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**Sunday, October 22, 2023**  
The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

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Service Theme  
**God's Government**

All our lessons for today remind us that every government on this earth is in power at the LORD's direction—even evil governments that fight against him. They are his representatives to bring peace and order on earth. But what if they don't do this? What if they are the cause of war and tyranny? Is it right for us to revolt? No. God wants us to obey those in government - even if they are tyrants. He wants us to obey them as long as they do not ask us to do something contrary to God's will. The LORD also clearly states that he will hold every government accountable for its actions. He will punish those who abuse their power and bless those who use their power for the benefit of his Church and for the glory of his name.

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# To You, Our God, We Fly



1 To you, our God, we fly For  
2 The pow'rs that you or - dained With  
3 Give peace, Lord, in our time. Oh,  
4 Though vain and fool - ish, still We



mer - cy and for grace. Oh, hear our  
heav'n - ly wis - dom bless; May e - vil  
let no foe draw nigh Nor law - less -  
are your peo - ple, Lord. Oh, bend us



low - ly cry And do not hide your face!  
be re - strained, Re - placed by right - eous - ness.  
ness and crime In - sult your maj - es - ty!  
to your will; We'll serve no oth - er God!

## *Refrain*



O Lord, stretch forth your might - y hand



And guard and bless our na - tive land.



Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - mighty God and

Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we

praise you for your glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the

high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly

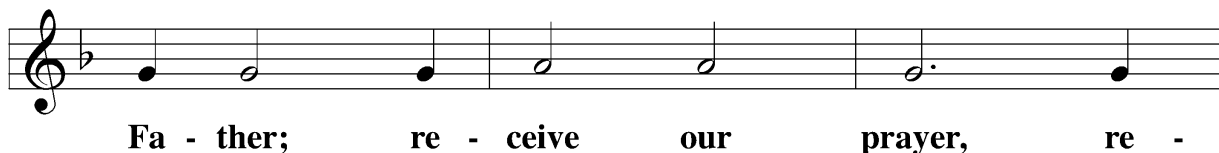
Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

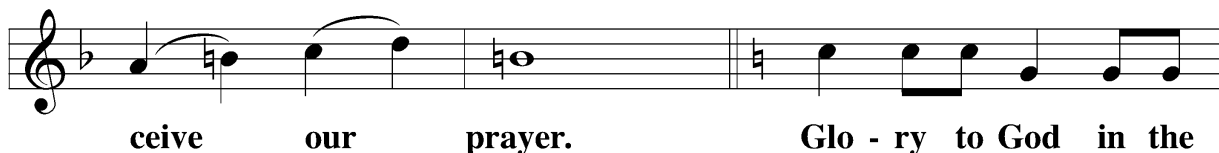
world; have mer - cy on us.



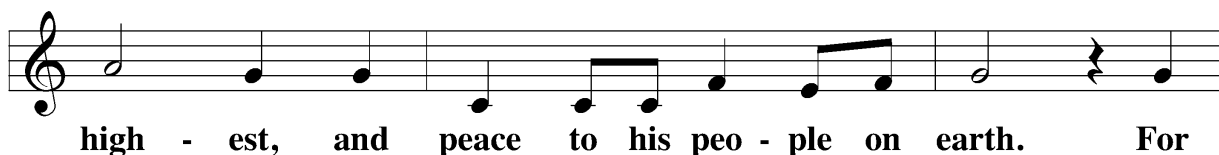
You are seated at the right hand of the



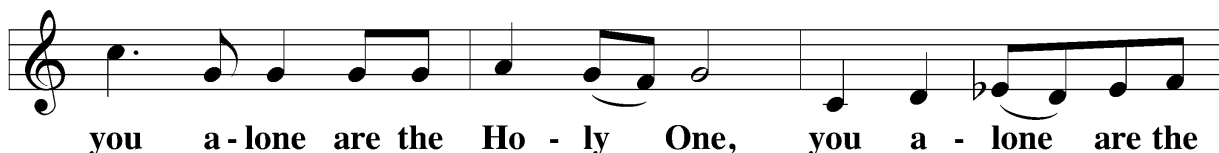
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer, re -



ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. For



you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the



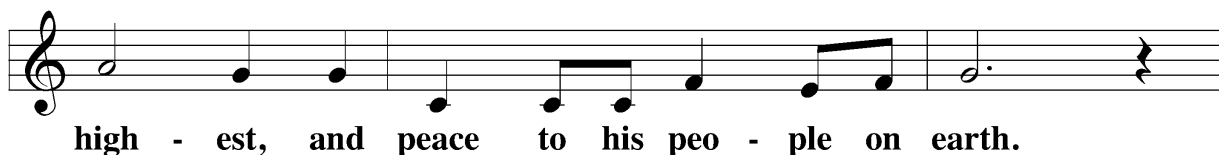
Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



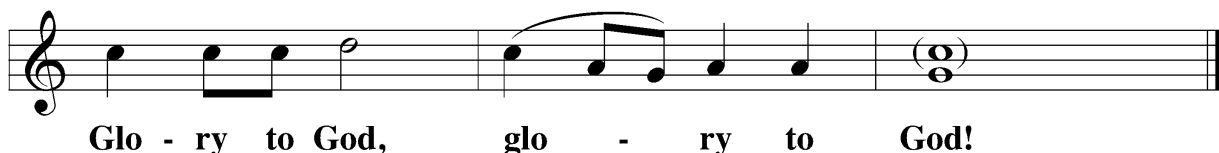
Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the



glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Let us pray.

