rick Newman, Peter Olsen, Claudia Schober, for the family of D. J. Singer, Esther Trautwein, and Pastor Jack. Reassure them of your care in all times and places. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

L Guide the leaders of this congregation. In these late summer weeks, inspire their planning for a new program year ahead. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration and support for their work. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

L For whom or what else shall we pray?

- *For an end to war and conflict, especially in Gaza, Thailand, Cambodia, Colombia, South Sudan, Myanmar, Ukraine, and Ethiopia...*
- *For victims of gun violence, especially in Atlanta, GA and Austin, TX...*
- *For those without secure housing and those criminalized for being homeless...*
- *For flash flooding in Wisconsin, evacuations in Alaska, and all facing storms and flooding...*
- *For nurses and healthcare workers, especially those serving on the frontlines of war and conflict...*
- *For safety for journalists who bring stories and awareness to the tragedy of war...*
- *For all marriages, relationships, and family groupings that reflect mutual love and trust...*

L With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses who surround us. By the example of their faith, enable us to run with perseverance the race set before us, until that day when we join their unending praise. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

L Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

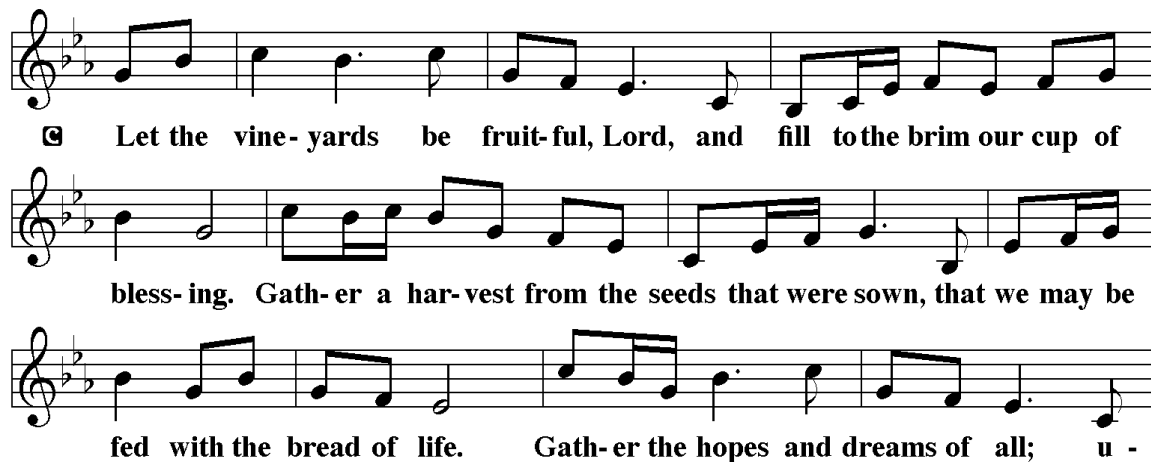
C Amen

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERING*: ([On-Line giving Link](#))

The Offering is received and is presented at the altar.



Let the vine- yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of

bles- ing. Gath- er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be

fed with the bread of life. Gath- er the hopes and dreams of all; u -



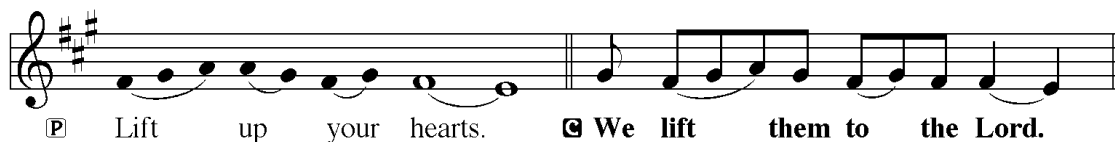
nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

P Let us pray. Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us - ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

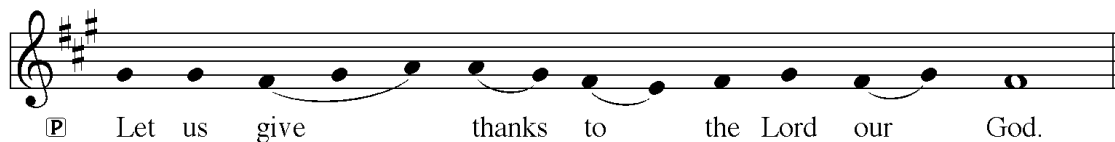
C Amen



P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

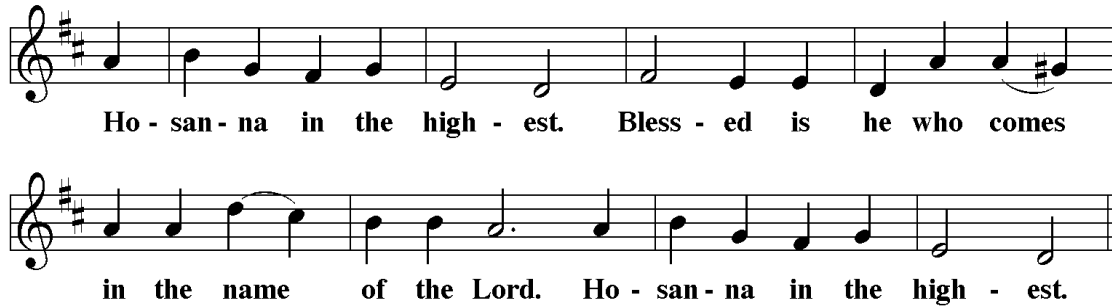
The thanksgiving continues with the preface; the congregation responds:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:



Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



P Holy God, Breath of life and Fire of love: with a mighty wind you brought creation into being, and by a pillar of fire you led your people into freedom. We praise you for the gift of your Son, who poured out your Spirit on his disciples of every race and nation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and the sending of the holy and life-giving Spirit, we await his coming again to renew the face of the earth. Send now your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this meal: anoint us with your gifts of faith, hope, and love, that, with thankful hearts, we may be witnesses to your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

C **Amen**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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**

P The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for the table is now ready.

C **Thanks be to God.**

After all have communed, the following is sung:



C Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please stand, as you are able.

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen



C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you gave your Son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen

SENDING HYMN: [ELW#756 – “Eternal Father Strong to Save”](#)

P Go in peace. Serve the risen Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*Offering to be sent to
Robert Brackbill
10274 Raleigh Tavern Lane
Ellicott City, MD 21042

Epiphany Lutheran Church
9122 Sybert Drive
Columbia Hills
Ellicott City, MD 21043
<https://www.epiphanylutherancolumbia.org>

Please note that you now have the opportunity of online giving with the link found after the offering designation or here: https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithe/give-one-time/2627291

Upcoming Events

- Saturday, September 20, 3 pm – 6 pm, Good Bye to Crew 851 Farewell Party
- Sunday, September 21 during 9:30 am service - recognition and thanksgiving for the partnership between Venture Crew 851 and Epiphany Lutheran.
- Sunday, September 21 after 9:30 am service - Fall Picnic

Upcoming Worship

Date	Theme of the Day	Preaching Text	Worship Leader
August 17	Nathanael	John 1:43-51	Ron
August 24	TBD	TBD	Monica
August 31	TBD	TBD	Pastor Greg
September 7	Creation	Genesis 1:1-2:4a	Heidi and Bob

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