



**“Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me
cannot be my disciple.” Luke 14:27**

**Sunday, September 4, 2022
Arlington Hills Lutheran Church**

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The 13th Sunday After Pentecost

Introduction

Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day: Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.

Prelude "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross" arr. Robert J. Powell

Welcome and Announcements

Greeting

Psalm 119:135

P: Alleluia. Let your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes.

All: Alleluia.

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.

All: Amen.

P: Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy and forgiveness,

All: we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

P: Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven ☩ and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Apostolic Greeting and Prayer of the Day

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

All: **Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Gathering Hymn

**“Praise the Lord! O Heavens”
Verse 1 and 2 found on page 10**

ELW# 823

Readings and Psalm

Assisting Minister

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Moses speaks to the Israelites, who are about to enter the land promised to their ancestors. In this passage, he lays out the stark choice before them: choose life by loving and obeying the LORD; or choose death by following other gods.

¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity.

¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Psalm: Psalm 1 (Read responsively by whole verse)

They are like trees planted by streams of water. (Ps. 1:3)

AM: ¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

All: ²**Their delight is in the law of the LORD, and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.**

AM: ³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

All: ⁴**It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

AM: ⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

ALL: ⁶**For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

Second Reading: Philemon 1-21

While Paul was in prison, he was aided by Onesimus, a man who had run away from Philemon, a slaveowner and a Christian friend of Paul. Paul told Onesimus to return to Philemon and encouraged Philemon to receive Onesimus back as a Christian brother.

¹Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, ²to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God ⁵because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. ⁶I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. ⁷I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

⁸For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, ⁹yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus.

¹⁰I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. ¹¹Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. ¹²I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. ¹³I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. ¹⁵Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would

welcome me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

AM: Word of God, Word of Life

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

P: The holy gospel according to Luke the 14th chapter.

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33

Jesus speaks frankly about the costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus;] and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

P: This is the gospel of our Lord.

All: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

“Counting the Cost”

Pastor Mitch

Service of Beginning for Intern Becky Sliva

Hymn of the Day

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”

ELW#335

Verses 1, 3 & 4 found on page 11

Apostle's Creed

All: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Assisting Minister

AM: *Each prayer will end with: God of Grace,*

All: hear our prayer.

Offering

Offering Music "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus" arr. Wendy Stevens

Offering Prayer

P: Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

All: Amen.

Invitation to Communion

P: Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see.

Words of Institution

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

Lord's Prayer

All: 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

Distribution of Communion

Prayer after Communion

P: God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

Sending of Communion (*Lay Ministers come forward*)

L: Gracious God, you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a sick world. Anoint with a servant heart these who take your word and sacrament to our sisters and brothers in their homes and in hospitals. Grant grace, mercy, healing and hope to those who receive on your body and blood and believe your words of new life. May we all recognize that we are at home in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

**“Lead Me, Guide Me”
Verses 1 & 3 found on page 12**

ELW# 856

Blessing

P: God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

All: Amen.

Postlude

“The Call of the Trumpets”

Henry Purcell

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

All: Thanks be to God.

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Leading Worship Today

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Mitch Kinsinger

Intern: Becky Sliva

Music: Barb Rossow

Assisting Ministers: Dennis Rasmusson, Mary Kowitz

Ushers: Tom Brackey and David Almquist

Hospitality: Florence Rasmusson

Livestream Producer: Silvester Vicic

Announcements

Monday is Labor Day so the Church Office will be closed. Enjoy the weekend.

We welcome Becky Sliva our new intern for this year. Becky will be working in shared ministry with the East Side Collaborative. She has spent a few days with us this past week and will begin her three-week rotation at Our Redeemer. She will be back with us in October.

Welcome Jessica Jones for a Temple Talk this morning . “Jessica Jones is a Lead ESL Teacher at Open Door Learning Center. She has taught adults, written curriculum, and trained and supervised volunteers for over 18 years at Literacy Minnesota.” They are a partner in service with us.

