

# The Sundays after Pentecost

*Scripture Selections from the Evangelical Heritage Version<sup>®</sup>  
following the Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A*

*Revised March 29, 2017*

# Holy Trinity Sunday (The First Sunday after Pentecost)

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### Genesis 1:1-2:3

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>The earth was undeveloped and empty. Darkness covered the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

<sup>3</sup>God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. <sup>4</sup>God saw that the light was good. He separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.” There was evening and there was morning—the first day.

<sup>6</sup>God said, “Let there be an expanse between the waters, and let it separate the water from the water.” <sup>7</sup>God made the expanse, and he separated the water that was below the expanse from the water that was above the expanse, and it was so. <sup>8</sup>God called the expanse “sky.” There was evening and there was morning—the second day.

<sup>9</sup>God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together to one place, and let the dry land appear,” and it was so. The waters under the sky gathered to their own places, and the dry land appeared. <sup>10</sup>God called the dry ground “land,” and the gathering places of the waters he called “seas.” God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup>God said, “Let the earth produce plants—vegetation that produces seed, and trees that bear fruit with its seed in it—each according to its own kind on the earth,” and it was so. <sup>12</sup>The earth brought forth plants, vegetation that produces seed according to its own kind, and trees that bear fruit with its seed in it, each according to its own kind, and God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup>There was evening and there was morning—the third day.

<sup>14</sup>God said, “Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to divide the day from the night, and let them serve as markers to indicate seasons, days, and years. <sup>15</sup>Let them serve as lights in the expanse of the sky to give light to the earth,” and it was so. <sup>16</sup>God made the two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night. He also made the stars. <sup>17</sup>God set these lights in place in the expanse of the sky to provide light for the earth, <sup>18</sup>to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness. God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>There was evening and there was morning—the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup>God said, “Let the waters swarm with living creatures, and let birds and other winged creatures fly above the earth in the open expanse of the sky.” <sup>21</sup>God created the large sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their own kind, and every winged bird according to its own kind. God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup>God blessed them when he said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the waters of the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” <sup>23</sup>There was evening and there was morning—the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup>God said, “Let the earth produce living creatures according to their own kind, livestock, creeping things, and wild animals according to their own kind,” and it was so. <sup>25</sup>God made the wild

animals according to their own kind, and the livestock according to their own kind, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its own kind. God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup>God said, “Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the sky, and over the livestock, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that crawls on the earth.”

<sup>27</sup>God created the man in his own image.

In the image of God he created him.

Male and female he created them.

<sup>28</sup>God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” <sup>29</sup>God said, “Look, I have given you every plant that produces seed on the face of the whole earth, and every tree that bears fruit that produces seed. It will be your food. <sup>30</sup>To every animal of the earth, and to every bird of the sky, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.

<sup>31</sup>God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. There was evening and there was morning—the sixth day.

<sup>1</sup>The heavens and the earth were finished, along with everything in them. <sup>2</sup>On the seventh day God had finished his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had been doing. <sup>3</sup>God blessed the seventh day and set it apart as holy, because on it he rested from all his work of creation that he had done.

## Second Lesson

### 2 Corinthians 13:11-14

<sup>11</sup>Finally, brothers, rejoice. Set things in order. Be encouraged. Agree with one another. Be at peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.

<sup>12</sup>Greet one another with a holy kiss. <sup>13</sup>All the saints greet you.

<sup>14</sup>The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

## Gospel

### Matthew 28:16-20

<sup>16</sup>The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshipped him, but some hesitated because they were uncertain. <sup>18</sup>Jesus approached and spoke to them saying, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and gather disciples from all nations by baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and by teaching them to keep all the instructions I have given you. And surely I am with you always until the end of the age.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*



# The Second Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A*  
*Evangelical Heritage Version*®

## First Lesson

**Deuteronomy 11:18–21, 26–28**

<sup>18</sup>Put these words of mine in your hearts and in your soul, and tie them on your wrists as signs and as symbols on your forehead. <sup>19</sup>Teach them to your children by talking about them when you sit in your house and when you travel on the road, when you lie down and when you get up. <sup>20</sup>Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, <sup>21</sup>so that your days and the days of your children may be many on the land that the LORD promises to your fathers with an oath, as many as the days that the heavens remain over the earth.

<sup>26</sup>You see, I am placing before you today a blessing and a curse: <sup>27</sup>the blessing, if you listen to the commandments of the LORD your God that I am giving you today, <sup>28</sup>or the curse, if you do not listen to the commandments of the LORD your God and you turn away from the path that I am commanding you today by walking after other gods whom you did not know.

## Second Lesson

**Romans 3:21–25a, 27–28**

<sup>21</sup>But now, completely apart from the law, a righteousness from God has been made known. The Law and the Prophets testify to it. <sup>22</sup>This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all and over all who believe.

In fact, there is no difference, <sup>23</sup>because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God <sup>24</sup>and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God publicly displayed as the atonement seat through faith in his blood.

<sup>27</sup>What happens to boasting then? It has been eliminated. By what principle—by the principle of works? No, but by the principle of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we conclude that a person is justified by faith without the works of the law.

## Gospel

**Matthew 7:15–29**

<sup>15</sup>“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. <sup>16</sup>By their fruit you will recognize them. You do not gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles, do you? <sup>17</sup>So then, every good tree produces good fruit, but a bad tree produces bad fruit. <sup>18</sup>A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot produce good fruit. <sup>19</sup>Every tree that does not produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. <sup>20</sup>So then, by their fruit you will recognize them. <sup>21</sup>Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. <sup>22</sup>Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and drive out demons in your name and perform

many miracles in your name?’ <sup>23</sup>Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Depart from me, you evildoers.’

<sup>24</sup>“Everyone who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on bedrock. <sup>25</sup>The rain came down, the rivers rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house. But it did not fall, because it was founded on bedrock. <sup>26</sup>Everyone who hears these words of mine but does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. <sup>27</sup>The rain came down, the rivers rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—it was completely destroyed.”

<sup>28</sup>When Jesus finished speaking these words, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, <sup>29</sup>because he taught them as one who had authority, and not like their experts in the law.

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

# The Third Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### Hosea 5:15-6:6

<sup>15</sup>“I will go. I will return to my place until they are judged guilty,  
and they seek my face in their distress.

They will seek me eagerly.”

<sup>6:1</sup>Come, let us return to the LORD.

He himself has torn us,  
but he will heal us.

He is wounding us,  
but he will bandage us.

<sup>2</sup>He will restore us to life after two days.

On the third day he will raise us so that we may live before him.

<sup>3</sup>We will know.

We will pursue knowledge of the LORD.

His coming forth is as sure as the coming of dawn.

He comes to us like the rain,  
like the spring rain that waters the earth.

<sup>4</sup>“What will I do to you, Ephraim?

What will I do to you, Judah?

Your loyalty is like a mist in the morning,  
like early morning dew that goes away.

<sup>5</sup>That is why I have cut them into pieces by the prophets.

I have killed them by the words of my mouth.

The judgments against you are spreading out like light.

