



**NARRATIVE  
LECTIONARY  
—YEAR 1—  
WEEK 6**

**“AS THE STONE  
IS YOUR WITNESS”**

**JOSHUA & THE PEOPLE  
SERVE THE LORD**

**JOSHUA 24**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2022**

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***BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL***

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**THE GOSPEL OF ST. MATTHEW SERVICE**

Worship in a traditional order drawing words from Matthew's Gospel.

Matthew is the focus of Year A Gospel readings in the Lectionary.

**Opening Hymn**

**Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

LSB 700 sts. 1-3



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of  
2 Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to  
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; Let us



heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us Thy  
ev - 'ry trou - bled breast; Let us all in  
all Thy life re - ceive; Sud - den - ly re -



hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
Thee in - her - it; Let us find Thy prom - ised rest.  
turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave.



Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un -  
Take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha  
Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee



bound - ed love Thou art; Vis - it us with  
and O - me - ga be; End of faith, as  
as Thy hosts a - bove, Pray and praise Thee



Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-87

**Invocation (Based on Matthew 11:28-30)**

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

C: **Amen.**

P: Jesus says, "Come to Me all who are weary, and I will give You rest.

Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me.

For I am gentle and lowly in heart."

C: **For You have promised we will find rest for our souls.**

P: For His yoke is easy, and His burden is light.

C: **Amen.**

**Confession and Absolution (Matthew 22:34-40;19:16-26;18:13-14,19-20;20:28)**

P: When asked "Teacher, what is the great commandment in the Law?", Jesus said,

C: **You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart**

**and with all your soul and with all your mind.**

**And you shall love your neighbor as yourself.**

P: Jesus said, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me."

C: **This brings us sorrow, Lord,**

**Because we treasure many things which are not focused on You.**

**Who then can be saved?**

P: Jesus declares, "With people this is impossible,

but with God all things are possible."

He rejoices more over finding one lost sheep than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. It is not His will that one of you should perish.

C: **For the Lord has promised:**

**Where two or three are gathered in His Name,**

**He is among us with His forgiveness.**

P: Indeed, He is here in the power of His forgiveness for you today.

He comes not to be served

but to serve, to give His life as a ransom for you.

Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

**Song of Praise**

**Alleluia**

1. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, - - Al - le -  
 2. How I love him, how I love him, How I  
 3. Bles-sed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, bles - sed

1. | 2.

lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le lu - ia.  
 love him, How I love him, How I love him.  
 Je - sus, bles-sed Je - sus. Bles-sed Je - sus.

**This Week's Reading**

**Joshua 24:1-32 (VOICE)**

So Joshua summoned all of the tribes of Israel together at Shechem, all the leaders, judges, officers, and elders, and they stood in the presence of the True God.

**Joshua:** <sup>2</sup> The Eternal One, the True God of Israel has told me to give you this message: “Many years ago, your ancestors, Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates River where they served other gods. <sup>3</sup> But I took your father Abraham and led him over the river and into the land of Canaan, and I made his descendants numerous. I gave him Isaac, <sup>4</sup> and to Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau. I gave Esau the highlands of Seir for a possession, but Jacob and his sons went down to Egypt. <sup>5</sup> When the time came for them to be delivered, I sent Moses and Aaron, I struck Egypt with plagues, and I brought you out of Egypt.

<sup>6</sup> When I brought you out of Egypt, your ancestors were closely pursued by soldiers in their chariots of war to the Red Sea itself. <sup>7</sup> When they cried out to the Eternal, He put darkness between you and the Egyptians and brought the sea to cover and drown them, every one, in the sea. Your own eyes saw this. You lived in the desert for a long time, *wandering in the wilderness*. <sup>8</sup> Finally I brought you to the land of the Amorites, who lived on the east side of the Jordan. They fought against you; but I handed them over to you, and you took possession of their land. I destroyed them before you.

<sup>9</sup> When Balak, son of Zippor, king of Moab, decided to attack Israel, he called on Balaam, the son of Beor, to curse you, <sup>10</sup> but I would not listen to Balaam. All he could do was bless you. I delivered you out of his clutches.

<sup>11</sup> When you crossed over the Jordan *into the land of Canaan* and came to Jericho, the leaders of Jericho fought against you. So did the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. But I gave them all into your power.

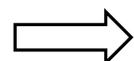
<sup>12</sup> I sent hornets ahead of you to run off the two kings of the Amorites; it was not done by your bow or sword. <sup>13</sup> I delivered to you fields you had not worked and towns you had not built, yet today you live in them. You eat the fruit of olive trees and of grape vineyards you did not even have to plant.”

