



## “SUMMER SERIES: PSALM 23”

Sunday, August 16, 2020 9:00AM

Worship Service

### AS WE GATHER

When it comes to summarizing the Psalms, Luther probably said it best, “The Psalter out to be a precious and beloved book, if for no other reason than this: It promises Christ’s death and resurrection so clearly – and pictures His Kingdom and the condition and nature of all Christendom – that it might well be called a little Bible.” We continue our look this day at arguably the most well-known Psalm – Psalm 23.

*Sit*

### OPENING HYMN

### “Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

LSB 901

- 1 Open now thy gates of beauty;  
Zion, let me enter there,  
Where my soul in joyful duty  
Waits for Him who answers prayer.  
Oh, how blessèd is this place,  
Filled with solace, light, and grace!
- 2 Gracious God, I come before Thee;  
Come Thou also unto me.  
Where we find Thee and adore Thee,  
There a heav’n on earth must be.  
To my heart, O enter Thou;  
Let it be Thy temple now!
- 3 Here Thy praise is gladly chanted;  
Here Thy seed is duly sown.  
Let my soul, where it is planted,  
Bring forth precious sheaves alone,  
So that all I hear may be  
Fruitful unto life in me.
- 4 Thou my faith increase and quicken;  
Let me keep Thy gift divine,  
Howsoe’er temptations thicken;  
May Thy Word still o’er me shine  
As my guiding star through life,  
As my comfort in all strife.
- 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee;  
Let Thy will be done indeed.  
May I undisturbed draw near Thee  
While Thou dost Thy people feed.  
Here of life the fountain flows;  
Here is balm for all our woes.

*Stand*

## INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES

**P** We have begun our worship in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Let us speak together the words of the Apostles' Creed regarding the Second Person of the Holy Trinity.

**C** **And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**P** What does this mean?

**C** **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord,**

**who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,**

**that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,**

**just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.**

**This is most certainly true.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P** It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins. The section on confession in the Small Catechism informs and directs us with these words, which summarizes it well.

**C** **Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.**

**P** Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

**C** **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature, I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed, I have continually transgressed Your Law. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all of my sins, and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.**

**P** God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

**C** Amen.

**P** As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**INTROIT** (*Psalm 28:1–2, 6–7; antiphon: v. 8*)

**P** The Lord is the strength of His people;  
He is the saving refuge of His anointed.

**C** **To You, O Lord, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me,  
lest, if You be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit.**

**P** Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to You for help,  
when I lift up my hands toward Your most holy sanctuary.

**C** **Blessed be the Lord!  
For He has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.**

**The Lord is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped;  
my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**P** The Lord is the strength of His people;  
He is the saving refuge of His anointed.

**HYMN of PRAISE**

**“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”**

**LSB 821 st. 5**

5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;  
His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph,  
His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
Thunder like a mighty flood:  
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation  
Has redeemed us by His blood.”

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**SALUTATION**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

**Isaiah 56:1, 6–8**

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD:  
“Keep justice, and do righteousness,

for soon my salvation will come,  
and my deliverance be revealed. . . .

<sup>6</sup>“And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,  
and to be his servants,  
everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it,  
and holds fast my covenant—

<sup>7</sup>these I will bring to my holy mountain,  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;  
for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.”

<sup>8</sup>The Lord GOD,  
who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares,  
“I will gather yet others to him  
besides those already gathered.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

**Romans 11:1–2a, 13–15, 28–32**

<sup>1</sup>I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2</sup>God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. . . .

<sup>13</sup>Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry <sup>14</sup>in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. <sup>15</sup>For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? . . .

<sup>28</sup>As regards the gospel, they are enemies of God for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. <sup>29</sup>For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup>Just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup>For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## HOLY GOSPEL

**Matthew 15:21–28**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>21</sup>Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” <sup>23</sup>But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” <sup>24</sup>He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” <sup>25</sup>But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” <sup>26</sup>And he answered, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>27</sup>She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” <sup>28</sup>Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## **C Praise to You, O Christ.**

*Sit*

### **HYMN of the DAY**

### **“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”**

**LSB 849**

- 1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness  
With a liberating light;  
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,  
Turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the One who preached the Gospel,  
Healing ev'ry dread disease,  
Calming storms, and feeding thousands  
With the very Bread of peace.
  
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the children  
With a strong, yet gentle, word;  
Praise the One who drove out demons  
With the piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the One who brings cool water  
To the desert's burning sand;  
From this Well comes living water,  
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.
  