<sup>6</sup>I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,  
knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.”

## Second Lesson

### Romans 4:18–25

<sup>18</sup>Hoping beyond what he could expect, he believed that he would become the father of many nations, just as he was told: “This is how many your descendants will be.” <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith, even though he considered his own body as good as dead (because he was about one hundred years old), and even though he considered Sarah’s womb to be dead. <sup>20</sup>He did not waver in unbelief with respect to God’s promise, but he grew strong in faith, giving glory to God <sup>21</sup>and being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.”

<sup>23</sup>Now the statement “it was credited to him” was not written for him alone, <sup>24</sup>but also for us to whom it would be credited, namely, to us who believe in the one who raised our Lord Jesus from the dead. <sup>25</sup>He was handed over to death because of our trespasses and was raised to life because of our justification.

## Gospel

### Matthew 9:9–13

<sup>9</sup>As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting in the tax collector’s booth. He said to him, “Follow me.” Matthew got up and followed him.

<sup>10</sup>As Jesus was reclining at the table in Matthew’s house, many tax collectors and sinners were actually there too, eating with Jesus and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”

<sup>12</sup>When Jesus heard this, he said to them, “The healthy do not need a physician, but the sick do. <sup>13</sup>Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ In fact, I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*



# The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

**Exodus 19:2–8a**

<sup>2</sup>After they set out from Rephidim and came to the Wilderness of Sinai, they camped in the wilderness. Israel camped there in front of the mountain.

<sup>3</sup>Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, “This is what you are to say to the house of Jacob and to tell the people of Israel: <sup>4</sup>‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now if you will carefully listen to my voice and keep my covenant, then you will be my special treasure out of all the nations, although the entire earth is mine. <sup>6</sup>You will be my kingdom of priests and my holy nation.’ These are the words that you are to speak to the Israelites.”

<sup>7</sup>Moses went and summoned the elders of the people, and he set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. <sup>8</sup>All the people answered together, “Everything that the LORD has said, we will do.”

## Second Lesson

**Romans 5:6–11**

<sup>6</sup>For at the appointed time, while we were still helpless, Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>It is rare indeed that someone will die for a righteous person. Perhaps someone might actually go so far as to die for a person who has been good to him. <sup>8</sup>But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

<sup>9</sup>Therefore, since we have now been justified by his blood, it is even more certain that we will be saved from God’s wrath through him. <sup>10</sup>For if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, it is even more certain that, since we have been reconciled, we will be saved by his life. <sup>11</sup>And not only is this so, but we also go on rejoicing confidently in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received this reconciliation.

## Gospel

**Matthew 9:35–10:8**

<sup>35</sup>Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every sickness.

<sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he was moved with compassion for them, because they were troubled and downcast, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. <sup>38</sup>Therefore pray that the Lord of the harvest will send out workers into his harvest.”

<sup>10:1</sup>Jesus called his twelve disciples to himself and gave them authority to drive out unclean spirits and to heal every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup>These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon

(who is called Peter) and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee and his brother John; <sup>3</sup>Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup>Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

<sup>5</sup>Jesus sent these twelve out and commanded them, “Do not go among the Gentiles, and do not enter any town of the Samaritans. <sup>6</sup>Go instead to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>As you go, preach this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven is near!’ <sup>8</sup>Heal the sick. Raise the dead. Cleanse lepers. Drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

# The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### Jeremiah 20:7-13

<sup>7</sup>You persuaded me, LORD, and I was persuaded.  
You are stronger than I am, and you prevailed.  
I have become a laughingstock all day long,  
and everyone mocks me.

<sup>8</sup>Whenever I speak, I call out.  
I call out, "Violence and destruction!"  
because the word of the LORD has brought me  
insult and mockery all day long.

<sup>9</sup>If I say, "I will not mention him  
or speak in his name any more,"  
then there is a burning fire in my heart,  
shut up in my bones,  
and I am weary of holding it in.

I cannot!  
<sup>10</sup>I hear many whispering,  
"Terror on every side!"  
"Denounce him! Let's denounce him,"  
say all my close friends,  
those who are watching for my fall.  
"Perhaps he will be persuaded,  
then we will prevail against him  
and we will take our revenge on him."

<sup>11</sup>But the LORD is with me like a fearsome warrior.  
So my persecutors will stumble  
and they will not prevail.  
They will be utterly ashamed  
because they have failed.  
Their eternal dishonor  
will never be forgotten.

<sup>12</sup>LORD of Armies, you who test the righteous,  
who see the heart and the mind,  
let me see your vengeance on them,  
for I have revealed my cause to you.

<sup>13</sup>Sing to the LORD!  
Praise the LORD,

for he has delivered the life of the needy  
from the grasp of the wicked.

## Second Lesson

### Romans 5:12–15

<sup>12</sup>So then, just as sin entered the world through one man and death through sin, so also death spread to all people because all sinned. <sup>13</sup>For even before the law was given, sin was in the world. Now, sin is not charged to one's account if there is no law, <sup>14</sup>and yet death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those whose sin was not like the transgression of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup>But the gracious gift is not like Adam's trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of this one man, it is even more certain that God's grace, and the gift given by the grace of the one man Jesus Christ, overflowed to the many!

## Gospel

### Matthew 10:24–33

<sup>24</sup>“A disciple is not above his teacher, nor is a servant above his master. <sup>25</sup>It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher and the servant like his master. If the master of the house was called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

<sup>26</sup>“So do not be afraid of them, because there is nothing concealed that will not be revealed, and nothing hidden that will not be made known. <sup>27</sup>What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim from the housetops. <sup>28</sup>Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, fear the one who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

<sup>29</sup>“Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground without the knowledge and consent of your Father. <sup>30</sup>And even the hairs of your head are all numbered. <sup>31</sup>So do not be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows.

<sup>32</sup>“Everyone who confesses me before others, I will also confess before my Father who is in heaven. <sup>33</sup>But whoever denies me before others, I will also deny before my Father who is in heaven.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

# The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A*  
*Evangelical Heritage Version*®

## First Lesson

### Jeremiah 28:5-9

<sup>5</sup>Then the prophet Jeremiah replied to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD. <sup>6</sup>He said, "Amen! May the LORD do so! May the LORD fulfill the words you have prophesied and bring back the vessels of the LORD's house, and may he bring back all the exiles from Babylon to this place. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless, listen now to what I have to say in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup>The prophets from ancient times who came before you and me prophesied war, famine, and plague against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup>As for the prophet who prophesies peace, only when the word of that prophet actually happens will that prophet become known as someone whom the Lord has truly sent."

## Second Lesson

### Romans 6:1b-11

Shall we keep on sinning so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup>Absolutely not! We died to sin. How can we go on living in it any longer? <sup>3</sup>Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were therefore buried with him by this baptism into his death, so that just as he was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too would also walk in a new life.

<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in the likeness of his death, we will certainly also be united with him in the likeness of his resurrection.

<sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him, to make our sinful body powerless, so that we would not continue to serve sin. <sup>7</sup>For the person who has died has been declared free from sin. <sup>8</sup>And since we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that since Christ has been raised from the dead, he will never die again. Death no longer has control over him. <sup>10</sup>For the death he died, he died to sin once and for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>In the same way also consider yourselves dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

## Gospel

### Matthew 10:34-42

<sup>34</sup>"Do not think that I came to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup>For I came to turn a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. <sup>36</sup>A man's enemies will be the members of his own household.

<sup>37</sup>"Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. <sup>38</sup>Whoever does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

<sup>40</sup>“Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me.  
<sup>41</sup>Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward. Whoever receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man’s reward.  
<sup>42</sup>Whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink because he is my disciple—Amen<sup>a</sup> I tell you—he will never lose his reward.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

---

<sup>a</sup> Usually, people say *Amen* at the end of a prayer. But Jesus used this Hebrew word at the beginning of a statement, which was unique. The inspired writer simply transliterated the Hebrew word that Jesus spoke, instead of using a Greek term. This translation does the same in English. The basic meaning is *I solemnly tell you the truth*. For more information about this, see FAQ #1 at [wartburgproject.org/faqs](http://wartburgproject.org/faqs)

# The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### Exodus 33:12–23

<sup>12</sup>Moses said to the LORD, “Look, you yourself have been telling me, ‘Lead this people up,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, ‘I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ <sup>13</sup>So now if I have found favor in your sight, please show me your ways, so that I may know you, so that I may find favor in your sight. Consider that this nation is your people.”

<sup>14</sup>The LORD said, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

<sup>15</sup>Moses said to him, “If your Presence is not going to go with me, do not send us up from here. <sup>16</sup>After all, how would people know that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Isn’t it in this way: that you go with us, so that we are distinguished, I and your people, from all the people who are on the face of the earth?”

<sup>17</sup>The LORD said to Moses, “I will also do this thing that you have said, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.”

<sup>18</sup>Then Moses said, “Please show me your glory.”

<sup>19</sup>The LORD said, “I will make all my goodness pass in front of you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD in your presence. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will show mercy to whom I will show mercy.” <sup>20</sup>He said, “You cannot see my face, for no human may see me and live.”

<sup>21</sup>The LORD also said, “Look, there is a place next to me, where you shall stand on the rock. <sup>22</sup>It will happen that, while my glory passes by, I will put you in a crevice in the rock. I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. <sup>23</sup>Then I will take away my hand, and you will see my back. But my face will not be seen.”

## Second Lesson

### Romans 7:15–25a

<sup>15</sup>For I do not understand what I am doing, because I do not keep doing what I want. Instead, I do what I hate. <sup>16</sup>And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup>But now it is no longer I who am doing it, but it is sin living in me. <sup>18</sup>Indeed, I know that good does not live in me, that is, in my sinful flesh. The desire to do good is present with me, but I am not able to carry it out. <sup>19</sup>So I fail to do the good I want to do. Instead, the evil I do not want to do, that is what I keep doing. <sup>20</sup>Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who am doing it, but it is sin living in me.

<sup>21</sup>So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is present with me. <sup>22</sup>I certainly delight in God’s law according to my inner self, <sup>23</sup>but I see a different law at work in my members, waging war against the law of my mind and taking me captive to the law of sin, which is present in my members. <sup>24</sup>What a miserable wretch I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25</sup>I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

# Gospel

## Matthew 11:25–30

<sup>25</sup>At that time, Jesus continued, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from clever and learned people and have revealed them to little children. <sup>26</sup>Yes, Father, because this was pleasing to you. <sup>27</sup>Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wants to reveal him.

<sup>28</sup>“Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*



# The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

**Isaiah 55:10-11**

<sup>10</sup>Just as the rain and the snow come down from the sky  
and do not return there unless they water the earth,  
make it give birth, and cause it to sprout,  
and it gives seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
<sup>11</sup>so it will be with my Word that goes forth from my mouth.  
It will not return to me empty.  
Rather, it will accomplish whatever I please,  
and it will succeed in the purpose for which I sent it.

## Second Lesson

**Romans 8:18–25**

<sup>18</sup>For I conclude that our sufferings at the present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>In fact, creation is waiting with eager longing for the sons of God to be revealed. <sup>20</sup>For creation was subjected to futility, not by its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in the hope <sup>21</sup>that even creation itself will be set free from slavery to corruption, in order to share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.

<sup>22</sup>For we know that all of creation is groaning with birth pains right up to the present time. <sup>23</sup>And not only creation, but also we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we eagerly await our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body. <sup>24</sup>Indeed, it was for this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is not hope, because who hopes for what he already sees? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for something we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with patient endurance.

## Gospel

**Matthew 13:1–9, 18-23**

That same day Jesus left the house and was sitting by the sea. <sup>2</sup>A large crowd gathered around him. So he stepped into a boat and sat down, while all the people stood on the shore. <sup>3</sup>He told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen, a sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>As he sowed, some seed fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it. <sup>5</sup>Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil. Immediately the seed sprang up, because the soil was not deep. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun rose, the seed was scorched. Because it had no root, it withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seed fell among thorns. The thorns grew up and choked it. <sup>8</sup>But some seed fell on good ground and produced grain: some one hundred times, some sixty, and some thirty times more than was sown. <sup>9</sup>Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear.

<sup>18</sup>“So listen carefully to the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the Evil One comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is the seed that was sown along the path. <sup>20</sup>The seed that was sown on rocky ground is the person who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup>yet he is not deeply rooted and does not endure. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup>The seed that was sown among the thorns is the one who hears the word, but the worry of this world and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, and it produces no fruit. <sup>23</sup>But the seed that was sown on the good ground is the one who continues to hear and understand the word. Indeed he continues to produce fruit: some a hundred, some sixty, and some thirty times more than was sown.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

# The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### Joel 3:12-16

<sup>12</sup>Let the nations be roused.

Let them advance into the Valley of Jehoshaphat,  
for there I will sit to judge all the nations.

<sup>13</sup>Swing the sickle,

for the harvest is ripe.

Come, trample the grapes,

for the winepress is full and the vats overflow,  
because their wickedness is so great!

<sup>14</sup>Multitudes, multitudes in the Valley of Decision!

For the Day of the LORD is near in the Valley of Decision.

<sup>15</sup>The sun and moon will be darkened,  
and the stars will stop shining.

<sup>16</sup>The LORD will roar from Zion  
and shout from Jerusalem.

The sky and the earth will tremble.

But the LORD will be a refuge for his people,  
a stronghold for the people of Israel.

## Second Lesson

### Romans 8:26–27

<sup>26</sup>In the same way the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we should pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that are not expressed in words. <sup>27</sup>And he who searches our hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints, according to God's will.

## Gospel

### Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

<sup>24</sup>He presented another parable to them: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. <sup>25</sup>But while people were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. <sup>26</sup>When the plants sprouted and produced heads of grain, the weeds also appeared. <sup>27</sup>The servants of the owner came and said to him, 'Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where did the weeds come from?' <sup>28</sup>He said to them, 'An enemy did this.' The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and gather up the weeds?' <sup>29</sup>'No,' he answered, 'because when you gather up the weeds, you might pull up the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both grow together until the

harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “First, gather up the weeds, bind them in bundles, and burn them. Then, gather the wheat into my barn.””

