



Sunday, September 21, 2025
Pentecost 15

Service Theme
WOUNDS THAT HEAL
WHAT HELPS IN LIFE FAILS IN DEATH

What do John D Rockefeller, King Solomon, Henry Ford, and Joseph Stalin all have in common? Two things. First, they are all in the list of the twenty wealthiest individuals who ever lived. Second, they are all rotting in the ground. The reality is that while money may help you achieve some objectives, it fails to prevent death. So Jesus speaks some sharp words this week, warning that those who live with hearts filled with love for money and void of love for God will receive the only eternity that money can buy— one void of God and filled with torment. Money seems helpful, but it fails in death. Conversely, what often seems of little help in this life will be our only source of help in death. The world scoffs at those who set aside plenteous time to listen to Jesus' words and eat his holy meal. "Of what practical good are such things?" Only this. Such things enable us, at death, to receive a reward that dwarfs even the best things money can buy.

718 Though Thoughtless Thousands Choose

CW 718



1 Though thought-less thou - sands choose the road that leads the
2 In Christ, by faith, I wish to live, from him my
3 Christ is my ev - er - last - ing all, to him I
4 Soon will the Lord, my life, ap - pear; soon shall I
5 Soon will the saints in glo - ry meet, soon walk through



soul a - way from God, this hap - pi - ness, dear
life, my all, re - ceive, to him de - vote my
look, on him I call; he will my ev - 'ry
end my tri - als here, leave sin and sor - row,



Lord, be mine: to live and die en - tire - ly thine.
fleet - ing hours, serve him a - lone with all my pow'rs.
need sup - ply in time and through e - ter - ni - ty.
death and pain. To live is Christ; to die is gain.
bliss - ful plain, "To live is Christ; to die is gain."

Text: Joseph Hoskins, 1745–1788, alt. Tune: William Knapp, 1698–1786 Text and tune: Public domain

The Service *Setting One (page 155)*

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts,
words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.**

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a
sinner.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

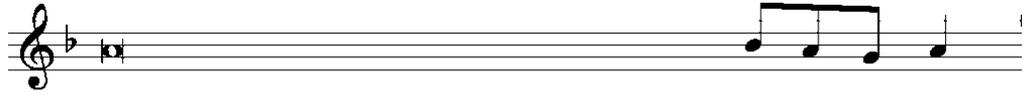
Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy



In peace let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



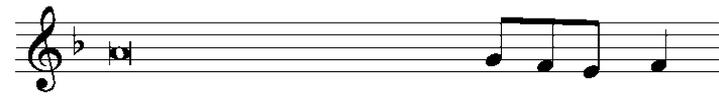
For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men.

Glory Be to God on High

CW 157



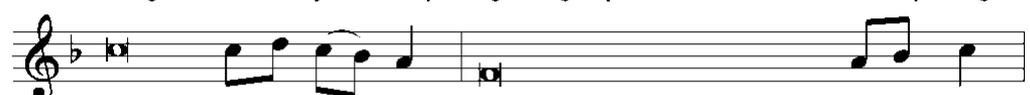
Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



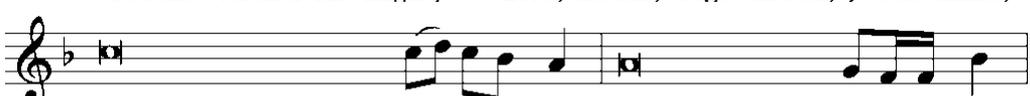
We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



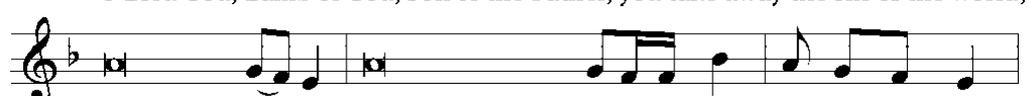
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



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, you take away the sin of the world;



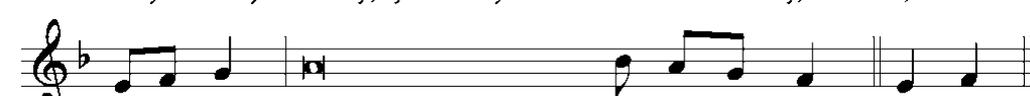
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading

Amos 6:1–7

At the time of Amos, the Israelites enjoyed prosperity, but spiritually they were drifting from the LORD. The prophet warns not to let prosperity provide a false sense of security.