O Lord our God, so govern the nations on earth and direct the affairs of this world that your church may worship you in peace and joy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

### First Lesson

Isaiah 45:1–7 (EHV)

*The LORD shows his power over everything – even secular history – by prophesying how he would raise up Cyrus to rescue his people.*

This is what the LORD says to his anointed one,  
to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped,  
to subdue nations before him  
by stripping kings of their weapons,  
to open doors before him  
so that the gates cannot be shut.

<sup>2</sup>I myself will go before you,  
and I will level high mountains.

I will break bronze doors into pieces,  
and I will cut through iron bars.

<sup>3</sup>I will give you treasures hidden in darkness  
and riches concealed in secret places,  
so that you will acknowledge that I am the LORD,  
the one who calls you by name, the God of Israel.

<sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob,  
for the sake of Israel my chosen one,  
I will call you by your name.

I will give you an honored name, though you do not know me.

<sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other.

Except for me, there is no god.

I will equip you even though you do not know me,

<sup>6</sup>so that people will know from the rising of the sun  
to the place where it sets

that there is no one except me.

I am the LORD, and there is no other.

<sup>7</sup>I am the one who forms light and creates darkness,  
the one who makes peace and creates disaster.

I am the LORD, the one who does all these things.

**Psalm**  
96 (CW p. 102)

*Refrain*



*Psalm tone*



Sing to the LORD, praise his name;\*  
proclaim his salvation day after day.

Declare his glory among the nations,\*  
his marvelous deeds among all  
peoples.

Worship the LORD in the splendor of his  
holiness;\*  
tremble before him, all the earth.

**Refrain**

Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be  
glad;\*  
let the sea resound, and all that is in  
it;

let the fields be jubilant, and everything  
in them.\*

Then all the trees of the forest will  
sing for joy;

for he comes to judge the world in  
righteousness\*  
and the peoples in his truth.

**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**

Romans 13:1-7 (EHV)

*St. Paul leaves no loopholes. Everyone is to submit to the governing authorities precisely because they have been established by God.*

Everyone must submit to the governing authorities. For no authority exists except by God, and the authorities that do exist have been established by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore the one who rebels against the authority is opposing God's institution, and those who oppose will bring judgment on themselves.

<sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to evil. Would you like to have no fear of the one in authority? Do what is good, and you will receive praise from him, <sup>4</sup>because he is God's servant for your benefit. But if you do wrong, be afraid, because he does not carry the sword without reason. He is God's servant, a punisher to bring wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore it is necessary to submit, not only because of wrath, but also because of conscience.

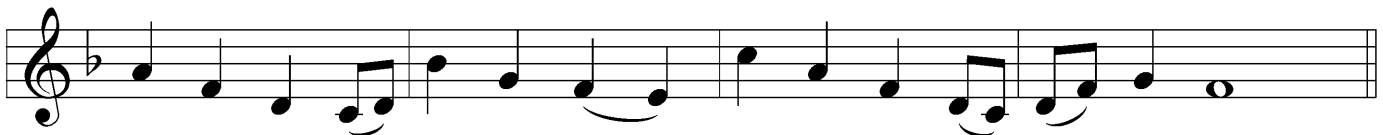
<sup>6</sup>For this reason you also pay taxes, because the authorities are God’s ministers, who are employed to do this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay what you owe to all of them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, and honor to whom honor is owed.

**Verse of the Day**

Alleluia. Alleluia. In Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. Alleluia. (Colossians 2:10)

**Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 22:15-22 (EHV)



**Glo-ry be to you, O Lord! Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!**

*Jesus teaches we are to give the government what belongs to the government. But we are not to give to the government what belongs only to God.*

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went out and plotted together how to trap him in his words. <sup>16</sup>They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. “Teacher,” they said, “we know that you are truthful and teach the way of God in accord with the truth. You are not concerned about gaining anyone’s approval because you are not swayed by appearances. <sup>17</sup>So tell us, what do you think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”

<sup>18</sup>But Jesus knew their evil purpose and said, “Why are you testing me, hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin used for the tax.”

They brought him a denarius.

<sup>20</sup>He asked them, “Whose image and inscription is this?”

<sup>21</sup>“Caesar’s,” they replied to him.

