PINNACLE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sunday, September 14, 2025 – 10:00 a.m.
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

+ AS WE GATHER +

Jesus Christ Is the Great Shepherd of His Sheep

"The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" (1 Tim. 1:15). As He had mercy on Paul, in order to *"display his perfect patience"* (1 Tim. 1:16), so also does He seek out His sheep *"from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness"* (Ezek. 34:12). To deliver His flock, He *"will seek the lost, … bring back the strayed, … bind up the injured, and … strengthen the weak"* (Ezek. 34:16), and *"they shall no longer be a prey"* (Ezek. 34:22). He sets over them one great Good Shepherd, the Son of David, who *"shall feed them and be their shepherd"* (Ezek. 34:23). For Christ Jesus is the one man who, *"having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them,"* would *"leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it"* (Luke 15:4). When He finds the lost one and brings it home rejoicing, *"the angels of God"* and all the company of heaven rejoice with Him, with great joy (Luke 15:7, 10).

In respect for the Lord our God and others attending this service, we request that everyone please silence your cellphone for the duration of the service. Thank you!

PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN: *#744 – Amazing Grace*

INVOCATION - *p. 167*

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

C **Amen.**

INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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 Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and commissioned 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.

C **Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT *Psalm 30:2-5; antiphon: vv. 11a, 12b*
(spoken responsively as marked)

You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!
O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.

O LORD, you have brought up my soul from Sheol; you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name.

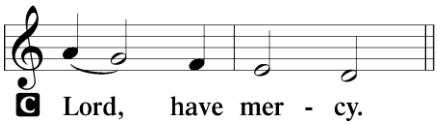
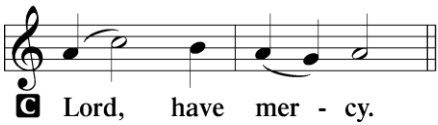
For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

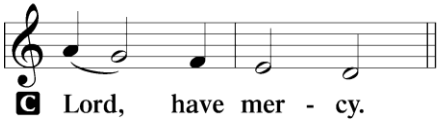
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

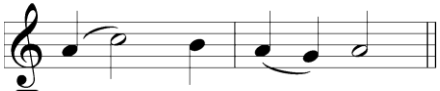
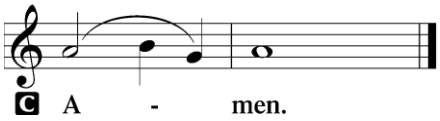
You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever!

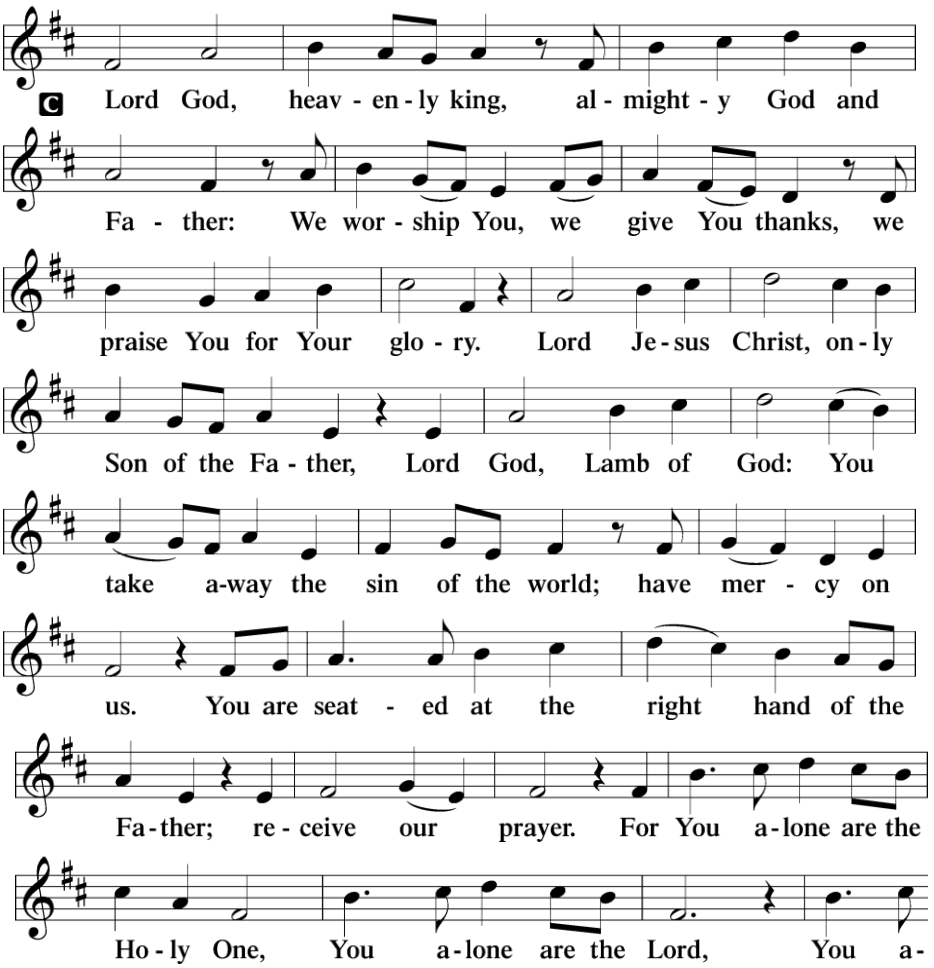
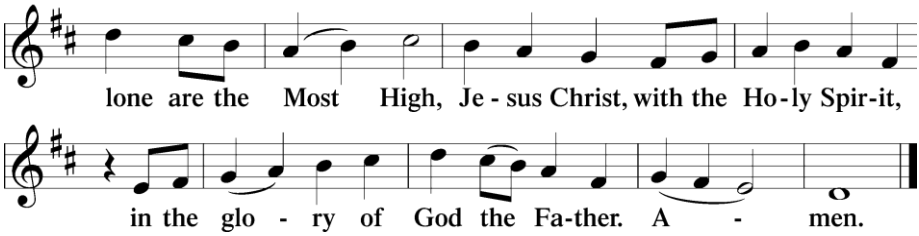
Amen