<sup>36</sup>Then Jesus sent the people away and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.”

<sup>37</sup>He answered them, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>The field is the world. The good seeds are the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the Evil One. <sup>39</sup>The enemy who sowed them is the Devil. The harvest is the end of the world. The reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup>Therefore, just as the weeds are gathered up and burned with fire, so it will be at the end of the world. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will pull out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and those who continue to break the law. <sup>42</sup>The angels will throw them into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup>Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

# The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### 1 Kings 3:5-12

<sup>5</sup>The LORD appeared to Solomon in Gibeon in a dream at night.

God said, “Ask for whatever you want me to give you.”

<sup>6</sup>Solomon said, “You have shown great mercy and faithfulness to your servant, my father David, just as he walked before you in truth, righteousness, and uprightness of heart toward you. You have shown this great mercy and faithfulness to him and have given him a son who is seated on his throne to this very day. <sup>7</sup>O LORD my God, now you have made your servant king in the place of my father David, but I am a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And I, your servant, am among your people whom you have chosen, a great people, who cannot be counted or numbered because they are so many. <sup>9</sup>Now give to your servant a perceptive heart to judge your people, to distinguish between good and evil, for who is able to judge this great people of yours?”

<sup>10</sup>In the eyes of the LORD, Solomon’s request was good. <sup>11</sup>So God said to him, “Because you have asked for this, and you have not asked for a long life, nor have you asked for riches, nor have you asked for the lives of your enemies, but you have asked for discernment to reach just verdicts, <sup>12</sup>therefore I will act according your words. Yes, I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you before you, nor will anyone like you rise up after you.

## Second Lesson

### Romans 8:28–30

<sup>28</sup>We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose, <sup>29</sup>because those God foreknew, he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he would be the firstborn among many brothers. <sup>30</sup>And those he predestined, he also called. Those he called, he also justified. And those he justified, he also glorified.

## Gospel

### Matthew 13:44–52

<sup>44</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid again. In his joy, he goes away and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls. <sup>46</sup>When he found one very valuable pearl, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. <sup>48</sup>When the net was filled, they pulled it onto the shore. They sat down and gathered the good fish into containers, but threw the bad ones away. <sup>49</sup>That is how it will be at the end of the world. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous who are among them.

<sup>50</sup>And they will throw the wicked into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” <sup>51</sup>Jesus said to them, “Did you understand all these things?”

They answered him, “Yes.”

<sup>52</sup>He said to them, “Therefore every expert in the law who has been trained as a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his treasure both new things and old things.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

# The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### Isaiah 55:1-5

Hey, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters,  
even everyone who has no money!  
Come, buy and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.  
<sup>2</sup>Why do you spend money on what is not bread,  
and waste your labor on something that does not satisfy?  
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good.  
Satisfy your appetite with rich food.  
<sup>3</sup>Incline your ear, and come to me.  
Listen well so that you may come to life.  
Yes, I surely will make an everlasting covenant with you,  
the faithful mercies promised to David.  
<sup>4</sup>Look, I appointed him as a witness for peoples,  
a leader and commander of peoples.  
<sup>5</sup>Look, you will call out to a nation you do not know,  
and a nation that does not know you will run to you  
on account of the LORD your God,  
and the Holy One of Israel,  
because he glorified you.

## Second Lesson

### Romans 8:35–39

<sup>35</sup>What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will trouble or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup>Just as it is written:  
For your sake we are being put to death all day long.  
We are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.  
<sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.  
<sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor rulers, neither things present nor things to come, nor powerful forces, <sup>39</sup>neither height nor depth, nor anything else in creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

# Gospel

## Matthew 14:13–21

<sup>13</sup>When Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place to be alone. When the crowds heard this, they followed him on foot from the towns.

<sup>14</sup>When Jesus got out of the boat, he saw a large crowd. He had compassion on them and healed their sick. <sup>15</sup>When evening came, his disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place and the hour is already late. Send the crowds away, so that they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves.”

<sup>16</sup>But Jesus said to them, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

<sup>17</sup>They told him, “We have here only five loaves and two fish.”

<sup>18</sup>“Bring them here to me,” he replied. <sup>19</sup>Then he instructed the people to sit down on the grass. He took the five loaves and the two fish. After looking up to heaven, he blessed them. He broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples. The disciples gave the food to the people. <sup>20</sup>They all ate and were filled. They picked up twelve basketfuls of what was left over from the broken pieces. <sup>21</sup>Those who ate were about five thousand men, not even counting women and children.

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*



# The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### 1 Kings 19:9-18

<sup>9</sup>He came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD suddenly came to him saying, “Why are you here, Elijah?”

<sup>10</sup>He said, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of Armies, but the people of Israel have abandoned your covenant. They have torn down your altars and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking to take my life.”

<sup>11</sup>Then the LORD said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is passing by.” Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains and shattered rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind.

After the wind came an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake.

<sup>12</sup>After the earthquake there was a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire.

After the fire there was a soft, whispering voice.

<sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak, and he went out and stood at the entrance to the cave. Then a voice came to him and said, “Why are you here, Elijah?”

<sup>14</sup>He said, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of Armies, but the people of Israel have abandoned your covenant. They have torn down your altars and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking to take my life.”

<sup>15</sup>Then the LORD said to him, “Go back the way you came and go to the Wilderness of Damascus. When you get there, you are to anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>You will also anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel and Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah as prophet in your place. <sup>17</sup>Whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill, and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill. <sup>18</sup>But I have preserved in Israel seven thousand whose knees have not bent to Baal and whose lips have not kissed him.”

## Second Lesson

### Romans 9:1-5

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying—my conscience testifies with me in the Holy Spirit <sup>2</sup>that I have great sorrow and continuous pain in my heart. <sup>3</sup>For I almost wish that I myself could be cursed and separated from Christ in place of my brothers, my relatives according to the flesh, <sup>4</sup>those who are Israelites. Theirs are the adoption as sons, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. <sup>5</sup>Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, came the Christ, who is God over all, eternally blessed. Amen.

# Gospel

## Matthew 14:22–33

<sup>22</sup>Immediately Jesus urged the disciples to get into the boat and to go ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>23</sup>After he had dismissed the crowd, he went up onto the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone. <sup>24</sup>By then the boat was quite a distance from shore, being pounded by the waves because the wind was against it. <sup>25</sup>In the fourth watch of the night, Jesus came toward them, walking on the sea. <sup>26</sup>When the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified and cried out in fear, “It’s a ghost!” <sup>27</sup>But Jesus spoke to them at once, saying, “Take heart! It is I! Do not be afraid.”

<sup>28</sup>Peter answered him and said, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.”

<sup>29</sup>Jesus said, “Come!”

Peter stepped down from the boat, walked on the water, and went toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when he saw the strong wind, he was afraid. As he began to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!”