¹Woe to you who are complacent in Zion, you who feel secure on Mount Samaria, you distinguished people of the leading nation, to whom the house of Israel comes.

²Travel to Kalneh and look. Go from there to Hamath Rabbah, and go down to Gath of the Philistines.

Are you better than those kingdoms? Are their territories greater than your territory?

³You who are trying to put off the evil day, you bring near the session for violence!

⁴Those who lie on ivory beds, sprawling upon their couches, eating lambs from the flock and calves straight from the stall, ⁵improvising tunes on the lyre, composing music for themselves on musical instruments like David, ⁶drinking large bowls of wine— they slather themselves with the most expensive perfumed oils, but they do not grieve over the ruin of Joseph.

⁷That is why they will go into exile as the first of the exiles.

The Word of the Lord.

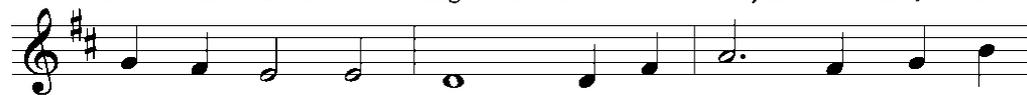
Thanks be to God.

146C Praise the LORD, Sing Hallelujah

Psalm 146C



1 Praise the LORD! Sing hal - le - lu - jah! Come, our
 2 Hap - py are the ones pro - fess - ing Ja - cob's
 3 Food he dai - ly gives the hun - gry, sets the
 4 Praise the LORD! Sing hal - le - lu - jah! Come, our



great Re - deem - er praise. I will sing the glo - rious
 God to be their aid. They are blest whose hope of
 mourn - ing pris - 'ner free, rais - es those bowed down with
 great Re - deem - er praise. I will sing the glo - rious



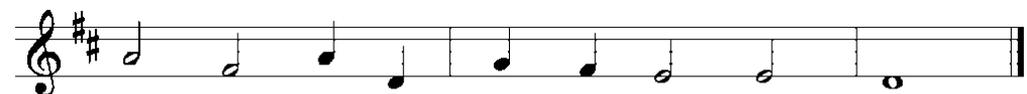
prais - es of my God through all my days.
 bless - ing on the LORD their God is stayed.
 an - guish, makes the sight - less eyes to see.
 prais - es of my God through all my days.



Put no con - fi - dence in princ - es, nor on
 Heav'n and earth the LORD cre - at - ed, seas and
 God our Sav - ior loves the right - eous, and the
 O - ver all God reigns for - ev - er; through all



hu - man help de - pend. They shall die, to dust re -
 all that they con - tain. He de - liv - ers from op -
 stran - ger he be - friends, helps the or - phan and the
 a - ges he is King. Un - to him, your God, O



turn - ing; all their thoughts and plans shall end.
 pres - sion; right - eous - ness he will main - tain.
 wid - ow, judg - ment on the wick - ed sends.
 Zi - on, joy - ful hal - le - lu - jahs sing.

Second Reading

1 Timothy 6:6–12, 17–19

Saint Paul teaches that serving money will lead to spiritual destruction. But serving God with our money leads to a fulfilling life.

⁶But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷For we brought nothing into the world, and we certainly cannot take anything out. ⁸But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be satisfied.

⁹Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and many foolish and harmful desires, which plunge them into complete destruction and utter ruin. ¹⁰For the love of money is a root of all sorts of evils. By striving for money, some have wandered away from the faith and have pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹But you, O man of God, flee from these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of faith. Take hold of eternal life, to which you were called and about which you made your good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

¹⁷Instruct those who are rich in this present age not to be arrogant or to put their hope in the uncertainty of riches, but rather in God, who richly supplies us with all things for our enjoyment. ¹⁸Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹In this way they are storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 16:31

Alleluia, alleluia.

If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 16:19–31

Jesus tells a parable about two men, one whose confidence was in his wealth, another whose confidence was in his God.

¹⁹“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen, living in luxury every day. ²⁰A beggar named Lazarus had been laid at his gate. Lazarus was covered with sores and ²¹longed to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Besides this, the dogs also came and licked his sores. ²²Eventually the beggar died, and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³In hell, where he was in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away and Lazarus at his side. ²⁴He called out and said, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me! Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in misery in this flame.’

