



**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST**

*A Church Willing to Say  
Hard Things*

**September 10, 2023**





4651 Kernan Blvd S,  
Jacksonville, Florida  
32224

904-642-8900

Worship at 8am and  
10:30am

Bible Class and Youth  
Sunday School at 9:15am

[victorylutheran.org](http://victorylutheran.org)



*Find us on Facebook,  
Instagram, and YouTube*



*Victory is affiliated with the  
Wisconsin  
Evangelical Lutheran  
Synod*

## Welcome to Victory!

- Thank you for choosing to worship the Triune God with us. May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you as we join together in worship.
- We prepare for worship by quietly meditating on the theme for the day and respectfully listening to the music chosen and prepared by our musicians.
- If you are looking for a church home, we would be thrilled to serve your spiritual needs. Our name comes from 1 Corinthians 15:57: **"Thanks be to God! He gives us the VICTORY through our Lord Jesus Christ!"**
- Our mission as a Christian congregation is to: **"Win souls for Christ and coach Christians for life."**
- Please sign the Connection Card inside the newsletter to give us a record of your visit, and so we can properly thank you for joining us!
- Restrooms are located in the hallway to the right as you enter the front doors. Changing tables are available in both the women's and men's restrooms.
- A Quiet Room for children who need a quiet moment with their caretaker is located on the right before entering the sanctuary.

## **TODAY'S WORSHIP:**

Imagine, late one night, you notice the house across the street is on fire. You see no activity inside. You say to yourself, "Pounding on the door in the middle of the night might scare the family. I'm sure they'll realize what's going on eventually." Ridiculous! You would never do that! To let a family sleep while flames surround them would be downright cruel. Your inaction would make you a killer. The truth is you would pound on their door, no matter what time it was, screaming. You would throw a brick through their front window if that was what it took to warn them. You would not care if it scared the family. This is a matter of life and death! Love compels you to do whatever it takes to warn them. God wants the people of his church to be willing to say hard things to people when that is what is necessary to save them from an even worse type of fire. Warning against sin isn't easy. It upsets people, even offends them. But saying hard things is the loving thing to do when it is a matter of eternal life and death.

## **Current Series — The Church God Wants**

"I want a church that..." How would you complete that statement? Would you focus on size? Would you think about style? Is it certain church programs that come to mind? What exactly do you want in a church? In this worship series, we see that's not the right question. Scripture says Jesus bought the Church with his blood. So, the right question then becomes: what does God want in a church? You might find a church that checks all your personal desires. But if that church isn't doing what Christ wants it to do, then it really isn't a spiritually healthy place to be! So, let us think about the church God wants. What does it look like? What are its priorities? What does it all do?

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September 10	A Church Willing to Say Hard Things
September 17	A Church That's Quick to Forgive

## DIVINE SERVICE I



## Come Away from Rush and Hurry

Christian Worship 913

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**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.**

**LORD, HAVE MERCY** *Kyrie*

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy

on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us. A - men.

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.

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

### GLORY TO GOD *Gloria in Excelsis*

The musical score is written on six staves of music. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notes are as follows: Staff 1: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4, C4. Staff 2: D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F#3, E3, D3, C3. Staff 3: D3, C3, B2, A2, G2, F#2, E2, D2, C2. Staff 4: D2, C2, B1, A1, G1, F#1, E1, D1, C1. Staff 5: D1, C1, B0, A0, G0, F#0, E0, D0, C0. Staff 6: D0, C0, B0, A0, G0, F#0, E0, D0, C0. The lyrics are: Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y 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.