<sup>31</sup>Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand, took hold of him, and said to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” <sup>32</sup>When they got into the boat, the wind stopped. <sup>33</sup>Those who were in the boat worshipped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God!”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

# The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

**Isaiah 56:1,6-8**

This is what the LORD says:

Protect justice, and do righteousness,  
for my salvation is coming very soon.

My righteousness is ready to be revealed.

<sup>6</sup>Then the foreigners, who join themselves to the LORD,  
to minister to him and to love the name of the LORD  
and to become his servants,

everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it,  
those who take hold of my covenant—

<sup>7</sup>I will bring them to my holy mountain,  
and I will make them glad in my house of prayer.

Their whole burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be  
acceptable upon my altar.

For my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

<sup>8</sup>This is the declaration of God the LORD,  
who gathers Israel's dispersed ones:

“I will still gather others to it besides the ones already gathered.”

## Second Lesson

**Romans 11:13–15, 28-32**

<sup>13</sup>I am speaking to you Gentiles. For as long as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I am going to speak highly of my ministry. <sup>14</sup>Perhaps I may make my own people jealous, and so save some of them. <sup>15</sup>For if their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, what does their acceptance mean other than the dead coming to life?

<sup>28</sup>In regard to the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But, in regard to election, they are especially dear for the sake of the patriarchs, <sup>29</sup>because God's gracious gifts and call are not regretted. <sup>30</sup>For just as you were once disobedient to God, but now have been shown mercy due to their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so also now they have become disobedient, so that by the mercy shown to you they may be shown mercy too. <sup>32</sup>For God imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may show mercy to all.

# Gospel

## Matthew 15:21–28

<sup>21</sup>Jesus left that place and withdrew into the region of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>There a Canaanite woman from that territory came and kept crying out, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David! A demon is severely tormenting my daughter!”

<sup>23</sup>But he did not answer her a word.

His disciples came and pleaded, “Send her away, because she keeps crying out after us.”

<sup>24</sup>He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”

<sup>25</sup>But she came and knelt in front of him, saying, “Lord, help me.”

<sup>26</sup>He answered her, “It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.”

<sup>27</sup>“Yes, Lord,” she said, “yet the dogs also eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.”

<sup>28</sup>Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, your faith is great! It will be done for you, just as you desire.” And her daughter was healed at that very hour.

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

# The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

**Exodus 6:2–8**

<sup>2</sup>Then God spoke to Moses, telling him, “I am the LORD. <sup>3</sup>I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by my name, the LORD, I was not known to them. <sup>4</sup>I also established my covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land where they were residing as aliens. <sup>5</sup>I certainly have heard the groaning of the Israelites, whom the Egyptians have enslaved, and I have remembered my covenant.

<sup>6</sup>“Therefore tell the Israelites, ‘I am the LORD. I will bring you out from under the forced labor of the Egyptians. I will deliver you from being their slaves. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment. <sup>7</sup>I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. You will know that I am the LORD your God, the one who brought you out from under the forced labor of the Egyptians. <sup>8</sup>I will bring you to the land which I swore with uplifted hand to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. I will give it to you as a possession. I am the LORD.’”

## Second Lesson

**Romans 11:33–36**

<sup>33</sup>Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

How unsearchable are his judgments  
and how untraceable his ways!

<sup>34</sup>“For who has known the mind of the Lord,  
or who has been his adviser?”

<sup>35</sup>“Or who has first given to God  
that he will be repaid?”

<sup>36</sup>For from him and through him and to him are all things.  
To him be the glory forever! Amen.

## Gospel

**Matthew 16:13–20**

<sup>13</sup>When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

<sup>14</sup>They said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

<sup>15</sup>He said to them, “But you, who do you say that I am?”

<sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

<sup>17</sup>Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build

my church, and the gates of hell will not overpower it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup>Then he commanded the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

# The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### Jeremiah 15:15-21

<sup>15</sup>LORD, you understand.  
Remember me and care for me.  
Take vengeance for me on those who persecute me.  
You are slow to anger.  
Do not take me away.  
Be mindful that I bear reproach for your sake.  
<sup>16</sup>I devoured your words when they were found.  
Your words became a joy for me,  
and a delight for my heart,  
because I bear your name,  
LORD God of Armies.  
<sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of partiers,  
nor did I celebrate.  
I sat alone because your hand was upon me.  
You filled me with indignation.  
<sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unending  
and my wound incurable, refusing to heal?  
Will you be like a deceptive brook to me,  
like a spring that dries up?  
<sup>19</sup>Therefore this is what the LORD says:  
“If you repent, I will take you back,  
so that you may stand before me.  
If you say what is valuable, and not what is worthless,  
you will be my spokesman.  
Let them turn to you,  
but you must not turn to them.  
<sup>20</sup>I will make you a bronze wall to this people.  
They will fight against you,  
but they will not overcome you,  
because I am with you to save you  
and to rescue you, declares the LORD.  
<sup>21</sup>I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked,  
and I will deliver you from the grasp of the violent.”

## Second Lesson

## **Romans 12:1–8**

Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. <sup>2</sup>Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect.

<sup>3</sup>So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you. <sup>4</sup>For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. <sup>5</sup>In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

<sup>6</sup>We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us. If the gift is prophecy, do it in complete agreement with the faith. <sup>7</sup>If it is serving, then serve. If it is teaching, then teach. <sup>8</sup>If it is encouraging, then encourage. If it is contributing, be generous. If it is leadership, be diligent. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully.

## **Gospel**

### **Matthew 16:21–26**

<sup>21</sup>From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again.

<sup>22</sup>Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “May you receive mercy, Lord! This will never happen to you.”

<sup>23</sup>But Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a snare to me because you are not thinking the things of God, but the things of men.”

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. <sup>25</sup>In fact whoever wants to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>After all, what will it benefit a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what can a person give in exchange for his soul?”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*



# The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A*  
*Evangelical Heritage Version*®

## First Lesson

### Ezekiel 33:7-11

<sup>7</sup>As for you, son of man, I have appointed you to be a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you are to warn them from me. <sup>8</sup>When I say to a wicked man, “Wicked man, you shall surely die,” if you do not speak to warn the wicked man against his way, that wicked man will die because of his guilt, but I will also hold you responsible for his blood. <sup>9</sup>But if you do warn the wicked man to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he will die because of his guilt, but you will have saved your life.

<sup>10</sup>So you, son of man, say this to the house of Israel. This is what you are saying, “Certainly our rebellions and our transgressions weigh upon us, and because of them we are rotting away. How then can we live?” <sup>11</sup>Say to them, “As surely as I live, declares the LORD God, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked. Instead I take pleasure if the wicked turn from their way and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why should you die, O house of Israel?”

## Second Lesson

### Romans 13:1–10

Everyone must submit to the governing authorities. For no authority exists except by God, and the authorities that do exist have been established by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore the one who rebels against the authority is opposing God’s institution, and those who oppose will bring judgment on themselves.

<sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to evil. Would you like to have no fear of the one in authority? Do what is good, and you will receive praise from him, <sup>4</sup>because he is God’s servant for your benefit. But if you do wrong, be afraid, because he does not carry the sword without reason. He is God’s servant, a punisher to bring wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore it is necessary to submit, not only because of wrath, but also because of conscience.

<sup>6</sup>For this reason you also pay taxes, because the authorities are God’s ministers, who are employed to do this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay what you owe to all of them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, and honor to whom honor is owed.

<sup>8</sup>Do not owe anyone anything except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>For the commandments—do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not covet (and if there is any other commandment)—are summed up in this statement: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup>Love does no harm to a neighbor, so love is the fulfillment of the law.

# Gospel

## Matthew 18:15–20

<sup>15</sup>“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his sin just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have regained your brother. <sup>16</sup>But if he will not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ <sup>17</sup>If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And, if he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as an unbeliever or a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Amen<sup>a</sup> 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>Amen I tell you again: If two of you on earth agree to ask for anything, it will be done for them by my Father who is in heaven. <sup>20</sup>In fact where two or three have gathered together in my name, there I am among them.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

---

<sup>a</sup> Usually, people say *Amen* at the end of a prayer. But Jesus used this Hebrew word at the beginning of a statement, which was unique. The inspired writer simply transliterated the Hebrew word that Jesus spoke, instead of using a Greek term. This translation does the same in English. The basic meaning is *I solemnly tell you the truth*. For more information about this, see FAQ #1 at [wartburgproject.org/faqs](http://wartburgproject.org/faqs)

# The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A*  
*Evangelical Heritage Version*®

## First Lesson

### Genesis 50:15–21

<sup>15</sup>When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and will pay us back in full for all of the evil that we did to him."

<sup>16</sup>They sent the following message to Joseph: "Before he died your father commanded us, <sup>17</sup>'You are to tell Joseph, "Please forgive the offense of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.'" Now, please forgive the offense of the servants of the God of your father."

Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

<sup>18</sup>His brothers also came and fell down in front of him, and they said, "See now, we are your servants."

<sup>19</sup>Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring this to pass and to keep many people alive, as it is this day. <sup>21</sup>Now therefore do not be afraid. I will nourish you and your little ones." He comforted them and spoke to them in a kind way.

## Second Lesson

### Romans 14:5–9

<sup>5</sup>One person values one day above another. Another person values every day the same. Let each person be fully convinced in his own mind. <sup>6</sup>The person who honors a certain day does this for the Lord, and the person who eats does this for the Lord, because he gives thanks to God. And the person who does not eat does this for the Lord and gives thanks to God.

<sup>7</sup>In fact, not one of us lives for himself, and not one dies for himself. <sup>8</sup>Indeed, if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. <sup>9</sup>For this reason he died, rose, and lived, to be Lord of both the dead and the living.

## Gospel

### Matthew 18:21–35

<sup>21</sup>Then Peter came up and asked Jesus, "Lord, how many times must I forgive my brother when he sins against me? As many as seven times?"

<sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but I tell you as many as seventy-seven times. <sup>23</sup>For this reason the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>When he began to settle them, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. <sup>25</sup>Because the man was not able to pay the debt, his master ordered that he be sold, along with his wife, children, and all that he owned to repay the debt.

<sup>26</sup>“Then the servant fell down on his knees in front of him, saying, ‘Master, be patient with me, and I will pay you everything!’ <sup>27</sup>The master of that servant had pity on him, released him, and forgave him the debt.

<sup>28</sup>“But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him one hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began choking him, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’

<sup>29</sup>“So his fellow servant fell down and begged him, saying, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back!’ <sup>30</sup>But he refused. Instead he went off and threw the man into prison until he could pay back what he owed.

<sup>31</sup>“When his fellow servants saw what had happened, they were very distressed. They went and reported to their master everything that had taken place.

<sup>32</sup>“Then his master called him in and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt when you begged me to. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>His master was angry and handed him over to the jailers until he could pay back everything he owed.

<sup>35</sup>“This is what my heavenly Father will also do to you unless each one of you forgives his brother from his heart.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

# The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

**Isaiah 55:6-9**

<sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD while he allows himself to be found!

Call on him while he is near!

<sup>7</sup>Let the wicked abandon his way.

Let an evil man abandon his thoughts,

and let him turn to the LORD, and he will show him mercy,

and let him turn to our God, because he will abundantly forgive.

<sup>8</sup>Certainly my plans are not your plans,  
and your ways are not my ways, declares the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>Just as the heavens are higher than the earth,

so my ways are higher than your ways

and my plans are higher than your plans.

## Second Lesson

**Philippians 1:18–27**

<sup>18</sup>What does it matter? Only this, that in every way, whether for outward appearance or for the truth, Christ is being proclaimed, and in this I rejoice.

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, <sup>19</sup>because I know that this will turn out for my deliverance, through your prayer and the support of the Spirit of Jesus Christ. <sup>20</sup>This matches my earnest expectation and hope that I will in no way be put to shame, but with all boldness, as always, so even now, Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup>Yes, for me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup>But if I am to go on living in the flesh, that will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet which should I prefer? I do not know. <sup>23</sup>I am pulled in two directions, because I have the desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far. <sup>24</sup>But, it is more necessary for your sake that I remain in the flesh. <sup>25</sup>And since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and will continue with all of you, for your progress and joy in the faith. <sup>26</sup>And so by my coming to you again, my goal is to give you even more reason to boast in Christ Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Just conduct yourselves in a way that is worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come to see you or am absent, I may hear about you that you are standing firm in one spirit, contending together with one soul for the faith of the gospel.

# Gospel

## Matthew 20:1–16

“Indeed the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing to pay the workers a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>He also went out about the third hour and saw others standing unemployed in the marketplace. <sup>4</sup>To these he said, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will give you whatever is right.’ So they went. <sup>5</sup>Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour and did the same thing. <sup>6</sup>When he went out about the eleventh hour, he found others standing unemployed. He said to them, ‘Why have you stood here all day unemployed?’

<sup>7</sup>“They said to him, ‘Because no one hired us.’

“He told them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ <sup>8</sup>When it was evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last group and ending with the first.’

<sup>9</sup>“When those who were hired around the eleventh hour came, they each received a denarius. <sup>10</sup>When those who were hired first came, they thought they would receive more. But they each received a denarius too. <sup>11</sup>After they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner: <sup>12</sup>‘Those who were last worked one hour, and you made them equal to us who have endured the burden of the day and the scorching heat!’

<sup>13</sup>“But he answered one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not make an agreement with me for a denarius? <sup>14</sup>Take what is yours and go. I want to give to the last one hired the same as I also gave to you. <sup>15</sup>Can’t I do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ <sup>16</sup>In the same way, the last will be first, and the first, last.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

# The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>“What do you mean, you who keep repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel:

Fathers eat sour grapes,  
and the teeth of their sons are set on edge?

<sup>3</sup>“As surely as I live, declares the LORD God, you will never again use this proverb in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Indeed, all souls are mine. The soul of the father is mine just like the soul of the son. The soul who sins is the one who will die.

