

# **THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST PROPER 18**



**Counting the Cost  
September 7, 2025**

**Everyone** is asked to silence or put their **cell phones** on vibrate while attending church services.

## AS WE GATHER

Jesus is blunt about the cost of discipleship. He does not sugarcoat the life He calls us to in the baptismal waters but neither does He diminish His promises, gifts, and blessings that accompany this life of faith. Today He calls us to count the cost, knowing that the way of the Christian is constantly tested and tried by our affection for the things of this life, our vulnerability to the enemies of the faith, and the weakness of our own sinful flesh. Part of that cost is not just in what you desire but also in what you are willing to surrender for the sake of Christ and His kingdom.

### HYMN

*“Come, Follow Me,” the Savior Spake*

LSB 688



1 “Come, fol - low Me,” the Sav - ior spake, “All in My  
2 “I am the light, I light the way, A god - ly  
3 “My heart a - bounds in low - li - ness, My soul with  
4 “I teach you how to shun and flee What harms your  
5 Then let us fol - low Christ, our Lord, And take the



way a - bid - ing; De - ny your - selves, the world for - sake,  
life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day;  
love is glow - ing; And gra - cious words My lips ex - press,  
soul's sal - va - tion, Your heart from ev - 'ry guile to free,  
cross ap - point - ed And, firm - ly cling - ing to His Word,



O - bey My call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -  
I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and  
With meek - ness o - ver - flow - ing. My heart, My mind, My  
From sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge  
In suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the



e'er be - tide, Take My ex - am - ple for your guide.  
 well I show How you must so - journ here be - low.  
 strength, My all, To God I yield, on Him I call.  
 of the soul And lead you to your heav'n - ly goal."  
 bat - tle's strain The crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.

Text and tune: Public domain

## INVOCATION

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**People:** **Amen.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**Pastor:** Most holy and merciful Father,  
**People:** **we confess to You, and to one another, and to the whole company of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

**Pastor:** We have not loved You with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.  
**People:** **Have mercy and forgive us, Lord.**

**Pastor:** We have taken for granted Your grace and mercy and lived as though You did not matter and we mattered most of all.  
**People:** **Have mercy and forgive us, Lord.**

**Pastor:** We confess to You, O Lord, that we have done the evil Your Word prohibits and have not done the good You command.  
**People:** **Have mercy and forgive us, Lord.**

**Pastor:** We confess that we have hidden our sin from You and from one another and have not confessed honestly before You or to those whom we have hurt.

**People:** We are truly sorry for the sins we have committed in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done that is wrong and by our failure to do what is right. Have mercy and forgive us, Lord.

**Pastor:** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As an ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

**Pastor:** He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

### *Gloria in Excelsis*

LSB 187

The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and half notes. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with some words in bold. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The lyrics for the first staff are: "P Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward". The second staff continues: "men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,". The third staff continues: "we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.". The fourth staff continues: "O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.". The fifth staff continues: "O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;". The sixth staff continues: "O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,".

**P** Glory be to God on high: **and** on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.  
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

## SALUTATION

**Pastor:** The Lord be with you.  
**People:** **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Pastor:** Let us pray.  
 O almighty God, You have promised grace sufficient for us to hear the call of the Holy Spirit, believe in Him who You have sent to be our Savior, and walk in the way of salvation. Give courage and strength to Your people that we may deny ourselves and follow Christ in the way of the cross; through Him who died that we might live and who now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** **Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Deuteronomy 30:15-20*

<sup>15</sup> "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. <sup>16</sup> If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. <sup>17</sup> But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup> I declare to you today, that

you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, <sup>20</sup> loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**

## EPISTLE

*Philemon 1-21*

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved fellow worker <sup>2</sup> and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup> because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, <sup>6</sup> and I pray

that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. <sup>7</sup> For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

<sup>8</sup> Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, <sup>9</sup> yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— <sup>10</sup> I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup> (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) <sup>12</sup> I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. <sup>13</sup> I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, <sup>14</sup> but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by

compulsion but of your own accord. <sup>15</sup> For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, <sup>16</sup> no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup> So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. <sup>18</sup> If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

<sup>21</sup> Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say. <sup>22</sup> At the same time, prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping that through your prayers I will be graciously given to you.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: **Thanks be to God.**

# HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 14:25-35*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.  
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>25</sup> Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup> "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup> Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup> For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup> Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, <sup>30</sup> saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to

finish.' <sup>31</sup> Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup> And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. <sup>33</sup> So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

<sup>34</sup> "Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? <sup>35</sup> It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

