

On this mountain the **Lord of hosts**
will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food,
a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow,
of aged wine well refined.

Isaiah 25:6

Sunday, October 15, 2023
The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Service Theme

A STORY OF A GRAND BANQUET

God is preparing a Grand Banquet of everlasting joy and glory with Him in paradise. He invites all people from everywhere in the world to partake in His feast – regardless of how good or bad they've been. Sadly, few accept his invitation. Others try to crash his party wearing their own dirty deeds instead of wearing the clothing of Christ's righteousness God freely offers to all in the Gospel. But all who are clothed with Christ through faith have an awesome future ahead of them: they will partake of the everlasting banquet the LORD has prepared for them from before the world's creation. May this truth move us to live in patient hope – avoiding the world's temptations to feed our sinful lusts by keeping our hearts and minds focused on Jesus and the salvation he won for us through his cross.



1 In Christ a - lone my hope is found.
 2 In Christ a - lone— who took on flesh,
 3 There in the ground his bod - y lay,
 4 No guilt in life, no fear in death,



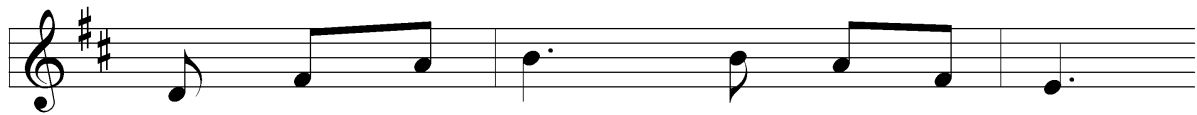
He is my light, my strength, my song;
 Full - ness of God in help - less babe.
 Light of the world by dark - ness slain;
 This is the pow'r of Christ in me;



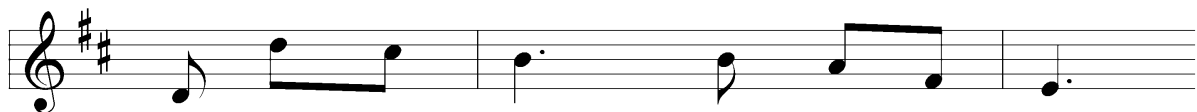
This cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground,
 This gift of love and right - eous - ness,
 Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day
 From life's first cry to fi - nal breath,



Firm through the fierc - est drought and storm.
 Scorned by the ones he came to save.
 Up from the grave he rose a - gain!
 Je - sus com - mands my des - tin - y.



What heights of love, what depths of peace,
 Till on that cross, as Je - sus died,
 And as he stands in vic - tor - y,
 No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man



When fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease!
 The wrath of God was sat - is - fied;
 Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
 Can ev - er pluck me from his hand;

My Com - for - ter, my all in all,
 For ev - 'ry sin on him was laid.
 For I am his and he is mine—
 Till he re - turns or calls me home,

Here in the love of Christ I stand.
 Here in the death of Christ I live.
 Bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.
 Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

(Fine)

Order of Service

Service of Word and Sacrament (p.26)

M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: *(sing)* Lord, have mercy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: *(sing)* Christ, have mercy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: *(sing)* Lord, have mercy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

C: *(sing)* Amen

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

C: *(sing)*

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

Almighty God, merciful Father, you crown our life with your love.

You take away our sin; you comfort our spirit;

you make us pure and holy in your sight.

You did not spare your only Son, but gave him up for us all.

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

O Son of God, eternal Word of the Father, you came to live with us;

you made your Father known;

you washed us from our sins in your own blood.

You are the King of glory; you are the Lord!

O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you invite us to trust in you for our salvation. Deal with us not in the severity of your judgment but by the greatness of your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(sing)* Amen.

First Lesson

Isaiah 25:6-9 EHV

The prophet Isaiah describes the heavenly banquet, where death and tears will be no more. How does one get in? Through faith in God and his salvation.

⁶On this mountain
the LORD of Armies will prepare for all
peoples
a banquet of rich food,
a banquet of aged wines,
with the best cuts of meat,
and with the finest wines.

⁷On this mountain
he will destroy the shroud that covers
all peoples,
the burial cloth stretched over all
nations.

⁸He has swallowed up death forever!

The LORD God will wipe away the
tears from every face.
He will take away the shame of his
people throughout the earth.

For the LORD has spoken.

⁹On that day it will be said,

“Look, here is our God!

We waited for him, and he saved us!

This is the LORD!

We waited for him.

Let us be glad and rejoice in his
salvation!”

Psalm 84

(p. 96)

Refrain



Let us go re-joic - ing to the house of the Lord.

Psalm tone



How lovely is your dwelling place,*
O LORD Almighty!

My soul yearns, even faints,*
for the courts of the LORD.

Blessed are those who dwell in your
house;*
they are ever praising you.

Refrain

Better is one day in your courts*
than a thousand elsewhere;

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the
house of my God*
than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

O LORD Almighty,*
blessed are they who trust in you.

**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.**

Refrain

Second Lesson

Philippians 3:12-21 EHV

Paul encourages us to press on in our lives on this evil earth by focusing on the great salvation won by Christ that awaits us at the end of time.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus also took hold of me. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it yet, but there is one thing I do: Forgetting the things that are behind and straining toward the things that are ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal, for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Therefore, let all of us who are mature continue to think this way. And if you think differently about anything, God will reveal this to you too. ¹⁶Only let us think the same thing and walk in line with what we already have attained.