<sup>14</sup> So remember: fear the Eternal and serve Him sincerely and faithfully. Put away from you any gods your ancestors served across the *Euphrates* River or in Egypt, and serve only Him. <sup>15</sup> If you decide that you’re not willing to serve Him, then today is the day for you to choose whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors bowed to in the land beyond the great River, or the gods of the Amorites whose country you possess. But as for me and my family, we will serve the Eternal.

**People of Israel (responding):** <sup>16</sup> Nothing could be further from our minds than abandoning the Eternal to serve other gods. <sup>17</sup> We know that the Eternal One our God rescued us and our ancestors from slavery in the land of Egypt. We remember that He performed all those great signs in front of us. He protected us from the people we passed as we traveled. <sup>18</sup> *And we know that* He removed the Amorites and all the peoples who lived in Canaan. We, too, will serve the Eternal One, for He is our True God.

**Joshua (warning them):** <sup>19</sup> If you think you will be able to serve the Eternal, you are wrong. He is a holy God and a jealous God; He will not tolerate your shortcomings and your sins. <sup>20</sup> If you desert Him and worship these foreign gods, He will fall upon you and totally consume you, even though He has done all this great good for you.

**People of Israel:** <sup>21</sup> All the same, we choose to serve the Eternal.



**Joshua:** <sup>22</sup> All right, then. You are witnesses—against yourselves, *if it comes to that*—that you have made this choice to serve the Eternal.

**People of Israel:** We are witnesses to it.

**Joshua (repeating):** <sup>23</sup> Then you must put all other gods away from you and turn your hearts to the Eternal God of Israel.

**People of Israel:** <sup>24</sup> We will serve the Eternal One, our God, and we will obey His voice.

<sup>25</sup> So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day at Shechem and gave them statutes and ordinances to obey. <sup>26</sup> Joshua wrote the words in the scroll of the law, and he had a large stone set up underneath the oak tree near the Eternal's holy place.

**Joshua (to all the people):** <sup>27</sup> This stone will also be a witness to your vow. It has heard all the words the Eternal spoke to us, so it will be a witness if you turn your backs on your True God.

<sup>28</sup> So he sent the people away, back to the lands He had given them.

<sup>29</sup> After that, Joshua, the son of Nun, the Eternal's servant, died at the age of 110. <sup>30</sup> They buried him in the land he had been given at Timnath-serah, which is in the hill country of Ephraim to the north of Mount Gaash.

<sup>31</sup> And Israel served the Eternal *faithfully* for as long as Joshua lived, and then throughout the days of the elders who outlived Joshua and had seen all the mighty things that the Eternal One did for Israel.

<sup>32</sup> The bones of Joseph, which the Israelites had carried out of Egypt, were buried at Shechem, in the land Jacob had bought from the descendants of Hamor, the father of Shechem, for 100 pieces of silver, and which had been passed on to the people of Joseph as an inheritance.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: ***Thanks be to God.***

**Anthem**

**God Is There**

**Adult Choir**

- Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

In the darkest night, in the morning light.  
 God is there, God is there.  
 In the rolling seas, in the galaxies, He is there, God is there.  
 He is everywhere all the time. He hears each prayer to heaven climb.  
 In the darkest night, in the morning light, God is there, God is there.  
 He's there when you feel you can't go on;  
 He sees each teardrop that falls; and when it seems you're all alone,  
 He is by your side when you call, God is there!  
 When we go astray, when we lose our way, God is there, God is there.  
 When we seek the Lord and obey His word, He is there, God is there.  
 He is everywhere all the time. He hears each prayer to heaven climb.  
 In the darkest night, in the morning light, God is there, God is there.

**Collect (Prayer of the Day)**

P: Let us pray. God of deliverance, you saved the people of Israel and chose Joshua to lead your people to the Promised Land. Choose us, and equip us to live with faith and peace. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

**Hymn of the Day**

**O God of Bethel, by Whose Hand** Hymnary.org; tune: LSB 526



1.O God of Be - thel, by whose hand thy peo - ple still are  
 2.Our vows, our prayers we now pre - sent be - fore thy throne of  
 3.Through each per - plex - ing path of life our wand'-ring - foot - steps  
 4.O spread thy cov - ering wings a - round till all our won - derings



fed, who through this wea - ry pil - gri-mage hast all our fath - ers led.  
 grace; God of our fa - thers, be the God of their sec - ceed - ing race.  
 guide; give us each day our dai - ly bread, and rai - ment fit pro - vide.  
 cease, and at our Fath - er's love a - bode our souls ar - rive in peace.