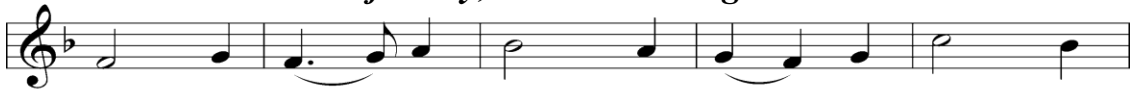
Lector: This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**



# HYMN OF THE DAY

## *Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us*

LSB 851



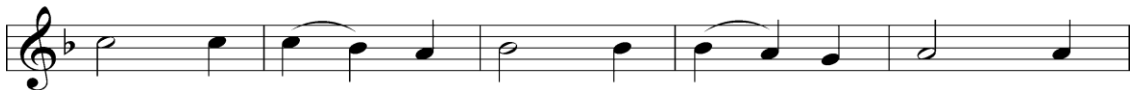
1 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your  
2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Glad - ly,  
3 Won - drous hon - or You have giv - en To our  
4 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your



life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the  
free - ly of Your own. With the sun - shine of Your  
hum - blest char - i - ty In Your own mys - te - rious  
life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the



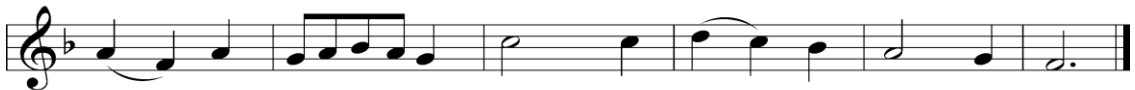
lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice;  
good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone  
sen - tence, "You have done it all to Me."  
lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.



And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings  
Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by  
Can it be, O gra - cious Mas - ter, That You  
Give us faith to trust You bold - ly, Hope, to



count - less as the sand To the un - thank - ful  
You, at length be - lieve That more hap - py  
deign for alms to sue, Say - ing by Your  
stay our souls on You; But, oh, best of



and the e - vil With Your own un - spar - ing hand.  
and more bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.  
poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?  
all Your grac - es, With Your love our love re - new.

Text and tune: Public domain

# **SERMON**

## **NICENE CREED**

**People: I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from  
heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living  
and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and  
glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,**

**and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✕ of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ and for all people according to their needs.

That we walk with Christ the heavenly way and follow Him where He has led, that by His obedient life, His life-giving death, and His victorious resurrection we receive the crown of everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord:

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** That we be wise unto salvation, counting the cost of following Jesus, and by His grace and favor be sustained upon the path of life against all temptations and doubt, let us pray to the Lord:

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** That all the nations and their leaders work for peace, that the elected and appointed leaders of our own land act with integrity in the protection of our liberty and in the pursuit of justice, let us pray to the Lord:

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** That the Lord bless the proclamation of His Word here and in every place and that pastors serve us faithfully in Christ's name, distributing to us the gifts of His grace in the Holy Sacraments, let us pray to the Lord:

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** That all those afflicted in body or mind find healing and relief and those near death and the grieving find comfort, and for all whom we name in our hearts, let us pray to the Lord:

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: That we learn gratitude for the manifold and rich gifts which God supplies every day and that we learn generosity to share with those in need, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: That we receive in repentance and with faith the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given to us in this Holy Communion and that we manifest the unity of heart and mind in all the doctrines taught us by His Word, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: That we be kept holy and blameless until the day of Christ's coming and be received by the mercy of God into the place of everlasting light and life in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## OFFERING/OFFERTORY

### PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

It is so very right and fitting that we sing forth Your praise and acknowledge Your goodness in creating all things and still sustaining them, in sending forth Your Son to be our Savior and Lord, and in manifesting to us the fruits of His redeeming work in the means of grace. With the angels and archangels who serve You in Your presence, with the saints and all the faithful who now rest in Your presence, and with all those who await Christ's appearing on earth, we join our voices in their endless song of praise, evermore singing:

### SANCTUS

LSB 195

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,  
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,  
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: 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 ✕ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

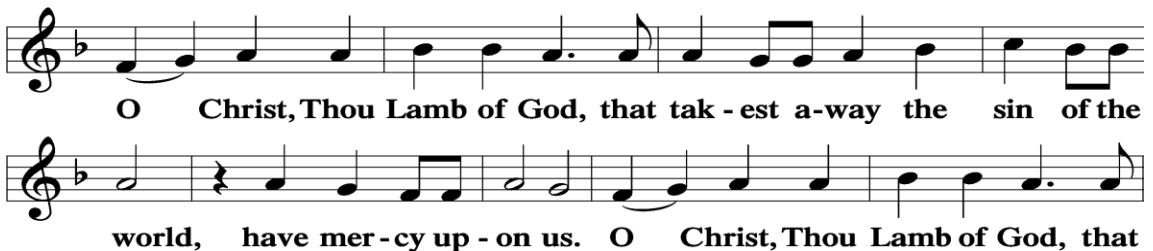
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✕ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

