



# On Christ's Call for Commitment

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 29, 2025



*"Winning souls for Christ. Coaching Christians for life."*

4651 Kernan Blvd S, Jacksonville, FL 32224 • (904) 642-8900

# A Place to Call Home: Victory Lutheran

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, welcome home. We especially welcome to our house of worship our guests who have joined us today. We pray you will be strengthened by the good news about God's grace, love, and forgiveness to us through Jesus. We say with the Psalmist, whether here on campus or viewing online, "I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD'" (Psalm 122:1). May the Lord continue to help us grow in His grace and knowledge as we hear, speak, and sing His holy Word.

**Please sign the Connection Card** inside the worship folder and return it in the basket on the worship table. Members, please update your contact info if there is a change.

**Restrooms** are located in the hallway to the left as you exit the sanctuary. Changing tables are available in both restrooms.

A **Quiet Room** for children who need a moment to get settled with a parent or guardian is located on the right before entering the sanctuary.

Visit our website: [www.victorylutheran.org](http://www.victorylutheran.org) or find us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube!



## Worship Series Focus: **UNDIVIDED ATTENTION**

We live in a world where a thousand things are competing for our attention. There is the real danger that we focus on the frivolous and ignore the indispensable. As a result, we often talk about the importance of being "free from distraction." But the stakes are higher than that. We need to be freed from distraction. We need the spiritual power to give our undivided attention to that which truly makes a difference, not only here and now, but also in eternity. A life focused on all the right things is only possible because of a Savior who is always focused on us. On the Day of Pentecost, Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to give his followers power and focus. Still today, through his Word, Jesus grants those gifts to his disciples.

We have come to the second half of the Church Year. In the first half, we focused on the life of Christ. In this second half, we turn our attention to all the teachings of Christ. May we give them our undivided attention.

## Today's Worship: On Christ's Call for Commitment

There is the type of fan who follows his team if they make the playoffs. Then there is the type of fan who, regardless of his team's record, watches every game and knows the stats for every player. There are different types of followers: the half-hearted versus the committed. Jesus is uninterested in followers who pay attention to his Word and will only when their other pursuits provide the time. Jesus wants followers who are all-in... who love him above all things... who would be willing to leave everything else behind if that were what it would take to be with him. We simply do not have it inside us to produce that level of commitment. But in the gospel, we see how Jesus went all in for our salvation. As we witness the way Jesus made our eternal happiness the focus of his undivided attention, the Spirit creates within us the very commitment that Christ seeks.

*Service of the Word*

# Our Path for Worship



Minister: Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

Congregation: Praise the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

We worship in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

## Opening Hymn

**CW872** | *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*

Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name...  
**who forgives all *our* sins and heals all *our* diseases**

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**All: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, you should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Therefore, hear the word of Christ through his called servant: All your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

Praise the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name...  
as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

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

## Oh, Taste and See

*After a short introduction, the Congregation sings:*

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: "C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e - ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav - ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for - ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him." The score ends with a double bar line.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God, you have prepared joys beyond understanding for those who love you. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire;  
**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

*1 Kings 19:19–21*

***Elisha commits himself completely to the Lord's call, leaving family and wealth behind***

<sup>19</sup>So Elijah went from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat. He was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen, and he himself was driving the twelfth pair. Elijah went up to him and threw his cloak around him. <sup>20</sup>Elisha then left his oxen and ran after Elijah. “Let me kiss my father and mother goodbye,” he said, “and then I will come with you.”

“Go back,” Elijah replied. “What have I done to you?”

<sup>21</sup>So Elisha left him and went back. He took his yoke of oxen and slaughtered them. He burned the plowing equipment to cook the meat and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out to follow Elijah and became his servant.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm of the Day

***Psalm 62B*** | *Rest in God Alone*  
(Printed on **page 11**)

## Second Reading

*2 Corinthians 11:21b–30*

***The grace Christ had shown to Paul moved him to be committed, no matter the personal cost***

Whatever anyone else dares to boast about—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast about. <sup>22</sup>Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they Abraham’s descendants? So am I. <sup>23</sup>Are they servants of Christ? (I am out of my mind to talk like this.) I am more. I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. <sup>24</sup>Five times I

received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. <sup>25</sup>Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, <sup>26</sup>I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. <sup>27</sup>I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked. <sup>28</sup>Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my concern for all the churches. <sup>29</sup>Who is weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn?