**Confession of Faith from Matthew 11:2-6; 16:13-16**

P: When John the Baptist heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?”

C: **Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”**

P: Jesus asked His disciples, using the title “Son of Man” to speak about Himself, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

And the disciples said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

Then He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?”

And I also ask you, disciples here today, “Who do you say that Jesus is?”

C: **Simon Peter replied, and we also say, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Amen.**

**Offering & Prayer Requests**

*In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.*

**Church Imitating Christ**

**Based on Acts 2:42-47 (ESV)**

P: Bethel as a congregation seeks to be a

C: **Church imitating Christ.**

P: We practice the Sacrament of Baptism in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit;

C: **We are baptized into God’s family.**

P: We celebrate the Sacrament of the Altar, the Lord’s Supper, where we receive the body and blood of Christ;

C: **We are guests at His Table of forgiveness.**

P: When we devote ourselves to the Sacraments, we are a

C: **Church imitating Christ. Amen.**

**Church Imitating Christ**

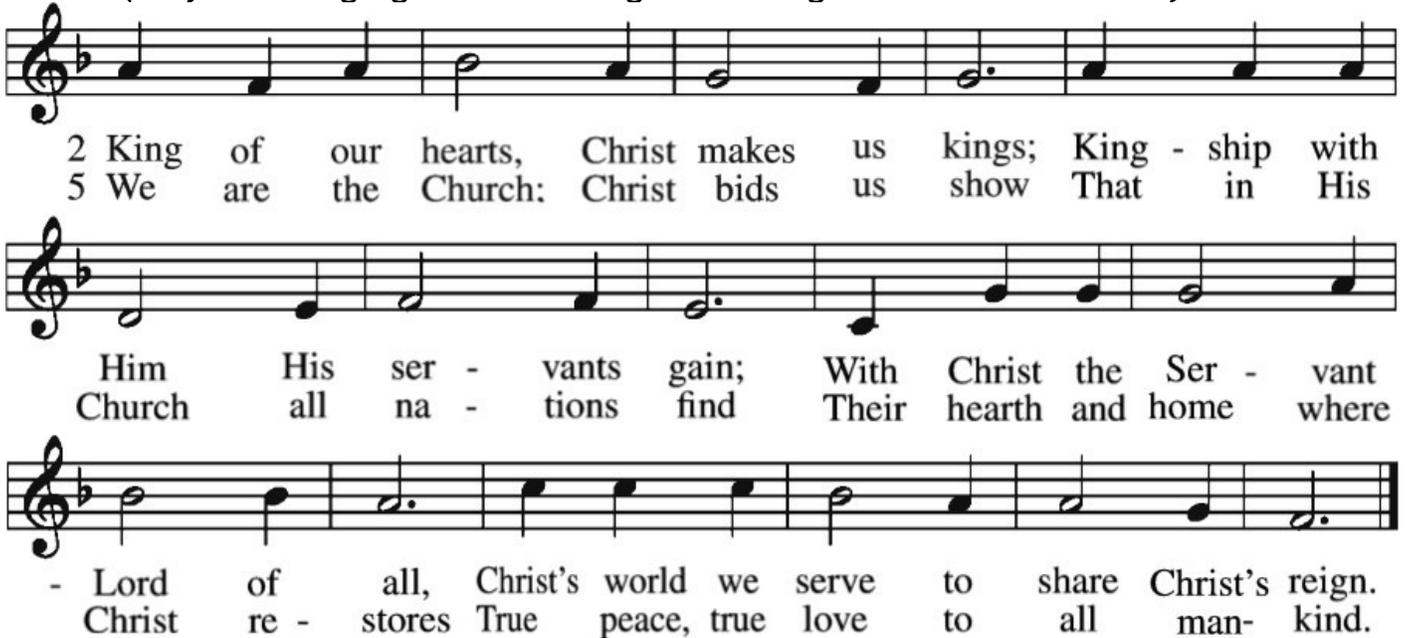


- Scripture
- Fellowship
- SACRAMENTS**
- Prayer
- Mercy
- Generosity
- Winsomeness

**Offertory (Based on Matthew 19:28, 12:18-21)**

LSB 920 sts.2,5; tune: 616

*(we join in singing as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)*



2 King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings; King - ship with  
 5 We are the Church: Christ bids us show That in His  
 Him His ser - vants gain; With Christ the Ser - vant  
 Church all na - tions find Their hearth and home where  
 - Lord of all, Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.  
 Christ re - stores True peace, true love to all man - kind.

