

# ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEWARD, NEBRASKA

PROCLAIM AND PRACTICE THE LOVE OF CHRIST

**Sunday, August 25, 2019 ~ 8:30 a.m.**

Pastor Andy Schermbeck, Preaching Minister

Pastor Scott Bruick, Presiding Minister

Paul Soulek, organist

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## **Worship is God's gift to people of all ages and needs.**

The **nursery** (located just outside the sanctuary) and **activity bags** are provided for families with young children. The ushers can assist with **large print** copies of worship materials, **hearing assistance** devices, and **pew cushions**.

**Prayer request cards** are located on the back of each pew for your use.

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## + IN NOMINE JESU – IN THE NAME OF JESUS +

**P** Pastor

**L** Liturgist/Cantor

**C** Congregation

## **HYMN**

*Christ Is Surely Coming*, LSB 509  
we stand for stanza 3

## **THE ORDER OF MATINS**

LSB pp. 219 ff.

*Sit*

## **FIRST READING**

Isaiah 66:18-23

<sup>18</sup>“For I know their works and their thoughts, and the time is coming to gather all nations and tongues. And they shall come and shall see my glory, <sup>19</sup>and I will set a sign among them. And from them I will send survivors to the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, who draw the bow, to Tubal and Javan, to the coastlands afar off, that have not heard my fame or seen my glory. And they shall declare my glory among the nations. <sup>20</sup>And they shall bring all your brothers from all the nations as an offering to the LORD, on horses and in chariots and in litters and on mules and on dromedaries, to my holy mountain Jerusalem, says the LORD, just as the Israelites bring their grain offering in a clean vessel to the house of the LORD. <sup>21</sup>And some of them also I will take for priests and for Levites, says the LORD.

<sup>22</sup>“For as the new heavens and the new earth that I make shall remain before me, says the LORD, so shall your offspring and your name remain. <sup>23</sup>From new moon to new moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me, declares the LORD.”

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

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

## PSALM

## Psalm 125 (antiphon vs. 1)

*God's blessing transforms us into mountains surrounding His dwelling place.  
We are built on His Word as an unchanging rock, and we become pillars by His grace.*

*Refrain* (sung first by the cantor, then by all)



Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zi-on,



which can - not be moved, but a - bides for - ev - er.

**L** As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people, from this time forth and forevermore, forevermore.

**C** *Refrain*

**L** For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, lest the righteous stretch out their hands and with them do wrong.

**C** *Refrain*

**L** Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts! But those who turn to their crooked ways the Lord will lead away!

**C** *Refrain*

**L** 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.

**C** *Refrain*

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:4-24

<sup>4</sup>In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. <sup>5</sup>And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. <sup>6</sup>For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives." <sup>7</sup>It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? <sup>8</sup>If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons. <sup>9</sup>Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live? <sup>10</sup>For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. <sup>11</sup>For the moment all discipline

seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, <sup>13</sup>and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. <sup>14</sup>Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. <sup>15</sup>See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled; <sup>16</sup>that no one is sexually immoral or unholy like Esau, who sold his birthright for a single meal. <sup>17</sup>For you know that afterward, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no chance to repent, though he sought it with tears.

<sup>18</sup>For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest <sup>19</sup>and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. <sup>20</sup>For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.” <sup>21</sup>Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.” <sup>22</sup>But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, <sup>23</sup>and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup>and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.      **C** Thanks be to God.

### THIRD READING

Luke 13:22-30

<sup>22</sup>[Jesus] went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. <sup>23</sup>And someone said to him, “Lord, will those who are saved be few?” And he said to them, <sup>24</sup>“Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. <sup>25</sup>When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, ‘Lord, open to us,’ then he will answer you, ‘I do not know where you come from.’ <sup>26</sup>Then you will begin to say, ‘We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.’ <sup>27</sup>But he will say, ‘I tell you, I do not know where you come from. Depart from me, all you workers of evil!’ <sup>28</sup>In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. <sup>29</sup>And people will come from east and west, and from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God. <sup>30</sup>And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.      **C** Thanks be to God.

### HYMN

*A Multitude Comes from the East and the West*, LSB 510  
the choir sings stanza 1

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*After the children have returned to their seats, we stand to sing.*

### HYMN

*Today Your Mercy Calls Us, LSB 915*

*Sit*

### SERMON

*Stand*

**TE DEUM ~ WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD**

LSB pp. 223 ff.

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

*Worshippers are invited to greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).*

*Sit*

### OFFERING

*Please sign and pass the attendance register located at the end of your pew.*

## CHORAL ANTHEM

*Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life,*

George Herbert (text) Ralph Vaughan Williams (tune)

Herbert's text expands John 14:6, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life..." by incorporating additional metaphors: Light, Feast and Strength (stanza two), and Joy, Love and Heart (stanza three).

*Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: Such a way as gives us breath;  
Such a truth as ends all strife, Such a life as killeth death.*

*Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: Such a light as shows a feast,  
Such a feast as mends in length, Such a strength as makes his guest.*

*Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: Such a joy as none can move,  
Such a love as none can part, Such a heart as joys in love.*

*Stand*

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*For specific prayer concerns, see the insert in this week's news bulletin.*

## BENEDICTION

### SENDING HYMN

*You Are the Way; through You Alone, LSB 526*

**+ SOLI DEO GLORIA – TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY +**