

Trinity Lutheran Church, LCMS

5758 W. M36, Pinckney MI 48169

www.trinitypinckney.org

(734)878.5977 Pastor Ken Huner

17th Sunday of Pentecost

"FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PROBLEMS WITH GOD"

Sept. 20, 2026

Divine Worship 1



People who
have a
problem
with God

PRE-SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS SERVANT PROCESSIONAL

AS WE GATHER

On the surface, the parable of the laborers in the vineyard seems wrong. Shouldn't the worker receive the wages he or she deserves for his or her time and labor? It offends our sense of fair play that one who worked less should receive the same as one who worked more. If you only focus on the perspective of the laborer, that might seem true, but if you focus on the generosity of the vineyard owner, you get a very different perspective. God's mercy is not the reward for our labor but a pure gift of grace given to those who deserve none of His kindness. When you begin to look at this parable from that perspective, God's abundant generosity becomes clear. The Lord does what none of us would do—forgives all our sins, no matter how great, and bestows upon us the

mercy and salvation we did nothing to earn and could never deserve. How can anyone begrudge Him such generosity?

Confession and Absolution

HYMN OF INVOCATION: 850 GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY

- 1 God of grace and God of glory,
On Your people pour Your pow'r;
Crown Your ancient Church's story;
Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.
- 2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound
us
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.
- 3 Cure Your children's warring madness;
Bend our pride to Your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.
- 4 Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Your salvation
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving You whom we adore,
Serving You whom we adore.

Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1878–1969

Text: Public domain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

EXHORTATION

LSB 151

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.

Kneel/Stand

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

CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 151

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.

DECLARATION OF GRACE *LSB 151*

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

INTROIT

P I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.

**C What shall I render to the LORD
for all his benefits to me?**

P I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the LORD.

**C Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of his saints.**

P O LORD, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have loosed my bonds.

**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.**

P I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the LORD.

KYRIE

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

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.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Amen.

THIS IS THE FEAST

LSB 155

**C This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and
join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be
to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has
begun His reign. Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C And also with you.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:6–9

⁶“Seek the LORD while he may be found;

call upon him while he is near;

⁷let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his
thoughts;

let him return to the LORD, that he may
have compassion on him,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

neither are your ways my ways,
declares the LORD.

⁹For as the heavens are higher than the earth,

so are my ways higher than your ways

and my thoughts than your thoughts."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 27:1-9

The LORD Is My Light and My Salvation

L ¹The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

G ²**When evildoers assail me
to eat up my flesh,
my adversaries and foes,
it is they who stumble and fall.**

L ³Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war arise against me,
yet I will be confident.

G ⁴**One thing have I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
that I may dwell in the house of the
LORD
all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD
and to inquire in his temple.**

L ⁵For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of

his tent;

he will lift me high upon a rock.

G **6And now my head shall be lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the
LORD.**

L **7Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;
be gracious to me and answer me!**

G **8You have said, “Seek my face.”
My heart says to you,
“Your face, LORD, do I seek.”**

L **9Hide not your face from me.
Turn not your servant away in anger,
O you who have been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not,
O God of my salvation!**

EPISTLE *Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30*

The Advance of the Gospel

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh,

that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *LSB 156*



HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 20:1–16*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

Glory to you O Lord

Laborers in the Vineyard

¹[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ ⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ ⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with

what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY: 566 By Grace I'm Saved

- 1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;
My soul, believe and doubt it not.
Why stagger at this word of promise?
Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?
No! Then this word must true remain:
By grace you too will life obtain.
- 2 By grace! None dare lay claim to merit;
Our works and conduct have no worth.
God in His love sent our Redeemer,
Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;
His death did for our sins atone,
And we are saved by grace alone.
- 3 By grace God's Son, our only Savior,
Came down to earth to bear our sin.
Was it because of your own merit
That Jesus died your soul to win?
No, it was grace, and grace alone,
That brought Him from His heav'nly throne.
- 4 By grace! This ground of faith is certain;
As long as God is true, it stands.
What saints have penned by

inspiration,

What in His Word our God
commands,

Our faith in what our God has done
Depends on grace—grace through
His Son.