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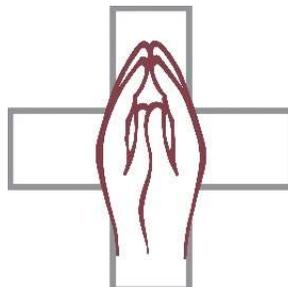
**Prayers**

**Preparation for the Lord's Supper**

All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed are invited to receive Communion with us if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ, and the wine is the blood of Christ, truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.

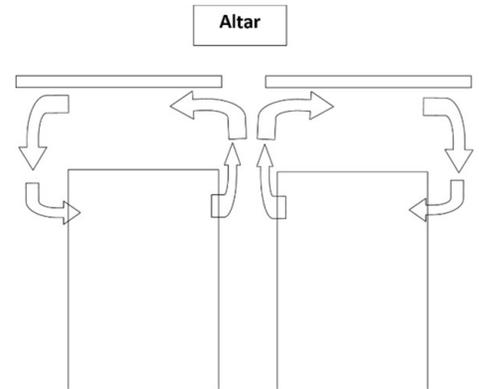


If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you believe, we ask that you wait to commune until we've had a further chance to talk. We invite those who are not communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a blessing from the Lord.



## **Communion Distribution**

- Pastor distributes the bread, and the Elders distribute the wine—with individual cups or common cup. The individual trays also contain alcohol-removed wine in the center of each tray in the purple cups.
- Each side will be ushered from the center aisle to the communion rail, row by row, starting with the front.
- Go to the rail on your side of the sanctuary, filling in starting with the outside wall towards the center.
- Once you have received the elements, you may remain at the rail for prayer and leave at your own pace.
- Return to your seat using the outside aisle.
- Use the distribution time to prepare yourself for communion, sing the hymns as prayers to God, and maintain this as meditative time.



## **Preface of the Lord's Supper (based on Matthew 21:1-11; 26:2; 3:17; 17:15; 25:34)**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: The Lord sent His prophet to say to the people of Zion, Jerusalem,  
‘Behold, your king is coming to you,  
humble, and mounted on a donkey.’”

And when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people welcomed Him saying:

**C: “Hosanna to the Son of David!**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!**

**Hosanna in the highest!”**

P: The whole city was stirred up, saying, “Who is this?” And the crowds said,

**C: “This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.”**

P: But Jesus was not just another one of the prophets,  
as God the Father declared at His Baptism:

**C: “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”**

P: And God the Father reminded the disciples again at His Transfiguration:

**C: “This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him.”**

P: Then Jesus reminded the disciples in Jerusalem that “the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.” By His crucifixion, and by His Supper, He extends this invitation: “Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”

## Proper Preface for Matthew

LSB "Apostles and Evangelists"

P: We pray: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; for You have mightily governed and protected Your holy Church, in which the blessed apostles and evangelists proclaimed Your divine and saving Gospel. Therefore with patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, with Your servant Matthew, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus (based on Matthew 26:26–29)

LSB 445, st. 1 & 3, alt.



1 When You woke that Thurs - day morn - ing, Sav - ior,  
teach - er, faith - ful friend, What great gift that you would  
give them, What last will and tes - ta - ment?  
"Show Me and the world you love Me, Know Me  
as the Lamb of God: Do this in re - mem - brance  
of Me, Eat this bod - y, drink this blood."

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### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

LSB “Apostles and Evangelists”

P: You once proclaimed Your saving promise through the prophets of Israel, and by the apostles and evangelists You published the good news of Your saving promise fulfilled in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Grant that we, being instructed in the doctrine of the blessed apostles and evangelists, may faithfully eat His body and drink His blood and declare His salvation to all the world.

C: **Amen.**

### **The Lord’s Prayer**

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

**All: 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.**

### **Words of Institution as in the Gospel of Matthew** Matthew 26:17a, 20–21, 26–30

P: <sup>17</sup>Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread,... <sup>20</sup>when it was evening, [Jesus] reclined at table with the twelve [to eat the Passover meal]. <sup>21</sup>And as they were eating, he said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.” <sup>26</sup>[Then] Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” <sup>27</sup>And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, <sup>28</sup>for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>29</sup>I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” <sup>30</sup>And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

### **Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.      C: **And also with you.**

(We greet one another in peace saying “God’s peace” or “The Lord be with you.”)