<sup>25</sup>“Yet you say, ‘The LORD’s way is not fair.’ Listen now, O house of Israel: Is it my way that is not fair? Is it not your ways that are not fair? <sup>26</sup>If a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and practices unrighteousness, he will die because of it. Because of the unrighteousness that he has practiced, he will die.

<sup>27</sup>“But if a wicked man repents of his wickedness that he had done and practices justice and righteousness, he will preserve his life. <sup>28</sup>Because he has seen and repented of all the rebellious acts that he had committed, he will surely live, and he will not die. <sup>29</sup>But the house of Israel says, ‘The LORD’s way is not fair.’ Is it really my ways that are not fair, O house of Israel? Is it not your ways that are not fair?

<sup>30</sup>“Therefore, I will judge each one of you according to his ways, O house of Israel, says the LORD God. Repent and turn away from all your rebellious acts, so that you will not set out a stumbling block that makes you guilty. <sup>31</sup>Throw off from yourselves all your rebellious actions by which you have rebelled, and get for yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. Why should you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone who dies, declares the LORD God. So repent and live!”

## Second Lesson

### Philippians 2:1–11

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, <sup>2</sup>then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being united in spirit, and having one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing out of selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility consider one another better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look carefully not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, let this attitude be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. <sup>6</sup>Though he was by nature God, he did not consider equality with God as a prize to be displayed, <sup>7</sup>but he emptied himself by taking the nature of a servant. When he was born in human likeness, and his appearance was like that of any other man, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,

<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## Gospel

### Matthew 21:28–32

<sup>28</sup>“What do you think? A man had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go work today in my vineyard.’ <sup>29</sup>He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>He came to the second and said the same thing. The second son answered, ‘I will go, sir,’ but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?”

They said to him, “The first.”

Jesus said to them, “Amen<sup>a</sup> I tell you: The tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness, but you did not believe him. However, the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him. Even when you saw this, you did not change your mind and believe him.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

---

<sup>a</sup> Usually, people say *Amen* at the end of a prayer. But Jesus used this Hebrew word at the beginning of a statement, which was unique. The inspired writer simply transliterated the Hebrew word that Jesus spoke, instead of using a Greek term. This translation does the same in English. The basic meaning is *I solemnly tell you the truth*. For more information about this, see FAQ #1 at [wartburgproject.org/faqs](http://wartburgproject.org/faqs)



# The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing my loved one  
a song about his vineyard.

My loved one had a vineyard  
on a fertile ridge.

<sup>2</sup>He dug it up and gathered the stones out of it.

He planted it with the choicest vines  
and built a tower in the middle of it.

He even cut a wine press into it.

He expected it to produce clusters of grapes,  
but it produced only sour grapes.

<sup>3</sup>“So now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah,  
judge between me and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup>What more could have been done to my vineyard  
that I have not already done for it?

When I expected it to produce clusters of grapes,  
why did it produce sour grapes?

<sup>5</sup>Now let me tell you what I will do to my vineyard.

I will take away its hedge, and it will become pasture.

I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled down.

<sup>6</sup>I will make it a wasteland.

It will not be pruned or hoed,  
so briars and thorns will shoot up.

I will also command the clouds not to pour rain on it.”

<sup>7</sup>Yes, the vineyard of the LORD of Armies is the house of Israel,  
and the men of Judah are the planting that pleased him.

He expected justice, but there was oppression.

He expected righteousness, but there was an outcry.

## Second Lesson

### Philippians 3:12–21

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus also took hold of me. <sup>13</sup>Brothers, I do not consider myself to have taken hold of it yet, but there is one thing I do: Forgetting the things that are behind and straining toward the things that are ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal, for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>Therefore, let all of us who are mature continue to think this way. And if you think

differently about anything, God will reveal this to you too. <sup>16</sup>Only let us think the same thing and walk in line with what we already have attained.

<sup>17</sup>Brothers, join together in imitating me and in paying attention to those who are walking according to the pattern we gave you. <sup>18</sup>To be sure, many walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. I told you about them often, and now I am saying it while weeping. <sup>19</sup>Their end is destruction, their god is their appetite, and their glory is in their shame. They are thinking only about earthly things. <sup>20</sup>But our citizenship is in heaven. We are eagerly waiting for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup>By the power that enables him to subject all things to himself, he will transform our humble bodies to be like his glorious body.

## Gospel

### Matthew 21:33–43

<sup>33</sup>“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a tower. He leased it out to some tenant farmers and went away on a journey. <sup>34</sup>When the time approached to harvest the fruit, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. <sup>35</sup>The tenant farmers seized his servants. They beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. <sup>36</sup>Then the landowner sent even more servants than the first time. The tenant farmers treated them the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said. <sup>38</sup>But when the tenant farmers saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance!’ <sup>39</sup>They took him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>So when the landowner comes, what will he do to those tenant farmers?”

<sup>41</sup>They told him, “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end. Then he will lease out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him his fruit when it is due.”

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

This was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?

<sup>43</sup>“That is why I tell you the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruit.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

# The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### Isaiah 25:6-9

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain  
the LORD of Armies will prepare for all peoples  
a feast of choice food,  
a feast of the best wines,  
with the best cuts of meat,  
and the finest of wines.

<sup>7</sup>On this mountain  
he will destroy  
the shroud that covers all peoples,  
the burial cloth stretched over all nations.

<sup>8</sup>He has swallowed up death forever!  
The LORD God will wipe away the tears from every face.  
He will take away the shame of his people throughout the earth.  
For the Lord has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>On that day it will be said,  
“Surely, this is our God!  
We waited for him, and he saved us!  
This is the LORD!  
We waited for him;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation!”

## Second Lesson

### Philippians 4:4–13

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always! I will say it again: Rejoice! <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if anything is excellent, and if anything is praiseworthy, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>The things that you learned, received, heard, and saw in me: Keep doing these things. And the God of peace will be with you.

<sup>10</sup>I rejoice greatly in the Lord now that you have revived your concern for me once again. Actually, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. <sup>11</sup>I am not saying this because I lack anything; in fact, I have learned to be content in any circumstances in which I find myself. <sup>12</sup>I know what it is to live in humble circumstances, and I know what it is to have more than enough. I

have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, while being full or hungry, while having plenty or not enough. <sup>13</sup>I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me.

## Gospel

### Matthew 22:1–14

Jesus spoke to them again in parables. He said, <sup>2</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup>He sent out his servants to summon those who were invited to the wedding banquet, but they did not want to come.

<sup>4</sup>“Then he sent out other servants and said, ‘Tell those who are invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner. My oxen and my fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet!’

<sup>5</sup>“But those who were invited paid no attention and went off, one to his own farm, another to his business. <sup>6</sup>The rest seized the king’s servants, mistreated them, and killed them. <sup>7</sup>As a result, the king was very angry. He sent his army and killed those murderers and burned their town.

