

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

Drive-In Worship: Sunday at 10:00 am (Tune Car Radio to 87.9FM)

Broadcast Sunday mornings, 8:00-8:30, on KAPS Radio (660 am)

You are created uniquely by God and you are welcome here.

Your Abilities· Age· Culture· Economic Status· Gender Expression/Identity· Life Circumstances· Marital Status· Questions· Race· Sexual Orientation· are welcome here

September 27– Service of Word and Prayer The 17th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

Prelude:.....*Morning Has Broken*, English folk tune arranged by Fred Bock

Greeting:

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. (*2 Corinthians 13:13*)

All: And also with you.

Leader: The word is near you,

All: on your lips and in your heart.

Leader: If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,

All: and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Leader: Faith comes from what is heard,

All: and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

Hymn:.....*Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart* #800 (Bulletin Pg. 5 vs. 1,2,4)

Prayer of the Day:

Leader: Let us pray: God of love, giver of life, ...

All: you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Ezekiel challenges those who think they cannot change because of what their parents were and did, or who think they cannot reverse their own previous behavior. God insistently invites people to turn and live.

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge”? ³As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

²⁵Yet you say, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? ²⁶When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. ²⁷Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life. ²⁸Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, “The way of the Lord is unfair.” O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

³⁰Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13

As part of a call for harmony rather than self-seeking, Paul uses a very early Christian hymn that extols the selflessness of Christ in his obedient death on the cross. Christ’s selfless perspective is to be the essential perspective we share as the foundation for Christian accord.

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross

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⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name
that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much
more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is
at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was
teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?”
²⁴Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell
you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of
human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us,
‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd;
for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them,
“Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the
vineyard today.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father
went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the
two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax
collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to
you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes
believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn of the Day:.....*Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service #712(Bulletin Pg. 6)*

Confession:

Leader: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God
and to one another. Leader: Gracious God,

**All: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things
done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in
newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our
Lord. Amen**

Leader: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

Peace:

Leader: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. (*2 Corinthians 13:11*)
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

HOLY MEAL

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Prayers of Intercession:

Each petition will end with, “Lord in your Mercy”, and the response will be: “**Hear our Prayer.**”

Blessing:

Leader: May the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ fill you with every spiritual blessing and fill you with joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen** (*Romans 15*)

SENDING

Hymn:.....*Jesus, the Very Thought of You* #754 (Bulletin Pg. 7)

Dismissal: Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude:.....*Glorify Thy Name*, by Donna Adkins, arranged by Fred Bock

800 Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
 4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,

wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:

stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;
 I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.
 the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scand - ed dove,

and make me love you as I ought to love.
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!
 my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

712

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service



1 Lord, whose love in hum - ble ser - vice bore the weight of hu - man need,
 2 Still your chil - dren wan - der home-less; still the hun - gry cry for bread;
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re - veal-ing light
 4 Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up - on the cross, for - sak - en, worked your mer-cy's per - fect deed:
 still the cap - tives long for free - dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
 in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up - on our quick-ened sight,
 to the child, the youth, the a - ged, love in liv - ing deeds to show;



we, your ser - vants, bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart;
 As you, Lord, in deep com-pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
 mak-ing known the needs and bur - dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
 hope and health, good-will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give,

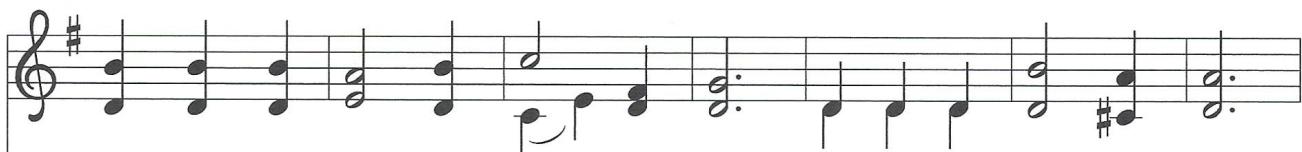


con - se - crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift which you im - part.
 by your Spir - it send your pow - er to our world to make it whole.
 stir - ring us to ar - dent ser - vice, your a - bun - dant life to share.
 that your ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

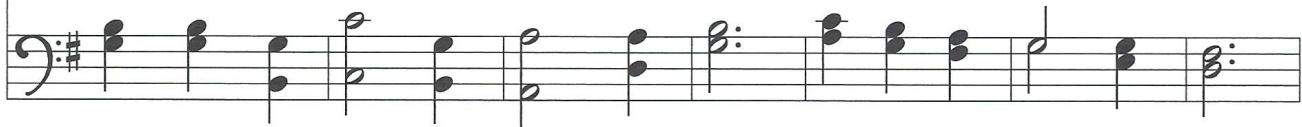


Jesus, the Very Thought of You

754



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,
4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;



but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.
a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!
how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."