Glo - ry to God in the

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

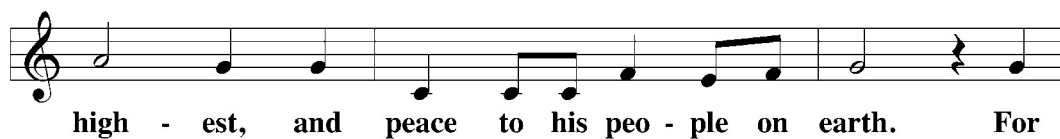
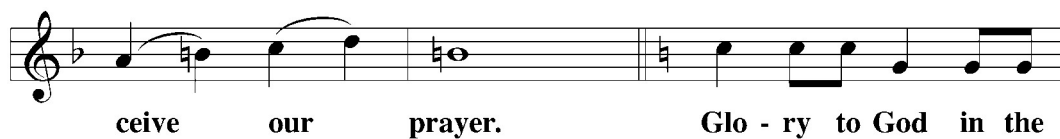
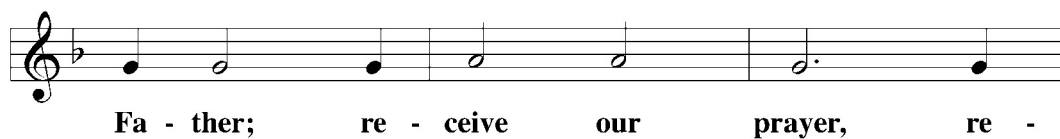
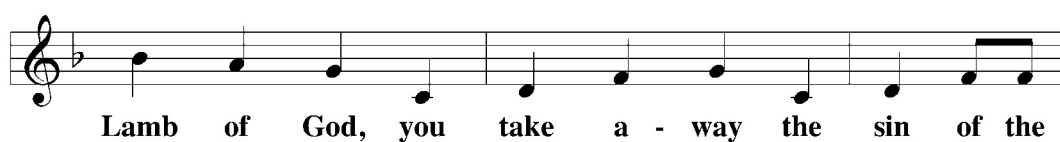
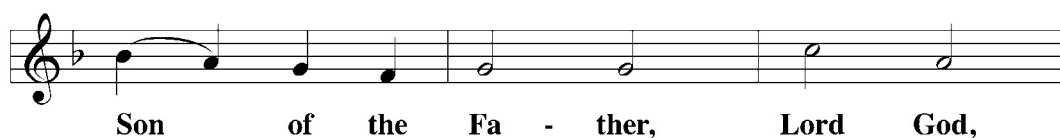
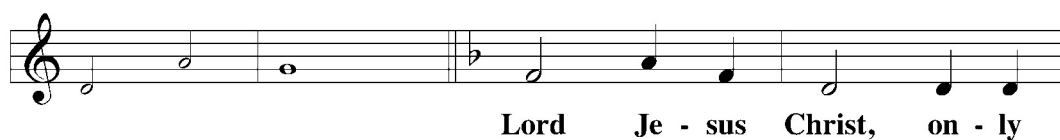
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and

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.

*Continued on next page*



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 Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## THE WORD

### FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

#### *The believer's responsibility to their neighbor*

<sup>7</sup>"Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>When I say to the wicked, 'You wicked person, you will surely die,' and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. <sup>9</sup>But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

<sup>10</sup>"Son of man, say to the Israelites, 'This is what you are saying: "Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?" ' <sup>11</sup>Say to them, 'As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?'

M: The Word of the Lord.

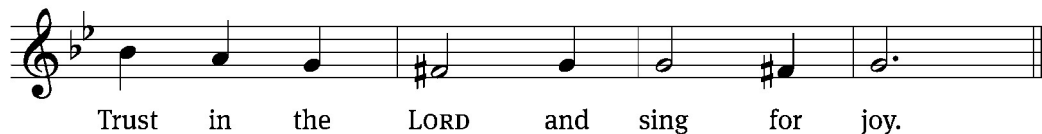
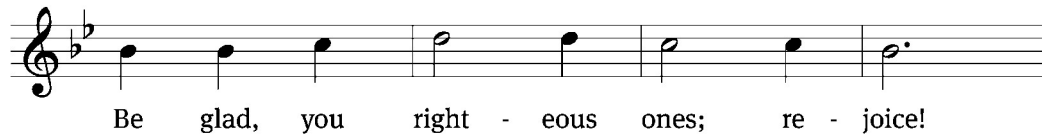
C: Thanks be to God.

### PSALM OF THE DAY

#### Be Glad You Righteous Ones; Rejoice

*Christian Worship Psalter Psalm 32C*

#### *Refrain*





*Tone*



Blessed is the one whose transgressions are for- / given,  
whose / sins are covered.

Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count a- / gainst them  
and in whose spirit is / no deceit.

When I kept silent, my bones wast- / ed away  
through my groaning / all day long.

For day and night your hand was heav- / y on me;  
my strength was sapped as in the heat of / summer.

