

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026 - THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Prelude - “Day By Day” tune *Blott An Dag*, setting by Edward Broughton.

Stand

864 Shepherd of Tender Youth

1 Shep - herd of ten - der youth, Guid - ing in
2 You are the ho - ly Lord, O all - sub -
3 You are the great High Priest; You have pre -
4 O ev - er be our guide, Our shep - herd,
5 So now, and till we die, Sound we Your

love and truth Through de - vious ways; Christ, our tri -
du - ing Word, Heal - er of strife. Your - self You
pared the feast Of ho - ly love; And in our
and our pride, Our staff and song. Je - sus, O
prais - es high And joy - ful sing: In - fants and

um - phant king, We come Your name to sing
did a - base That from sin's deep dis - grace
mor - tal pain None calls on You in vain;
Christ of God, By Your en - dur - ing Word
all the throng, Who to the Church be - long,

And here our chil - dren bring To join Your praise.
You so might save our race And give us life.
Our plea do not dis - dain; Help from a - bove.
Lead us where You have trod; Make our faith strong.
U - nite to swell the song To Christ, our king!

Text: attr. Clement of Alexandria, c. 170–c. 220; tr. Henry M. Dexter, 1821–90, alt. Public domain
Tune: Felice de Giardini, 1716–96; 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.

Opening Dialog

- P** This is the day which the Lord has made;
C we will rejoice and be glad in it.
- P** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- P** Better is one day in Your courts
C than a thousand elsewhere.
- P** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
C Teach me Your paths.

C 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.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

C O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 50:15–21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalms

Women speak the odd verses and Men speak the even.

Psalms 103:1–12

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!

²*Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,*

³who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,

⁴*who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,*

⁵who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

⁶*The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.*

⁷He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.

⁸*The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.*

⁹He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.

¹⁰*He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.*

¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

¹²*as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.*

**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.**

Epistle

Romans 14:1–12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God.”

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

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

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

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The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. Below the staff, the lyrics "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the" are written. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values. Below it, the lyrics "words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." are written. A common time signature (C) is placed at the beginning of the first staff.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21–35

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

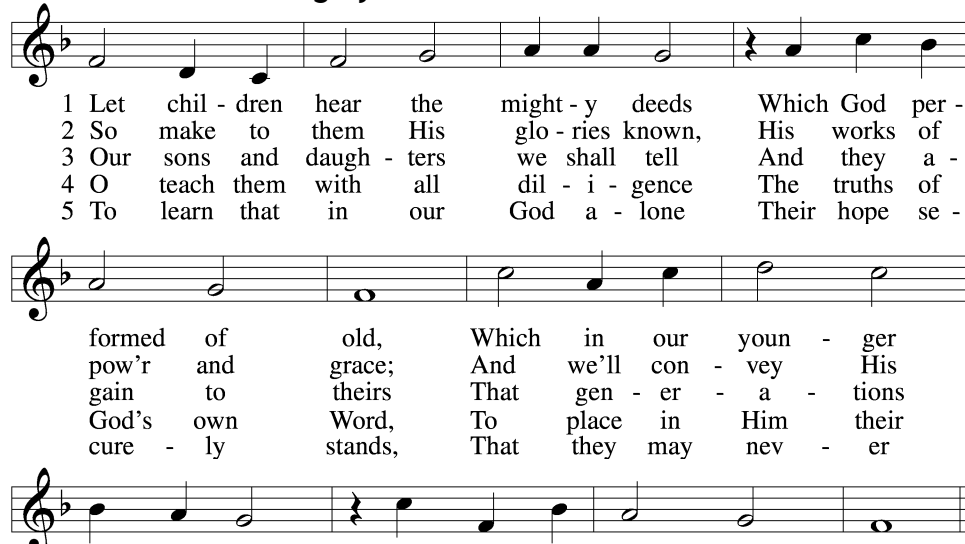
²³“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

867 Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds



1 Let chil - dren hear the might - y deeds Which God per -
2 So make to them His glo - ries known, His works of
3 Our sons and daugh - ters we shall tell And they a -
4 O teach them with all dil - i - gence The truths of
5 To learn that in our God a - lone Their hope se -

formed of old, Which in our youn - ger
pow'r and grace; And we'll con - vey His
gain to theirs That gen - er - a - tions
God's own Word, To place in Him their
cure - ly stands, That they may nev - er

days we saw, And which our par - ents told.
won - ders down Through ev - 'ry ris - ing race.
yet un - born May teach them to their heirs.
con - fi - dence, To fear and trust their Lord,
doubt His love But walk in His com - mands.

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Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.

Sit

Installation of Sunday School Teachers

750 If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee

sts. 1, 3–4, 7

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee And hope in
 3 Be pa-tient and a-wait His lei-sure In cheer-ful
 4 God knows full well when times of glad-ness Shall be the
 7 Sing, pray, and keep His ways un-swerv-ing, Per-form thy
 Him through all thy ways, He'll give thee strength, what-e'er be-
 hope, with heart con-tent To take what-e'er thy Fa-ther's
 need-ful thing for thee. When He has tried thy soul with
 du-ties faith-ful-ly, And trust His Word; though un-de-
 tide thee, And bear thee through the e-vil days. Who trusts in
 plea-sure And His dis-cern-ing love hath sent, Nor doubt our
 sad-ness And from all guile has found thee free, He comes to
 serv-ing, Thou yet shalt find it true for thee. God nev-er
 God's un-chang-ing love Builds on the rock that naught can move.
 in-most wants are known To Him who chose us for His own.
 thee all un-a-ware And makes thee own His lov-ing care.
 yet for-sook in need The soul that trust-ed Him in-deed.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621–81; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Public domain
 Tune: Georg Neumark, 1621–81; Public domain

Kneel

Prayer of the Church

Each petition ends:

- P** Lord, in Your mercy:
C Hear our prayer!

The Prayers conclude:

- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all those for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
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.

Collect

- A** Let us pray.
Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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

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- 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.

Stand

814 O Bless the Lord, My Soul



1 O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all with - in me join
2 O bless the Lord, my soul, Nor let His mer - cies lie
3 'Tis He for - gives thy sins; 'Tis He re - lieves thy pain;
4 He crowns thy life with love When ran - somed from the grave;

And aid my tongue to bless His name Whose fa - vors are di - vine.
For - got - ten in un - thank - ful - ness And with - out prais - es die!
'Tis He that heals thy sick - ness - es And makes thee young a - gain.
He that re - deemed my soul from hell Hath sov - 'reign pow'r to save.

- 5 He fills the poor with good;
He gives the suff'ers rest.
The Lord hath judgments for the proud
And justice for th'oppressed.
- 6 His wondrous works and ways
He made by Moses known,
But sent the world His truth and grace
By His beloved Son.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748; Public domain
Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76; Public domain

Postlude - “*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*” tune by Martin Luther.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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