¹⁷Brothers, join together in imitating me and in paying attention to those who are walking according to the pattern we gave you. ¹⁸To be sure, many walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. I told you about them often, and now I am saying it while weeping. ¹⁹Their end is destruction, their god is their appetite, and their glory is in their shame. They are thinking only about earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven. We are eagerly waiting for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹By the power that enables him to subject all things to himself, he will transform our humble bodies to be like his glorious body.

Verse of the Day

Alleluia. Alleluia. On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples. Alleluia. (Isaiah 25:6)

C: (sing) Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 22:1-14 EHV

Jesus tells of a king's grace that invites everyone to his banquet. Sadly, many reject his invitation or insult him by not wearing the wedding clothes he provides.

Jesus spoke to them again in parables. He said, ²"The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent out his servants to summon those who were invited to the wedding banquet, but they did not want to come.

⁴"Then he sent out other servants and said, 'Tell those who are invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner. My oxen and my fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet!'

⁵“But those who were invited paid no attention and went off, one to his own farm, another to his business. ⁶The rest seized the king’s servants, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷As a result, the king was very angry. He sent his army and killed those murderers and burned their town.

⁸“Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. ⁹So go to the main crossroads and invite as many as you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰Those servants went out to the roads and gathered together everyone they found, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹²He said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without wearing wedding clothes?’ The man was speechless. ¹³Then the king told the servants, ‘Tie him hand and foot and throw him into the outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.”

C: Praise be to you, O Christ

376 Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness



1 Je - sus, your blood and right - eous - ness My beau - ty
 2 Bold shall I stand in that great day— Who can a
 3 Lord, I be - lieve your pre - cious blood, Which at the
 4 Lord, I be - lieve were sin - ners more Than sands up -
 5 When from the dust of death I rise To claim my



are, my glo - rious dress; Mid flam - ing worlds, in
 word a - gainst me say? Ful - ly through you ab -
 ver - y throne of God For - ev - er will for
 on the o - cean shore, You have for all a
 man - sion in the skies, E'en then this shall be



these ar - rayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
 solved I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
 sin - ners plead, For me— e'en for my soul— was shed.
 ran - som paid, For all a full a - tone - ment made.
 all my plea: Je - sus has lived and died for me.

6 Jesus, be worshiped endlessly!
 Your boundless mercy has for me,
 For me and all your hands have made,
 An everlasting ransom paid.

Sermon Text & Theme

Isaiah 25:6–9 ... Look forward to the LORD'S Salvation!

- 1) Salvation that the Lord himself prepares for us.
- 2) Salvation that we only receive through faith.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offertory Prayer

Prayer of the Church

(Page 32)

M: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

C: **Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.**

M: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: **Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord's Prayer

C: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT PREFACE

M: The Lord be with you.

C: *(sing)* **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: *(sing)* **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: *(sing)* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. *He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak.* Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

C: *(sing)* **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glory. You are my God, and I will exalt you.
I will give you thanks, for you have become my salvation.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: *(sing)* **Amen.**

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

C: *(sing)*
**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace.
Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

THANK THE LORD

C: *(sing)*
**Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev'ryone what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He renews his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of
thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(sing)* **Amen.**

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: (*sing*) Amen. Amen. Amen.

219 Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See

Lord, when your glo - ry I shall see And taste your king - dom's
plea - sure, Your blood my roy - al robe shall be, My
joy be - yond all mea - sure! When I ap - pear be - fore your
throne, Your right - eous - ness shall be my crown; With
these I need not hide me. And there, in gar - ments rich - ly
wrought, As your own bride I shall be brought To
stand in joy be - side you.

DIVINE WORD'S TWO WEEK CALENDAR

| | | |
|----------------|---|---|
| Su (15) | 9:00 am 10:30 am 11:30 am 3:00 pm | Sunday School and Bible Class Worship & Communion Coffee Hour & Evangelism Meeting Worship and Communion in Poltimore |
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*Pastor will be at a conference in Clifton Park NY from October 16 -18.
 If you need to contact him during that time, please call his US number.
 (512) 887-8982*

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| Th (19) | 6:00 pm 6:30 pm | Illuminé (at St. Paul's) Youth Confirmation (W) |
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| Fr (20) | 3:00 pm 4:30 pm | Women's Bible Study Youth Confirmation (D) |
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| Su (22) | 9:00 am 10:30 am 11:30 am | Sunday School and Bible Class Thanksgiving Worship Coffee Hour |
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| Tu (24) | 6:00 pm 7:00 pm | Elders Meeting Council Meeting |
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| We (25) | 6:30 pm | "Test the Spirits" Bible Information Class. |
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| Th (26) | 6:00 pm 6:30 pm | Illuminé (at St. Paul's) Youth Confirmation (W) |
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| Fr (27) | 3:00 pm 4:30 pm 6:00 pm | Women's Bible Study Youth Confirmation (D) Friday Fellowship |
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|----------------|---|---|
| Su (29) | 9:00 am 10:30 am 11:30 am | Sunday School and Bible Class Reformation / Anniversary Service Reformation / Anniversary Potluck |
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Announcements

Church Cleaners:

October 22 – Thomas // October 29 – John

Flowers for Thanksgiving

Thank you to all who donated flowers and beautified our sanctuary for Thanksgiving. We truly appreciate it. Please remember to take your flowers home after worship.

Anniversary Fellowship Dinner

In Celebration of the Reformation and our Church Anniversary, we are planning a potluck-style fellowship dinner after worship on October 29th. This will replace November's first fellowship dinner.



Divine Word

Evangelical Lutheran Church

1081 Greenbank Rd.,
Ottawa, ON., K2B 5A8
613-825-1629

www.divinewordottawa.ca