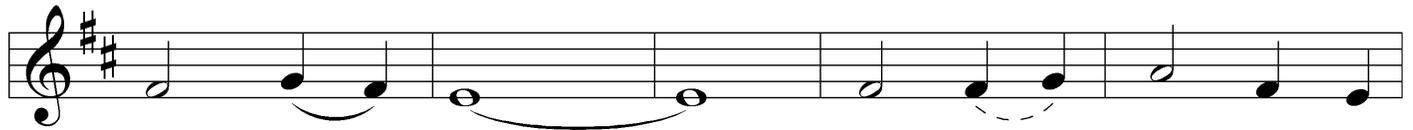
**First Distribution Hymn**

**Seek Ye First**

LSB 712



1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God, And His  
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you, Seek and  
3 Man does not live by bread a - lone, But by



righ - teous - ness. And all these things shall be  
ye shall find, Knock and the door shall be  
ev - 'ry word That pro - ceeds from the



add - ed un - to you! Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!  
o - pened un - to you, Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!  
mouth of the Lord, Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Text and tune: Karen Lafferty, 1948

Text and tune: © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin. EMI. Used by permission: CCLI no. 3975746

**Acknowledgements**

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with the assistance of the Pastors of Circuit 1 of the Northern Illinois District (LCMS).

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Today's Collect by Dr. Kimberly Leetch. [www.kimberlyleetch.com](http://www.kimberlyleetch.com)

Cover photo: "A Large Stone Under the Oldest Oak in Lake County", Grand & Green Bay, Waukegan, IL

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**Second Distribution Hymn Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me**

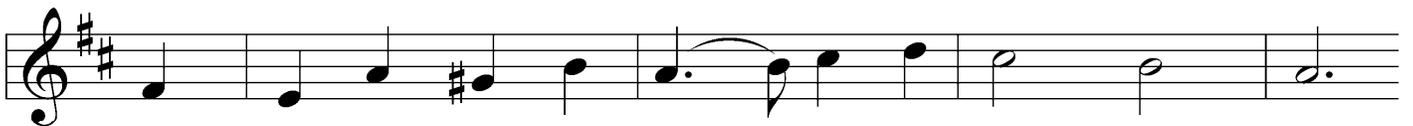
LSB 722



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;  
2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,  
3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.  
For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.  
I know that You will strength - en My steps toward home.



With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;  
Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,  
Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;



So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.  
For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.  
So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

Text: Julie von Hausmann, 1825–1901; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

Tune: P. Friedrich Silcher, 1789–1860

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**Post-Communion Prayer (Based on Matthew 1:22-23; 2:5-6; 3:17; 3:16)**

P: Let us pray. Lord, all this has taken place to fulfill what You had spoken by the prophet, “They shall call His Name Immanuel—God with us.” And it was also written, “From Bethlehem...shall come a ruler who will shepherd My people Israel.” Jesus came preaching, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand,” and now we are the people dwelling in darkness who have seen a great light, those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, and on us a light has dawned in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and in His body and blood given to us.

**C: Amen.**

## **Benediction (Blessing) (Based on Matthew 28:18-20)**

P: As Jesus said to His disciples before He ascended into heaven, He says to you,  
“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.  
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,  
teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.  
And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

C: Amen.

## **Closing Hymn**

## **There Is a Redeemer**

LSB 971



1 There is a Re - deem - er— Je - sus, God's own Son;  
2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, Name a - bove all names;  
3 When I stand in glo - ry, I will see His face;



Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Ho - ly One.  
Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Hope for sin - ners slain.  
There I'll serve my King for-ev - er In that ho - ly place.

*Refrain*



Thank You, O my Fa - ther, For giv-ing us Your Son,



And leav - ing Your Spir-it Till the work on earth is done.

Text and tune: Melody Green, 1946, alt.

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## **Announcements**

# **UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16**

**IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM W/COMMUNION) – 9AM**

**FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM**

**EDUCATION HOUR 10:30AM-11:30AM**

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23**

**IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM) – 9AM**

**FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM**

**EDUCATION HOUR 10:30AM-11:30AM**

## **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30**

**IN-PERSON WORSHIP (IN GYM W/COMMUNION) – 9AM**

**FELLOWSHIP 10-10:30AM**

**EDUCATION HOUR 10:30AM-11:30AM**

**CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCHEDULE. USHERS, READERS, AND VARIOUS OTHER VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP AND COMMUNION. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR ONE OF THOSE ROLES, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE AT [OFFICE@BETHELGURNEE.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@BETHELGURNEE.ORG).**

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## **Living Faithfully in God's Promise (Pentecost: Oct. 16 to Nov. 6, 2022)**

Joshua and Solomon remember God's covenant and seek to serve God wisely. Living faithfully and trusting God creates opportunities to share God's power with others, as Elisha did in healing Naaman. Yet it can be a struggle to live in the ways God desires. David strays from God, making decisions that bring pain instead of life. Still, God is always faithful and offers forgiveness and love.

10/23/2022 Pentecost 20 2 Samuel; Psalm 51 Nathan and King David