²⁵“But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus received bad things. But now he is comforted here, and you are in misery. ²⁶Besides all this, a great chasm has been set in place between us and you, so that those who want to cross from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’

²⁷“He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, send him to my father's home, ²⁸because I have five brothers—to warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

²⁹“Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets. Let them listen to them.’

³⁰“No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

³¹“Abraham replied to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

807 All Depends on Our Possessing

CW 807



1 All de - pends on our pos - sess - ing God's a - bun - dant
2 He who to this day has fed me and to man - y
3 Man - y spend their lives in fret - ting o - ver tri - fles
4 When with sor - row I am strick - en, hope a - new my



grace and bless - ing, though all earth - ly wealth de - part.
joys has led me is and ev - er shall be mine.
and in get - ting things that have no sol - id ground.
heart will quick - en; all my long - ing shall be stilled.



They who trust with faith un - shak - en in their God are
He who ev - er gent - ly schools me, he who dai - ly
I shall strive to win a trea - sure that will bring me
To his lov - ing - kind - ness ten - der soul and bod - y



not for - sak - en and will keep a daunt - less heart.
guides and rules me, will re - main my help di - vine.
last - ing plea - sure and that now is sel - dom found.
I sur - ren - der, for on God a - lone I build.

- 5 Well he knows what best to grant me;
all the longing hopes that haunt me,
joy and sorrow, have their day.
I shall doubt his wisdom never;
as God wills, so be it ever;
I commit to him my way.
- 6 If my days on earth he lengthen,
he my weary soul will strengthen;
all my trust in him I place.
Earthly wealth is not abiding,
like a stream away is gliding;
safe I anchor in his grace.

Text: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, Nürnberg, 1676; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Tune: Johann Löhner, 1645–1705; adapt. Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Amos 6:1-7a

Where do you find your comfort?

- 1) In your gifts, or
- 2) In your God?

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 truly 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.

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [*especially...*]. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

Amen.

Offering

The Sacrament

Preface

CW 165



The Lord be with you.



And al - so with you.



Lift up your hearts.



We lift them up to the Lord.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 167

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in a soprano voice. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts: heav'n and earth are full of your 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 who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est." The score ends with a double bar line.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:
heav'n and earth are full of your 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 who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

Words of Institution

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 T 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 T 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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

CW 169

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us your peace. A - men." The word "Amen" is written with a long horizontal line underneath it, indicating a sustained note.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,
you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - men.

Distribution

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing

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 T give you peace.

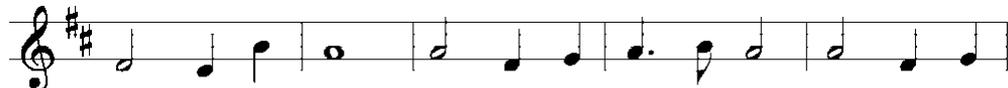
Amen.

811 My Faith Looks Up to Thee

CW 811



1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart;
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; take all my
my zeal in - spire! As thou hast died for me, oh, may my
be thou my guide. Bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's
shall o'er me roll, blest Sav - ior, then, in love, fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day be whol - ly thine!
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.
trust re-move; O bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808–1887 Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872 Text and tune: Public domain

Announcements

Church Cleaners

September 28 – Timothy

Voter's Meeting

Our next Voter's Meeting is scheduled for after worship on
September 28.

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

- Su (21) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study**
10:30 am *Worship with Communion*
11:45 am *Coffee Hour*
11:45 am Evangelism Meeting
3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore
- Tu (23) 7:00 pm Council Meeting
- We (24) 9:30 am Communicating Christ (Adult)
5:15 pm Youth Confirmation (W)
7:00 pm New Communicating Christ (Adult)
- Fr (26) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study
6:00 pm Friday Fellowship
- Su (28) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study**
10:30 am *Worship*
11:45 am *Coffee Hour*
11:45 am Voter's Meeting
- We (1) 9:30 am Communicating Christ (Adult)
5:15 pm Youth Confirmation (W)
7:00 pm New Communicating Christ (Adult)
- Th (2) 10:30 am Longfield Manor Devotion
- Fr (3) 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study
- Su (5) 9:00 am Sunday School / Bible Study**
10:30 am *Worship with Communion*
11:45 am *First Fellowship Potluck*
3:00 pm Worship in Poltimore



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