<sup>8</sup>“Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup>So go to the main crossroads and invite as many as you find to the wedding banquet.’ <sup>10</sup>Those servants went out to the roads and gathered together everyone they found, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. <sup>11</sup>But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. <sup>12</sup>He said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without wearing wedding clothes?’ The man was speechless. <sup>13</sup>Then the king told the servants, ‘Tie him hand and foot and throw him into the outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ <sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

# The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### Isaiah 45:1-7

This is what the LORD says to his anointed one,  
to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped,  
to subdue nations before him  
by stripping kings of their weapons,  
to open doors before him  
so that the gates cannot be shut:  
<sup>2</sup>I myself will go before you,  
and I will level mountains.  
Doors of bronze I will break into pieces,  
and I will cut through bars of iron.  
<sup>3</sup>I will give you treasures of darkness,  
and riches hidden in secret places,  
so that you will acknowledge that I am the LORD,  
the one who calls you by name, the God of Israel.  
<sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob,  
for the sake of Israel my chosen one,  
I will call you by your name.  
I will give you a name of honor, though you do not know me.  
<sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other.  
Besides me, there is no god.  
I will equip you even though you do not know me,  
<sup>6</sup>so that they will know from the rising of the sun to the place where it sets  
that there is no one besides me.  
I am the LORD, and there is no other.  
<sup>7</sup>I am the one who forms light and creates darkness,  
the one who makes peace and creates calamity.  
I am the LORD, the one who does all these things.

## Second Lesson

### 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5a

Paul, Silas, and Timothy,  
To the church of the Thessalonians, which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:  
Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>2</sup>We always give thanks to God for all of you as we make mention of you in our prayers, <sup>3</sup>because we constantly remember before God our Father your work produced by faith, your labor produced by love, and your patient endurance produced by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup>Dear brothers, loved by God, we know that God has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our gospel did not come to you with mere words, but with power, with the Holy Spirit, and with deep conviction.

## Gospel

### Matthew 22:15–21

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went out and plotted together how to trap him in his words. <sup>16</sup>They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. “Teacher,” they said, “we know that you are truthful and teach the way of God in accord with the truth. You are not concerned about gaining anyone’s approval because you are not swayed by appearances. <sup>17</sup>So tell us, what do you think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?”

<sup>18</sup>But Jesus knew their evil purpose and said, “Why are you testing me, hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin used for the tax.”

They brought him a denarius.

<sup>20</sup>He asked them, “Whose image and inscription is this?”

<sup>21</sup>“Caesar’s,” they replied to him.

Then he said to them, “Therefore give to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

# The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A*  
*Evangelical Heritage Version*®

## First Lesson

### Leviticus 19:1–2, 15–18

The LORD told Moses <sup>2</sup>to speak to the whole community of the Israelites and tell them these things:

You shall be holy, because I, the LORD your God, am holy.

<sup>15</sup>You shall not act unjustly in court cases. Do not show favoritism to a poor person, and do not show undue honor to an important person. You must judge your fellow citizens with justice.

<sup>16</sup>You shall not go around spreading slander among your people. You shall not testify falsely against your neighbor in a capital case. I am the LORD.

<sup>17</sup>You shall not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart. You must openly rebuke your fellow citizen so that you do not become responsible for his sin. <sup>18</sup>You must not take revenge. You must not bear a grudge against the members of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.

## Second Lesson

### 1 Thessalonians 1:5b–10

You yourselves know very well what kind of people we proved to be for your sake, while we were with you. <sup>6</sup>You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, when you welcomed the word during a time of great affliction with the joy from the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became a model for all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. <sup>8</sup>Indeed, the word of the Lord has resounded from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith in God has become known. As a result, we do not need to say anything, <sup>9</sup>because they themselves inform us about what kind of reception we received from you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God. <sup>10</sup>They also report how you patiently wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, the one who is going to rescue us from the coming wrath.

## Gospel

### Matthew 22:34–46

<sup>34</sup>When they heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees met together. <sup>35</sup>One of them who was an expert in the law asked him a question, trying to trap him. <sup>36</sup>“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?”

<sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ <sup>38</sup>This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup>The second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ <sup>40</sup>All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commandments.”

<sup>41</sup>While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question: <sup>42</sup>“What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?”

They said to him, “The Son of David.”

<sup>43</sup>He said to them, “Then how can David in the Spirit call him Lord, saying,

<sup>44</sup>The Lord said to my Lord,

‘Sit at my right hand,

until I put your enemies

under your feet’?

<sup>45</sup>“So if David calls him Lord, how is he his son?”

<sup>46</sup>No one was able to answer him a word, and from that day on no one dared to ask him any more questions.

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*



# The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A*  
*Evangelical Heritage Version*®

## First Lesson

### Malachi 3:14-18

<sup>14</sup>You say, “Serving God is pointless. What gain was there when we kept his requirements and when we walked as mourners before the LORD of Armies? <sup>15</sup>Now we call the arrogant blessed. Even evildoers get established. They even tested God and got away with it.”

<sup>16</sup>Then those who feared the LORD talked with each other. The LORD gave his attention and listened. A book of remembrance was written in his presence by those who feared the LORD and regarded his name.

<sup>17</sup>“They will be mine,” says the LORD of Armies, “in the day when I make them a treasured possession. I will spare them just as a man spares his son who serves him. <sup>18</sup>And you will again distinguish between a righteous person and a wicked person, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.”

## Second Lesson

### 1 Thessalonians 3:7–13

<sup>7</sup>Because of this, brothers, in all our distress and affliction, we have been encouraged about you through your faith. <sup>8</sup>For now we really live, if you are standing firm in the Lord. <sup>9</sup>Indeed, how can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have before God on account of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we are praying earnestly to see you in person and to supply what is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup>May God our Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup>And may the Lord increase your love and make it overflow for each other and for all people, just as ours does for you, <sup>13</sup>so that he may establish your hearts as blameless in holiness before our God and Father, when our Lord Jesus comes with all his saints.

## Gospel

### Matthew 25:14–30

<sup>14</sup>“You see, the kingdom of heaven is like a man going on a journey. He called his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. <sup>15</sup>To one he gave five talents, to another two talents, and to still another one talent, each according to his own ability. Then he went on his journey. <sup>16</sup>The servant who had received the five talents immediately put them to work and gained five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the servant who had received the two talents gained two more. <sup>18</sup>But the servant who had received one talent went away, dug a hole in the ground, and hid his master’s money.

<sup>19</sup>“After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>The servant who received the five talents came and brought five more talents. He said, ‘Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.’

<sup>21</sup>“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master.’

<sup>22</sup>“The servant who received the two talents came and said, ‘Master, you entrusted me with two talents. See, I have gained two more talents.’

<sup>23</sup>“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master.’

<sup>24</sup>“Then the servant who received one talent came and said, ‘Master, I knew that you are a hard man, reaping where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter seed. <sup>25</sup>Since I was afraid, I went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.’

<sup>26</sup>“His master answered him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant! You knew that I reap where I did not plant and gather where I did not scatter seed? <sup>27</sup>Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers so that when I came I would get my money back with interest. <sup>28</sup>Take the talent away from him and give it to the servant who has the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>Because everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. But the one who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. <sup>30</sup>Throw that worthless servant into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*