



On Heavenly Treasure

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 10, 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 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 Heavenly Treasure

Last week, Jesus warned us against overvaluing earthly wealth. This week, Jesus warns against undervaluing heavenly treasure. Last week, Jesus exposed the folly of greed. This week, Jesus exposes the folly of worry, even when faced with the prospect of having a seeming shortage of resources. This week might be the bigger challenge! When it seems we lack providence or protection for our daily lives, it can be hard to avoid worry. So, Jesus asks us to give our undivided attention to him, that he might take our worries away. Jesus points to creatures that do not labor or toil, yet eat every day. Even more, Jesus points to our Father who promises to give us the heavenly treasures of his kingdom. Jesus assures us that our Father will throw in any needed earthly possessions as well. We can rest from our worries, confident that our loving Father knows all we need.

Preservice Music

My Jesus, I Love Thee

The Service: Setting One

Our Path for Worship

Minister: We worship today in the name of the Father and of
the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.



O Lord, keep our ears attentive to your Word through word and song,
and accept our words of thanks and praise.

For the LORD is good and his love endures forever;
his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Opening Hymn

CW828 | *Where Your Treasure Is*

Confession of Sins

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love.

According to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: 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, 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.

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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 mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

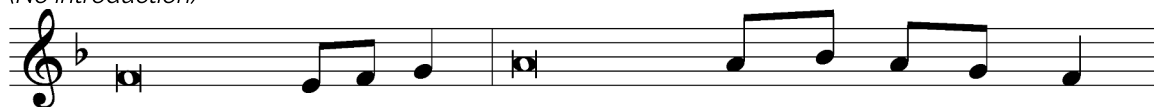
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Glory Be to God on High

Gloria in Excelsis

(No introduction)



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,



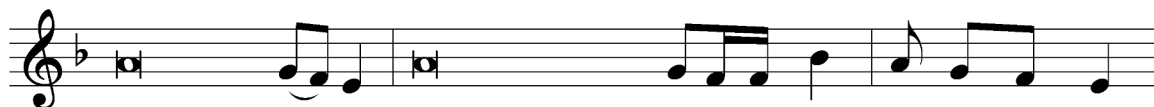
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



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;



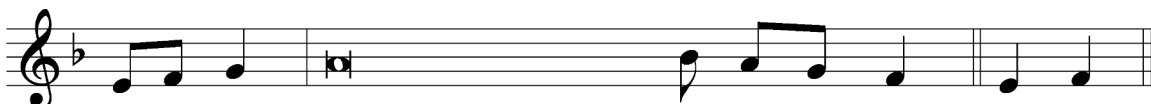
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



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.

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and willing to give far more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except through the merits and mediation of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Genesis 15:1–6

In faith, Abram treasured all the LORD's gracious promises

¹After this, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision:

“Do not be afraid, Abram.
I am your shield,
your very great reward.”

²But Abram said, “Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”

⁴Then the word of the LORD came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” ⁵He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.”

⁶Abram believed the LORD, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms of the Day

Psalms 121 | *I Lift Up My Eyes to the Mountains*

Second Reading

Hebrews 11:1–3, 8–16

The gift of faith allows us to see the treasure in the city whose architect and builder is God

¹Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

²This is what the ancients were commended for.

³By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

⁸By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. ⁹By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. ¹²And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

¹³All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. ¹⁴People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 12:32

Congregation



Refrain



Al - le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone

Do not be afraid, lit - tle flock, *Refrain*

for your Father has been pleased to give you the king - dom.

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

Gospel Reading

Luke 12:22–34

Jesus assures us that we have a Father in heaven who knows what we need better than we do

²²Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. ²³For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. ²⁴Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! ²⁵Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? ²⁶Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

²⁷“Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ²⁸If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! ²⁹And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. ³⁰For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Children's Message

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

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

CW800 | *How Firm a Foundation*

Sermon

Pastor Jonathan Kolander

“Keep Big-Picture Focused”

Luke 12:22–34

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.

Thank Offering

To show our thanks to God for his generosity toward us, we gather this thank offering to support our Gospel-focused ministry in the Jacksonville area and beyond. See our website for other ways to support Victory's ministry and mission. If you want to give your thank offering online, you may use 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.