Then he said to them, “Therefore give to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”



**Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!**



## 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.**

# What God Ordains Is Always Good



1 What God or - dains is al - ways good; His  
 2 What God or - dains is al - ways good; He  
 3 What God or - dains is al - ways good; He  
 4 What God or - dains is al - ways good. Though  
 5 What God or - dains is al - ways good; This



will is just and ho - ly. As he di - rects my  
 nev - er will de - ceive me. He leads me in his  
 is my friend and Fa - ther. He will not let me  
 I the cup am drink - ing Which sa - vors now of  
 truth re - mains un - shak - en. Though sor - row, need, or



life for me, I fol - low meek and low - ly. My  
 right - eous way And nev - er will he leave me. I  
 suf - fer harm Though man - y storms may gath - er. Now  
 bit - ter - ness, I take it with - out shrink - ing. For  
 death be mine, I shall not be for - sak - en. I



God in - deed In ev - 'ry need Knows well how he  
 take con - tent What he has sent; His hand that sends  
 I may know Both joy and woe; Some day I shall  
 af - ter grief God grants re - lief, My heart with com -  
 fear no harm, For with his arm He will em - brace



will shield me; To him, then, I will yield me.  
 me sad - ness Will turn my tears to glad - ness.  
 see clear - ly That he has loved me dear - ly.  
 fort fill - ing And all my sor - row still - ing.  
 and shield me; So to my God I yield me.

## Sermon Text & Theme

**Isaiah 45:1-7 ... The LORD makes peace and creates disaster.**

- 1) For the glory of his name.
- 2) For the benefit of his Church.

Cre - ate in me a  
 pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -  
 in me. Do not cast me a - way from your  
 pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from  
 me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -  
 hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Offertory Prayer

Prayer for the Nation

Almighty God, we acknowledge with thanks that all we have and enjoy is a gift from your gracious hand. We come before you today in heartfelt appreciation for our nation and its people.

**We thank you for enabling us to worship you in freedom and to serve you without fear.**

You have enriched us with the bounties of farm and factory, the beauty of forest and mountain, and the marvels of medicine and science.

**For all these blessings, we praise and glorify you.**

Look with favor upon our nation, and preserve our cherished liberties. Enable our leaders to govern with wisdom, honesty, courage, and justice. Protect those who serve in the armed forces and those who maintain peace and safety in our communities.

**Give us willingness to obey our nation's laws and to work for the common good.**

Keep our financial institutions secure and our economy strong. Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident, and spare our land from the ravages of disease and epidemic.

**Teach us not to worry but to cast all our cares on you.**

Strengthen the homes of our nation. By your Spirit lead husbands and wives to love each other, parents to nurture their children, young adults to assume responsibility, and children to show respect.

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

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

*Silent prayer.*

To you, O Lord, we bring our thanks and our requests.

**Hear our prayers for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

**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**

### Final Prayer

M: Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your Holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

OR

Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## Blessing

M: 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: Amen.

## 617 Christ, by Heavenly Hosts Adored



1 Christ, by heav'n-ly hosts a - dored, Gra - cious, might - y,  
2 On our fields of grass and grain Send, O Lord, the  
3 Give us rul - ers who will be Known for love and



sov - 'reign Lord, God of na - tions, King of kings,  
kind - ly rain; O'er our wide and good - ly land  
hon - es - ty; Let the pow'rs that you or - dained



Head of all cre - a - ted things, By the Church with  
Crown the la - bors of each hand. Let your kind pro -  
Be in right - eous - ness main - tained. In the peo - ple's



joy con - fessed, God o'er all, for - ev - er blest— Plead - ing,  
tec - tion be O'er our com - merce on the sea. O - pen,  
hearts in - crease Love of pi - e - ty and peace. Thus u -



at your throne we stand: Save your peo - ple, bless our land.  
Lord, your boun - teous hand; Bless your peo - ple, bless our land.  
nit - ed, we shall stand One wide, free, and hap - py land.

## Announcements

### ***Anniversary Fellowship Dinner***

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

**Church Cleaners:**  
October 29 – John // November 29 – Phillip

**DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR**

<b>Su (22)</b>	<b>9:00 am</b> <b>10:30 am</b> 11:30 am	<b>Sunday School and Bible Class</b> <b>Worship</b> Coffee Hour & Evangelism Meeting
Tu (24)	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Elders Meeting Council Meeting
We (25)	6:30 pm	“Test the Spirits” Bible Information Class.
Th (26)	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Illuminé (at St. Paul’s) Youth Confirmation (W)
Fr (27)	10:00 am 11:00 am 2:30 pm	Funeral Visitation for Marjorie Pfothenauer Christian Funeral for Marjorie Pfothenauer Internment of Marjorie Pfothenauer
<b>Su (29)</b>	<b>9:00 am</b> <b>10:30 am</b> 11:30 am	<b>Sunday School and Bible Class</b> <b>Reformation / Anniversary Service</b> Reformation / Anniversary Potluck
We (1)	6:30 pm	“Test the Spirits” Bible Information Class.
Th (2)	10:30 am 6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Devotion at Longfield Manor Illuminé (at St. Paul’s) Youth Confirmation (W)
Fr (3)	3:00 pm 4:30 pm	Women’s Bible Study Youth Confirmation (D)
<b>Su (5)</b>	<b>9:00 am</b> <b>10:30 am</b> 11:30 am <b>3:00 pm</b>	<b>Sunday School and Bible Class</b> <b>Worship &amp; Communion</b> Coffee Hour <b>Worship and Communion in Poltimore</b>



**Divine Word**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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