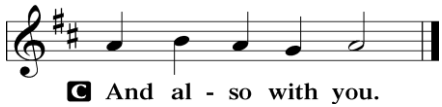
KYRIE – *p. 168*

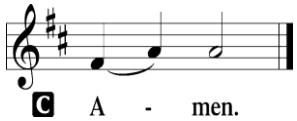
P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE – *Gloria in Excelsis - p. 170*

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY - *p. 172*

P The Lord be with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow You, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – *Ezekial 34:11-24*

11 "For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for
my sheep and will seek them out. 12 As a shepherd seeks out his
flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so
will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places
where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick
darkness. 13 And I will bring them out from the peoples and
gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their
own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by
the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. 14 I will
feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of

Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. [15]I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. [16]I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

[17]"As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. [18]Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? [19]And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

[20]"Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. [21]Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, [22]I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. [23]And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. [24]And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL – *Psalm 34:9,19, alt*

(spoken in unison)

Fear the LORD, you his saints, for those who fear him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Amen

EPISTLE – *1 Timothy 1:5-17*

5The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and
a good conscience and a sincere faith. 6Certain persons, by
swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion,
7desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either
what they are saying or the things about which they make
confident assertions.

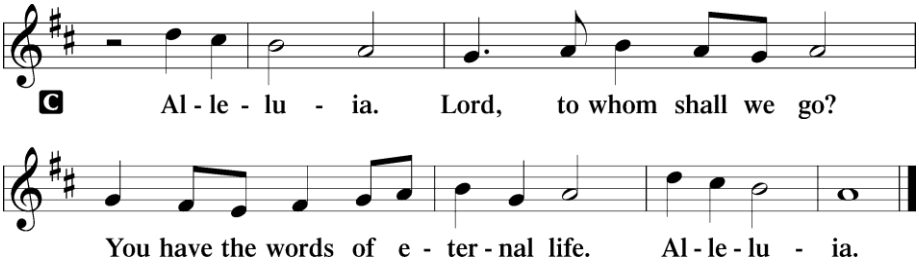
8Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully,
9understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but
for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for
the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and
mothers, for murderers, 10the sexually immoral, men who
practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever
else is contrary to sound doctrine, 11in accordance with the
glorious gospel of the blessed God with which I have been
entrusted.

12I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord,
because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service,
13though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent
opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in
unbelief, 14and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the
faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 15The saying is trustworthy
and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the
world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. 16But I
received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus
Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those
who were to believe in him for eternal life. 17To the King of ages,
immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and
ever. Amen.