Offertory

Sung by our vocalists

I Belong to the Lord

The One who made the heavens, made my heart and soul
Before I drew a breath, I was loved and known
I am His creation, the Maker's masterpiece
And all that He designs will be done in me

My body is a temple of the living God
I'll worship in this house that His blood has bought
As I bear His image, oh, may I not profane
The holiness I hold in this earthly frame

Refrain

I belong to the Lord, oh, I am not my own I belong to the Lord, I am not my own
I will honor Him for this I know I belong to the Lord, I am not my own

And if He has redeemed me, I am not my own
The measure of my worth is His love alone
He declares my standing, and He declares my state
So I will know myself by the name He gave **Refrain**

I am not my own and now my heart is free
O Maker, come and make what You will of me
There is nothing broken that You cannot repair
So Lord, I leave my life in Your loving care **Refrain**

I will honor Him for this I know I belong to the Lord, I am not my own

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.

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. 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.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

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.

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.

Responsive Sentences

Psalm 98

Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.

The LORD has made his salvation known
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth,
burst into jubilant song with music;

make music to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of singing.

Shout for joy before the LORD, the King.
He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

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.

Closing Hymn

CW602 | *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*
vs. 1, 3 and refrains: Congregation
v. 2: Vocalists



Postlude

Praise to the Lord the Almighty

Serving in Worship

Pastor

Lead Accompanist

Vocalists

Accompanist

Violinist

Rev. Jonathan Kolander

Ms. Jeanine Heller

Mrs. Jenny Kolander

Miss Annelyse Bond

Mrs. Kathy Roy

Mrs. Leah Mielke

Acknowledgments

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I Belong to the Lord, lyrics © So Essential Tunes.

Next Sunday, August 17

Preschool Ministry Sunday!

Join us next Sunday, August 17th for a celebration of our preschool ministry! Our new director, Mrs. Katie Seelman will be installed in the 10:30am service. We will also take the opportunity to thank our previous director, Mrs. Anne Grotefend, and teacher, Mrs. Heather Krull for their faithful service to both their Savior and to Victory in their respective roles.

As we gear up for another school year in God's grace, we also invite you to join us for food and fellowship with congregation and preschool families after the 10:30am service. Please bring a finger-food dish to pass!

Please RSVP for after-service fellowship to Director Katie Seelman by Friday, August 15.

Email: director@victorylutheran.org or phone: (904) 955-1926



MY WORSHIP NOTES



For children to use during worship.

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

What is the name of the church season or special day today? _____

What is the color of the church today? Circle one:

Blue White Purple Red Green

The Sermon Text Was: _____

This is in the: ☐ Old Testament ☐ New Testament



What was the sermon about? _____



My favorite song today was:



Did we have a Sacrament today?



Baptism?

☐ Yes
☐ No



Communion?

☐ Yes
☐ No

Draw a picture of something you heard or saw today:

What did you learn about God today?

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

- 1st: How does God set the stage for what He has to say to Abram? How does Abram show the utmost respect for God? How do you show respect for God? The ability to believe like this comes from...(finish). Why then do we struggle to believe? Read Matthew 10.
- 2nd: What do you like about this definition of faith? What word or words would you use to describe the life, or faith, of Abraham? How are the words of this section contrary to our way of thinking and living? Read Philippians 3.
- 3rd: What causes you to worry? If you were to give advice based on these words of Jesus, what would that advice be? How do we 'seek His kingdom first'? What is yours in abundance? Read Matthew 6.

Upcoming Service Themes

New Worship Series: **Wounds that Heal**



Aug. 17	God's Word Divides
Aug. 24	The Door Is Very Narrow
Aug. 31	Those Who Exalt Themselves Will Be Humbled
Sept. 7	Count the Cost
Sept. 14	The Found are Left; the Lost are Found
Sept. 21	No One Can Serve Two Masters
Sept. 28	What Helps in Life Fails in Death



Sunday Service Times

8:00am Worship

9:15am Bible Class and Sunday School

10:30am Worship with Livestream

Contact Information

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jmielke@victorylutheran.org

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Brad Smith, Office Manager — (904) 642-8900

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



WELS
Christ's Love, Our Calling.