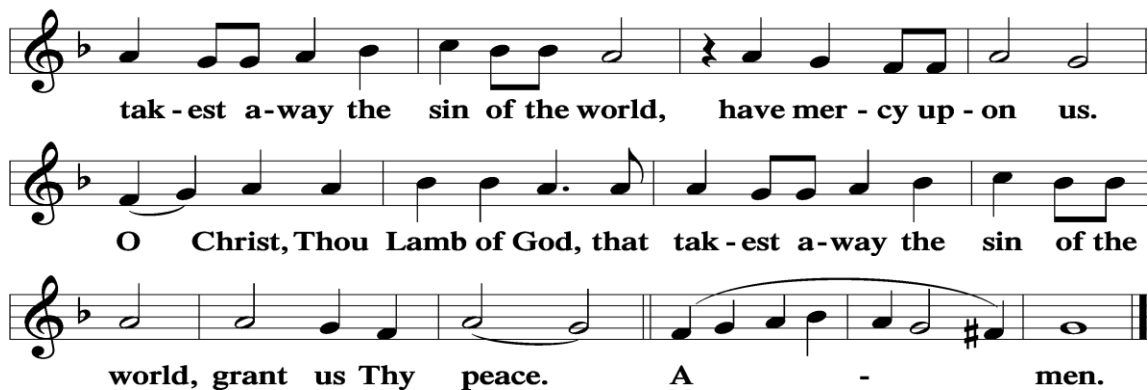
## LORD'S PRAYER

**People:**      **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.**

## AGNUS DEI

LSB 198





## DISTRIBUTION

*Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sin, salvation, and eternal life. All who are baptized and repent of their sins are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.*

## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**Pastor:** Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;

**People:** **and His mercy endures forever.**

**Pastor:** Let us pray.

O holy and most merciful God, You have taught us the way of Your commandments. We implore You to pour out Your grace into our hearts. Cause it to bear fruit in us that, being ever mindful of Your mercies and Your laws, we may always be directed to Your will and daily increase in love toward You and one another. Enable us to resist all evil and to live a godly life. Help us to follow the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to walk in His steps until we shall possess the kingdom that has been prepared for us in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People:** **Amen.**

# BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

## HYMN

### *Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer*

LSB 918

1 Guide me, O Thou great Re-deem-er, Pil-grim through this  
2 O-pen now the crys-tal foun-tain Whence the heal-ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor-dan, Bid my anx-ious  
bar-ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might-y;  
stream doth flow; Let the fi-ery, cloud-y pil-lar  
fears sub-side; Death of death and hell's de-struc-tion,  
Hold me with Thy pow'r-ful hand. Bread of heav-en,  
Lead me all my jour-ney through. Strong de-liv-'rer,  
Land me safe on Ca-naan's side. Songs of prais-es,  
bread of heav-en, Feed me till I want no  
strong de-liv-'rer, Be Thou still my strength and  
songs of prais-es I will ev-er give to  
more; shield; Feed me till I want no more. shield.  
Thee; Be Thou still my strength and to Thee;  
I will ev-er give to Thee.

Text and tune: Public domain



## NOTES

[illegible]

## NOTES

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This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

*For with you is the fountain of life;*



*in your light we see light. Psalm 36:9*

**Fountain of Life Lutheran Church**, Missouri Synod  
15630 N Del Webb Blvd, (623) 933-8246  
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**Pastor Emeritus: Thomas R. Daly**

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Office Email: [execsecretary@suncitylutheran.org](mailto:execsecretary@suncitylutheran.org)

**Prayer Requests:** Mary Ann Lowell 623-670-6870

### **Service Times**

#### **Sunday**

Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Bible Study 11:15 am

#### **Tuesday**

Mid-week Bible Study 10:00 am

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday Men's Breakfast/Royal Cafe 8:30 am

#### **Wednesday**

Quilters 9:00 am

#### **Thursday**

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> *Permission to Grieve Group* 10:00 am

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday *Ladies Lunch Bunch* 11:30 am

### **Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday (9am-2pm)

**\*\*Closed Friday\*\***

**Fountain of Life Lutheran Church**