Then I acknowledged my / sin to you  
and did not cover up my in- / iquity.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions / to the LORD."  
And you forgave the guilt / of my sin. *Refrain*

You are my / hiding place;

you will protect / me from trouble.

Many are the woes of the / wicked,

but the LORD's unfailing love surrounds the one who / trusts in him.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son**

**and to the / Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the be- / ginning,**

**is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Text: (after Georg C. Neumark's WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT): Thomas Pavlechko, alt.

Tune: (after Georg C. Neumark's WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT): Thomas Pavlechko, alt.; Thomas Pavlechko (after Georg C. Neumark's WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT), alt.

Setting: (after Georg C. Neumark's WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT): Thomas Pavlechko, alt.; Thomas Pavlechko (after Georg C. Neumark's WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT), alt.

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## SECOND READING: Galatians 2:11-16

### *Paul's hard conversation with Peter*

<sup>11</sup>When Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. <sup>12</sup>For before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. <sup>13</sup>The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray.

<sup>14</sup>When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of them all, "You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?"

<sup>15</sup>"We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles <sup>16</sup>know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.

M: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## VERSE OF THE DAY 1 Timothy 2:4

M: Alleluia! God wants all people to be saved

**C: And to come to a knowledge of the truth. Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

### *Jesus' direction for hard conversations*

M: The Gospel, according to St. Matthew Chapter 18.



<sup>15</sup>“If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. <sup>16</sup>But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ <sup>17</sup>If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

<sup>18</sup>“Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

<sup>19</sup>“Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.”

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.



## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*All children are invited to join Pastor Troy at the front of the sanctuary for a message based on today's sermon, specifically designed for them! If children would feel more comfortable, an adult is welcome to come up with them.*

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH (10:30am Service)

*Children ages 3-5 can be dismissed to the 3K/Kitchen classroom for Children's Church. Children will return from Children's Church to the sanctuary after the conclusion of the sermon.*



## HYMN OF THE DAY

**As Surely As I Live, God Said**

*Christian Worship 656 vs. 1, 3, 5-7*

SERMON.....Pastor Troy Schreiner  
Text: Galatians 2:11-16

Standing Firm for Hard Conversations

SERMON RESPONSE  
Create in Me a Pure Heart



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.

HARP OFFERTORY

Beautiful Savior (*Arranged by Boddie*).....Mrs. Virginia Black

## OFFERING

**Guests:** This is the moment in our worship when members and friends of Victory Lutheran respond to God's good news with gifts to support his saving work in the Jacksonville community and beyond. If you are our guest today, you are welcome to participate in this offering, but don't feel forced to! You can also give an online thank offering by using the camera on your smartphone to scan the QR code.

Please also fill out the Connection Card found inside your worship folder, and drop it in the offering plate, or in the basket on the back table.



## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

### The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.**

## 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.**

## CLOSING HYMN

**Lead Me, Lord**

*Christian Worship 926 (sung twice)*

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Organist.....**Mrs. Rachel Cochran**

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## **New Member Welcome and Potluck**

Be sure to join us next Sunday, Sept. 17th, as we welcome in the newest members of our Victory family! We'll also have a fellowship potluck to get to know each other better after the 10:30am service. If you'd like to bring a side or dish to pass for the meal, please find the sign-up sheet by the mailboxes!

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## **Youth Group Interest Form**

If you have children, grandchildren, or other children you know between 7th-12th grade who would be interested in participating in Victory's Youth Group, please scan this QR code, and fill out the survey, or contact Staff Minister Jarrett Mielke at the contact info on the back of this worship folder!

**Sermon Notes**



## **VICTORY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL**

**Office: [office@victorylutheran.org](mailto:office@victorylutheran.org); 904-642-8900**

**Troy R. Schreiner, Pastor — 904-400-2993**

**[pastorschreiner@victorylutheran.org](mailto:pastorschreiner@victorylutheran.org)**

**Anne Grotefend, Preschool Director — 904-955-1926**

**[director@victorypreschool.org](mailto:director@victorypreschool.org)**

**Jarrett Mielke, Staff Minister — 941-735-6962**

**[jmielke@victorylutheran.org](mailto:jmielke@victorylutheran.org)**

**Victory is a member congregation of the  
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS),  
headquartered in Waukesha, Wisconsin.**