5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
In tribulation's furnace tried,
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,
The Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength
secure
If grace were not my anchor sure?

6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart's
condition,
I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad, all grief has flown
Since I am saved by grace alone.

Text: Christian Ludwig Scheidt, 1709–61; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal,
1941, alt.

Text: Public domain

SERMON: "FOR THOSE WHO HAVE PROBLEMS WITH GOD"

Matthew 20:1-16

Stand

NICENE CREED

**☩ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and
invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,**

begotten of His Father before all
worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the
Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our
salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit
of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under
Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the
Father.

And He will come again with glory
to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and
the Son,

who with the Father and the Son
together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian
and apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the
remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the
dead

and the life ✝ of the world to come.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

prayer response

P Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Sit

OFFERING

Stand

OFFERTORY

LSB 159

C What shall I render to the Lord for all
His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will
call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in
the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the
midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Service of the Sacrament

PREFACE

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our
God.
C It is right to give Him thanks and
praise.

PROPER PREFACE (ABBREVIATED)

LSB 161

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . .
evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 161

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r
and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your
glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name
of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *LSB 161*

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and
earth, for You have had mercy on
those whom You created and sent
Your only-begotten Son into our flesh
to bear our sin and be our Savior. With
repentant joy we receive the salvation
accomplished for us by the all-availing
sacrifice of His body and His blood on
the cross.

Gathered in the name and the
remembrance of Jesus, we beg You,
O Lord, to forgive, renew, and
strengthen us with Your Word and
Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body
and drink His blood as He bids us do in
His own testament. Gather us
together, we pray, from the ends of
the earth to celebrate with all the
faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb
in His kingdom, which has no end.
Graciously receive our prayers; deliver
and preserve us. To You alone, O
Father, be all glory, honor, and

worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

**C 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.**

PAX DOMINI

LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you
always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

C Lamb of God, You take away the sin
of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin
of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin
of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: 629 WHAT IS THIS BREAD

- 1 What is this bread?
Christ's body risen from the dead:
This bread we break,
This life we take,
Was crushed to pay for our release.
O taste and see—the Lord is peace.
- 2 What is this wine?
The blood of Jesus shed for mine;
The cup of grace

Brings His embrace
Of life and love until I sing!
O taste and see—the Lord is King.

3 So who am I,
That I should live and He should die
Under the rod?
My God, my God,
Why have You not forsaken me?
O taste and see—the Lord is free.

4 Yet is God here?
Oh, yes! By Word and promise clear,
In mouth and soul
He makes us whole—
Christ, truly present in this meal.
O taste and see—the Lord is real.

5 Is this for me?
I am forgiven and set free!
I do believe
That I receive
His very body and His blood.
O taste and see—the Lord is good.

Text: Frederic W. Baue, 1946

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN: 623 LORD JESUS CHRIST, WE HUMBLY PRAY

1 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray
That we may feast on You today;
Beneath these forms of bread and
wine
Enrich us with Your grace divine.

2 Give us, who share this wondrous
food,
Your body broken and Your blood,
The grateful peace of sins forgiv'n,
The certain joys of heirs of heav'n.

- 3 By faith Your Word has made us bold
To seize the gift of love retold;
All that You are we here receive,
And all we are to You we give.
- 4 One bread, one cup, one body, we,
Rejoicing in our unity,
Proclaim Your love until You come
To bring Your scattered loved ones
home.
- 5 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray:
O keep us steadfast till that day
When each will be Your welcomed
guest
In heaven's high and holy feast.

Text: Henry E. Jacobs, 1844–1932, alt.