<sup>30</sup>If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Acclamation

After a short introduction, the **Congregation** sings:



**C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!**



**These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that**



**Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.**



**Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!**

## Gospel Reading

Luke 9:51-62

***Jesus teaches that following him means leaving this world behind***

<sup>51</sup>As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup>And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; <sup>53</sup>but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup>When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, “Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?” <sup>55</sup>But Jesus turned and rebuked them. <sup>56</sup>Then he and his disciples went to another village.

<sup>57</sup>As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.”

<sup>58</sup>Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.”

<sup>59</sup>He said to another man, “Follow me.”

But he replied, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”

<sup>60</sup>Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”

<sup>61</sup>Still another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family.”

<sup>62</sup>Jesus replied, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

*10:30 Service*

## Children's Church

*Children ages 3-5 can be dismissed to the 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

**CW711** | *Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult*

## **“Don’t Be So Reasonable!”**

*2 Timothy 1:3–10*

### **Confession of Faith**

*The Apostle's 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.**

### **Thank 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 Jacksonville, St. Johns County, 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 basket on the back (blue) table. You can also scan the QR code on the left to fill out an online Connection Card.*

### **Prayer of the Church**

**Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.**

**We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.**

**You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.**



**We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.**

Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

**Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.**

Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

**Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

**We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.**

## **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.**

## **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 + give you peace.

**Amen.**

---



### Serving in Worship

#### ***Pastor***

*Rev. Benjamin Zahn*

*Pastor Zahn serves Amazing Grace Lutheran Church in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. He also serves as the Chairman of the South Atlantic District Mission Board. Victory thanks him for his service this morning as guest preacher.*

#### ***Lead Accompanist***

*Ms. Jeanine Heller*

#### ***Accompanist***

*Mrs. Kathy Roy*

### Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Liturgical and musical settings of Scripture based on text from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House. Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

#### **For reflection based on today's Scripture readings...**

- 1<sup>st</sup>: What was Elisha's attitude toward work and family? How was Elisha equipped for his new role? How are we equipped for the role of being God's spokespeople, something people can neglect to remember? Read 2 Timothy 2:14–26.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: If you want to boast about your good deeds, Paul would say keep what in mind? Boasting about your accomplishments is like (finish the thought). See 2 Corinthians 10–11.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: Why do you think James and John reacted the way they did? What lessons can we learn from their zeal, and also the way Jesus answered them? What excuses are you hearing on why people are not connected to Jesus? See 1 John 2:15–17.

# Psalm of the Day

*Psalm 62B | Rest in God Alone*

## Congregation

### Refrain



### Tone



Truly my soul finds / rest in God;  
my salvation / comes from him.  
Truly he is my rock and my sal- / vation;  
he is my fortress, I will never be / shaken.  
Yes, my soul, find / rest in God;  
my hope / comes from him. **Refrain**

Though your rich- / es increase,  
do not set your / heart on them.  
My salvation and my honor de- / pend on God;  
he is my mighty rock, my / refuge.  
Trust in him at all times, you / people;  
pour out your hearts to him, for God is our / refuge.  
**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: Lectionary for Mass

Tune: Luke Mayernik

Text: © 1969, 1981, 1997 ICEL (refrain). Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716703

Tune: © 2017 Birnamwood Publications, a division of MorningStar Music Publishers, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716703

Setting: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 716703



## **Sunday Service Times**

8:00am Worship

9:15am Bible Class and Sunday School

10:30am Worship with Livestream

## **Contact Information**

Brad Smith, Office Manager — (904) 642-8900  
[office@victorylutheran.org](mailto:office@victorylutheran.org)

Jonathan Kolander, Pastor — (414) 510-0971  
[pastork@victorylutheran.org](mailto:pastork@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.