- 3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate,  
Christ, who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose victorious  
That we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
Seeing what our God has done;  
Let us praise the true Redeemer,  
Praise the One who makes us one.

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## **SERMON**

## **“The Hounds of Heaven!”**

**Psalm 23**

*Stand*

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

#### **Each petition ends with:**

- P** let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

### **INVITATION TO THE MEAL**

- P** Jesus Christ, who in love gave His life for us, invites us to share in the meal He has given to His disciples with His words, "Do this in remembrance of Me."
- C** **We remember His love for us in His death and we remember and celebrate His rising from the grave for our salvation.**
- P** Jesus says, "Whoever acknowledges Me before men, I will also acknowledge before My Father in heaven."
- C** **We publicly acknowledge You, Jesus, as our Savior from sin and we come before You now in oneness of faith and spirit to receive Your grace in this meal.**
- P** Let us then approach the Table of the Lord with confidence so that we may receive mercy, grace and strength to live as His people.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

## PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## 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.

## PAX DOMINI

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Voices Raised to You We Offer”

LSB 795

- 1 Voices raised to You we offer;  
Tune them, God, for songs of praise.  
Hearts and hands we bring in tribute  
For Your gifts through all our days.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Triune God, to You we sing!
- 2 All creation joins to praise You;  
Earth and sky Your works display.  
Art and music, gifts You lend us,  
We return to You today.

Alleluia! Alleluia!  
God, Creator, source of life!

3 Christ, the song of Love incarnate,  
Touching earth with heaven's grace,  
For Your living, suffering, dying,  
For Your rising, hear our praise!  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Christ, Redeemer, Lord of life!

4 Spirit, flaming through creation,  
Kindle faith within each heart.  
Lift our voices high in chorus;  
Through our hands Your love impart.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Spirit, Helper, breath of life!

5 How can any praise we offer  
Measure all the thanks we owe?  
Take our hearts and hands and voices—  
Gifts of love we can bestow.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Triune God, to You we sing!

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## **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

## **“Let Me Be Thine Forever”**

**LSB 689**

- 1 Let me be Thine forever,  
My faithful God and Lord;  
Let me forsake Thee never  
Nor wander from Thy Word.  
Lord, do not let me waver,  
But give me steadfastness,  
And for such grace forever  
Thy holy name I'll bless.
- 2 Lord Jesus, my salvation,  
My light, my life divine,  
My only consolation,  
O make me wholly Thine!  
For Thou hast dearly bought me  
With blood and bitter pain.  
Let me, since Thou hast sought me,  
Eternal life obtain.
- 3 O Thou, O Holy Spirit,  
My comforter and guide,  
Grant that in Jesus' merit  
I always may confide,  
Him to the end confessing  
Whom I have known by faith.  
Give me Thy constant blessing  
And grant a Christian death.

## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

## “Savior, Thy Dying Love”

- 1 Savior, Thy dying love  
Thou gavest me;  
Nor should I aught withhold,  
Dear Lord, from Thee.  
In love my soul would bow,  
My heart fulfill its vow,  
Some off’ring bring Thee now,  
Something for Thee.
- 2 O’er the blest mercy seat,  
Pleading for me,  
My feeble faith looks up,  
Jesus, to Thee.  
Help me the cross to bear,  
Thy wondrous love declare,  
Some song to raise or prayer,  
Something for Thee.
- 3 Give me a faithful heart,  
Likeness to Thee,  
That each departing day  
Henceforth may see  
Some work of love begun,  
Some deed of kindness done,  
Some wand’rer sought and won,  
Something for Thee.
- 4 All that I am and have,  
Thy gifts so free,  
In joy, in grief, through life,  
Dear Lord, for Thee!  
And when Thy face I see,  
My ransomed soul shall be  
Through all eternity  
Something for Thee.

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## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**P** Let us pray.

Holy Father, we ask You now, by this blessed food and drink, to deliver Your Church from every evil, to teach it to love You perfectly, and make it truly one, even as this bread was made from many grains of wheat to become the carrier of the body of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**C** Amen.

## BENEDICTION

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.



The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## **CLOSING HYMN**

## **“Christ Be My Leader”**

**LSB 861**

- 1 Christ be my Leader by night as by day;  
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.  
Gladly I follow, my future His care,  
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.
- 2 Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,  
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.  
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,  
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.
- 3 Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;  
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.  
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain  
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.

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