September Birthdays

Barb Rossow	September 3
Mark Schrieber	September 3
Kelley Zangs	September 6
Patricia Karr	September 11
Betty Richter	September 12
Marlene Odeen	September 12
Jill Kowitz	September 12
Wayne Thompson	September 13
Janis Eichten	September 15
Thomas Brackey	September 18
Thomas Hanson	September 22
Gary Anderson	September 23
Caleb Tkachuck	September 24

David Tkachuck
Judith Solmonson

September 24
September 30

September Anniversaries

Silvester and Sharon Vicic September 8th 38 years

Please pray this week for AHLC Members and friends:

Wayne Blossey, Tom Nyman, Tyler King, Peggy Engh, Dona Haberman, Jackie Staples, Dean Anderson, Richard Johnson, Priscilla Reeve, Jerry Ekblad, Gary Winter, Betty Richter, Velta Krauze, Shirley Johnson, Margaret Cleary, MaryAnn Wistrom, John Lind, John Hollman, Deb Perry, Esther Hallgren, Jan Kowitz, Richard Edge, Sharon Anderson, and Linda Nyberg.

September 11 – we will be using Liturgy Setting #3

September 18, 2022 Congregational Meeting –

at approximately 10:30 a.m. following the 9:30 worship service.

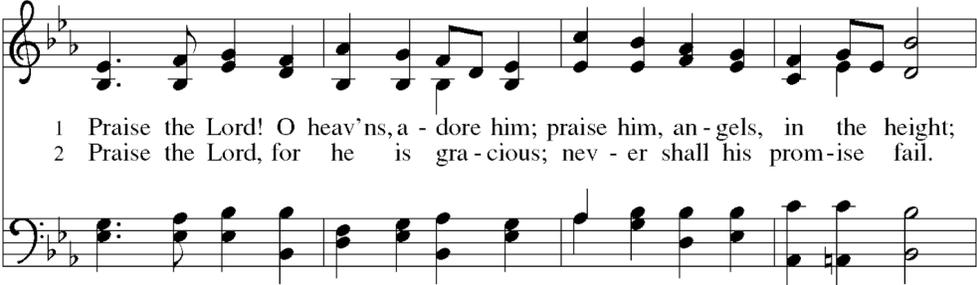
There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, September 18, 2022 following the 9:30 worship service in the Reception Room and Via Zoom. This meeting is to call the Rev. Dr. Mitch Kinsinger as our senior pastor. We need 50 people present to have an official meeting.

Gathering Hymn

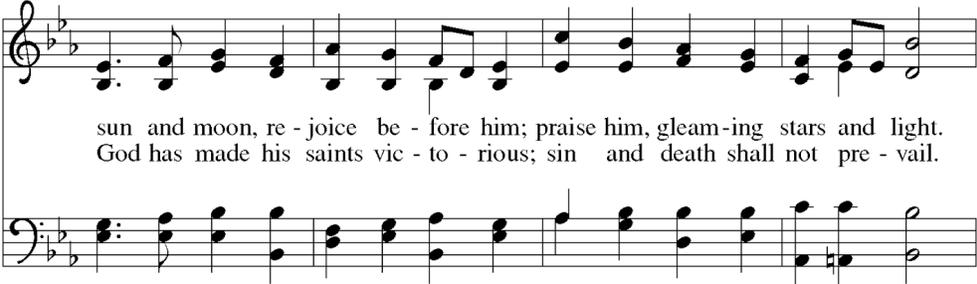
Verse 1 & 2

ELW# 823

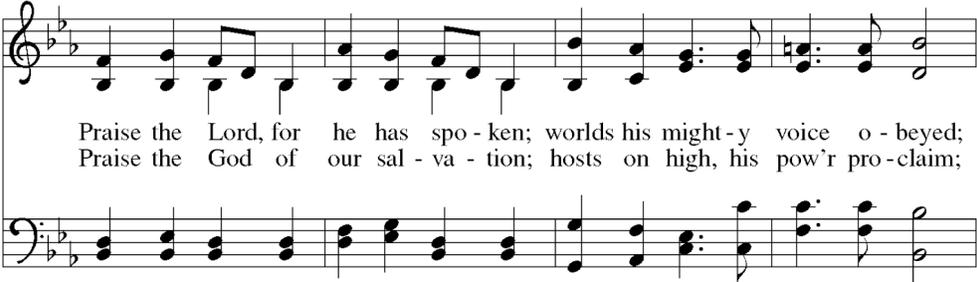
Praise the Lord! O Heavens



1 Praise the Lord! O heav'ns, a - dore him; praise him, an - gels, in the height;
2 Praise the Lord, for he is gra - cious; nev - er shall his prom - ise fail.