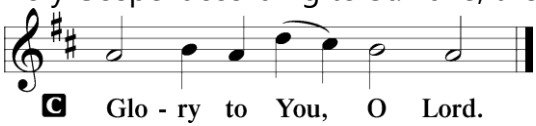
L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

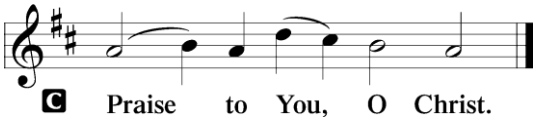
Stand

ALLELUIA – *p. 173*

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 15:1-10*

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



[1]Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near
to hear [Jesus]. [2]And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled,
saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."
[3]So he told them this parable: [4]"What man of you, having
a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the
ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is
lost, until he finds it? [5]And when he has found it, he lays it on
his shoulders, rejoicing. [6]And when he comes home, he calls
together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice
with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' [7]Just so, I tell
you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who
repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no
repentance.
[8]"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one
coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek
diligently until she finds it? [9]And when she has found it, she
calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with
me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' [10]Just so, I tell you,
there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who
repents."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *740 – I Am Jesus' Little Lamb*

SERMON: *"The Lost Sheep" – Luke 15:1-10*

Apostles' Creed – *p. 175*

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,**
maker of heaven and earth.

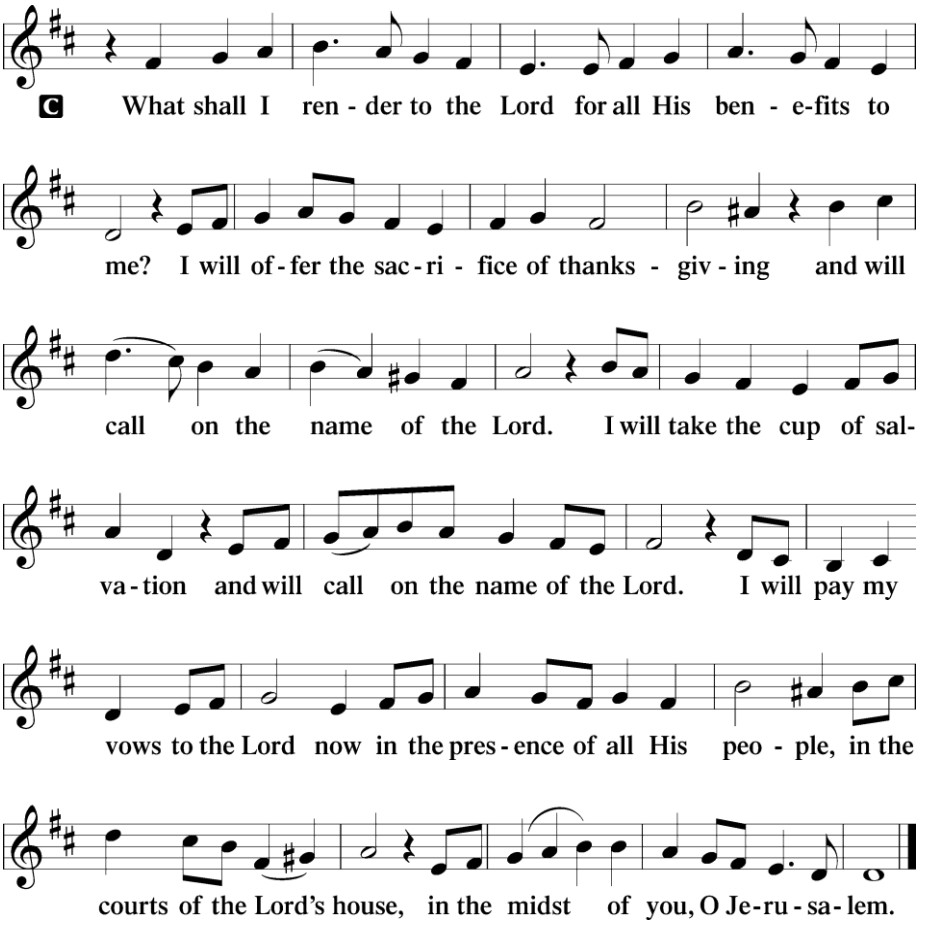
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life + everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:	*At conclusion:*
P… Lord, in Your mercy:	P … one God, now and forever.
C **hear our prayer.**	C **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY – *p. 176*

LORD'S PRAYER

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

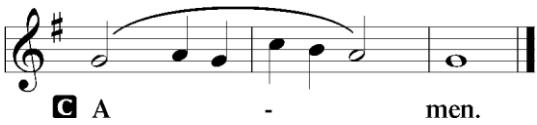
CLOSING PRAYER

A Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION - *p. 183*

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.

CLOSING HYMN: *#781 – We Give Thee But Thine Own*

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE MUSIC