Text: Public domain

Stand

THANK THE LORD

LSB 164

**☞ 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 recalls His promises and leads His
people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia,
alleluia.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God,
that You have refreshed us through
this salutary gift, and we implore You
that of Your mercy You would
strengthen us through the same in
faith toward You and in fervent love
toward one another; 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

LSB 166

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.

C Amen.

HYMN TO DEPART: 849 PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS

Praise the One who breaks the
darkness
With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners,
Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the
Gospel,
Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding
thousands
With the very Bread of peace.

- 2 Praise the One who blessed the
children
With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out
demons
With the piercing, two-edged
sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water
To the desert's burning sand;
From this Well comes living water,
Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.
- 3 Let us praise the Word Incarnate,
Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious

That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness,
Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer,
Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service
Book

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COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

**We pray that our worship blesses your day as
you are blessing ours by attending.**

THE LORD'S SUPPER will be celebrated during
our worship service this morning. The Bible is
clear about who is welcomed and prepared
to receive Holy Communion. St. Paul writes in
1 Corinthians 11:28 – “Everyone ought to
examine themselves before they eat of the
bread and drink from the cup.” Therefore,
those Christians who are prepared and
“worthy”; communicants have been led by
the Holy Spirit to ...

- 1) Feel contrition and confess all sins to the
LORD
 - 2) Trust in Christ for the forgiveness of sins
 - 3) Strive to turn away from unrepented sin and
 - 4) Discern and believe in the real presence of
Christ's true body and blood in, with and
under the outward forms of bread and wine.
- Therefore, we welcome all confirmed adults
to join us at the Table of the Lord. We do
invite those adults and children who are not
prepared to receive the Lord's Supper to

come to the communion table, cross your arms across your heart, and receive a blessing from the pastor. Thank you!

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Whether you are new to church, a longtime member, or studying independently, discover God's work in your life and see His promises anew. Each lesson includes an easy-to-use, one-page handout. Join us Tuesdays **at 10:00 a.m.!**

LUTHERANISM 101: This new-member class also refreshes current members on Lutheran beliefs and heritage. Whether lifelong Lutheran or new to the faith, deepen your understanding. Classes meet **Mondays, 6:30–7:30 p.m., beginning October 12.** To join, speak with Pastor Huner.

WORSHIP SERVANTS September 20, 2026

Acolyte: Sam Ratliff

Elders: Walt Reister

Officiant: Pastor Ken Huner

CPH Organist: Kathryn Brumm

Special Music: Heidi Swanson

Altar: Athena Reister

Counting: Barb Yek and Kristin Myher

Ushers: Melissa Ratliff and Barb Yek

Greeters: Ben Ratliff and Daniel Eppler

Coffee Hour: Shelly Coughlin and Brian Moehrig

MINISTRY CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sun Sep 20

9 am – Adult Bible Study

Matthew

9 am – Children's Sunday School

10 am – Pentecost 17

Mon Sep 21

Tues Sep 22

10 am – Adult Bible Study

11 am – Prayer Warriors

Wed Sep 23

10 am – Quilters

CHARTING OUR COURSE

Attendance week of Sept. 13, 2026

10:00 am Worship in Person: 69/Online plays: 68

Communion: N/A

9:00 am Kids Sunday school In Person: 2

9:00 am Adult Bible Class in Person:

14/Online plays: 113

Thurs Sep 24

7 pm – Council

Fri Sep 25

Sat Sep 26

Adopt a Highway starts

Sun Sep 27

Adopt a Highway

9 am – Adult Bible Study Matthew

9 am – Children's Sunday School

10 am – Pentecost 18

Sermon Notes:

"For Those Who Have Problems With God"
Matt. 20:1-16

_____ True or _____ False. Sometimes the generosity of God becomes a problem for us.

_____ True or _____ False. Similar to the Gospel lesson, Jonah and the Elder Brother we're very thankful towards others.

How may the Cross of Christ help us in all of this?