sun and moon, re - joice be - fore him; praise him, gleam - ing stars and light.
God has made his saints vic - to - rious; sin and death shall not pre - vail.



Praise the Lord, for he has spo - ken; worlds his might - y voice o - beyed;
Praise the God of our sal - va - tion; hosts on high, his pow'r pro - claim;



laws which nev - er shall be bro - ken for their guid - ance he has made.
heav'n and earth, and all cre - a - tion, laud and mag - ni - fy his name!

Text: *Foundling Hospital Collection*, London, 1796
Music: AUSTRIA, Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732-1809

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

1 Je - sus, keep me near the cross, there's a pre - cious foun - tain;
2 Near the cross, a trem - bling soul, love and mer - cy found me;
3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God, bring its scenes be - fore me;
4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait, hop - ing, trust - ing ev - er,

free to all, a heal - ing stream flows from Cal - v'ry's moun - tain.
there the bright and morn - ing star sheds its beams a - round me.
help me walk from day to day with its shad - ow o'er me.
till I reach the gold - en strand just be - yond the riv - er.

Refrain

In the cross, in the cross be my glo - ry ev - er;

till my ran - somed soul shall find rest be - yond the riv - er.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

Lead Me, Guide Me

768

Refrain



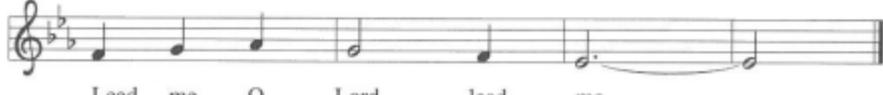
Lead me, guide me, a - long the way;



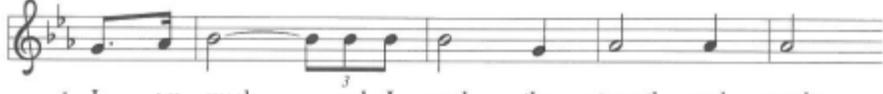
for if you lead me, I can - not stray.



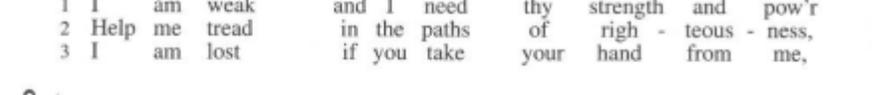
Lord, let me walk each day with thee.



Lead me, O Lord, lead me.



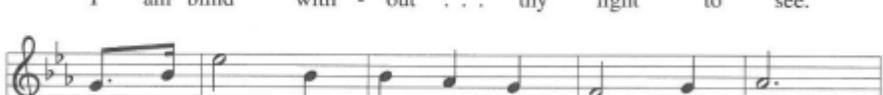
1 I am weak and I need thy strength and pow'r



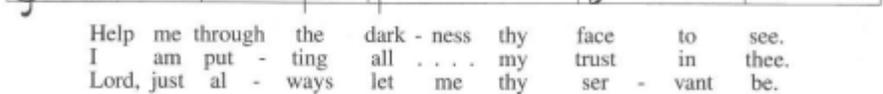
2 Help me tread in the paths of righ - teous - ness,



3 I am lost if you take your hand from me,



to help me o - ver my weak - est hour.



be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op - press.



I am blind with - out . . . thy light to see.



Help me through the dark - ness thy face to see.



I am put - ting all . . . my trust in thee.



Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant be.

Refrain



Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Text: Doris Akers, 1922-1995
 Music: Doris Akers
 Text and music © 1953 Doris Akers, admin. Utlichappell Music, Inc.

LEAD ME, GUIDE ME
 Irregular