

Introit

A Praise the LORD! Blessèd is the man who | fears the LORD,*

who greatly delights in his com- | mandments!

G **Wealth and riches are | in his house,***

and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

Light dawns in the darkness for the | upright;*

he is gracious, merciful, and | righteous.

It is well with the man who deals generous- | ly and lends;*

who conducts his affairs with | justice.

For the righteous will nev- | er be moved;*

he will be remembered for- | ever.

For the LORD will vindicate his | people*

and have compassion on his | servants.

Glorify be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen..

A Praise the LORD! Blessèd is the man who | fears the LORD,*

who greatly delights in his com- | mandments!

(Psalm 112:3–6; antiphon: v. 1)

Collect of the Day

Lord Jesus Christ, whose grace always precedes and follows us, help us to forsake all trust in earthly gain and to find in You our heavenly treasure; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament – Amos 5:6–7, 10–15

Seek the LORD and live, lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and it devour, with none to quench it for Bethel, ⁷ O you who turn justice to wormwood and cast down righteousness to the earth. ¹⁰ They hate him who reproves in the gate, and they abhor him who speaks the truth. Therefore because you trample on the poor and you exact taxes of grain from him, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not dwell in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. ¹² For I know how many are your transgressions



and how great are your sins- you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and turn aside the needy in the gate. ¹³ Therefore he who is prudent will keep silent in such a time, for it is an evil time. ¹⁴ Seek good, and not evil, that you may live; and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you, as you have said. ¹⁵ Hate evil, and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Gradual

A He will command his angels con- | cerning you*

to guard you in | all your ways.

Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*

and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

Epistle - Hebrews 3:12–19

Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³ But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴ For we share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. ¹⁵ As it is said,

“Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

¹⁶ For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? ¹⁷ And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? ¹⁸ And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? ¹⁹ So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

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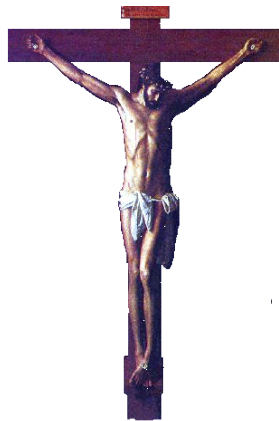
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The Holy Gospel – Mark 10:17–22

¹⁷As [Jesus] was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'" ²⁰And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth." ²¹And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." ²²Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

The Lord is the Author and Giver of life, as well as a consuming fire of judgment against all *"who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and turn aside the needy in the gate"* (Amos 5:12). *"Seek the Lord and live,"* therefore, by hating what is evil, loving what is good and doing what is just and right, according to His Word. *"And so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you"* (Amos 5:6, 14–15). Understand that *"no one is good except God alone"* (Mark 10:18). The life that you are called to live is found neither in your *"great possessions,"* nor in your good works, but only in Christ Jesus. Let go of *"all that you have"* and follow Him, even unto death, and *"you will have treasure in heaven"* (Mark 10:21–22). Do not harden your heart against His voice, nor turn away from Him, lest you *"fall away from the living God."* Rather, hear and heed His call, cling to His Word, and *"exhort one another every day,"* that you may remain steadfast in Christ and *"firm to the end"* (Heb. 3:12–15).

Soli Deo Gloria



Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

A Biblical, Confessional and Traditional congregation in the Chicago region committed to ministering to sinners with the forgiving presence of Jesus Christ.

20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 10, 2021

THE DIVINE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

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A WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME to all who gather in the Lord's House today. You have joined with the seen and unseen host of God, around the throne of the Lamb, to be served by the Triune God through the preaching of His Word and the administration of the Holy Sacraments. Apart from these Means of Grace there are no Christians and there is no Church! Therefore the entire Liturgy places God at center stage as He acts towards His people through the Word and Sacraments to bring His gifts of life and salvation. That is why the Liturgy is called "Divine Service" - it is God's Service to His people! This service reaches its fulfillment in the Lord's Supper or Sacrament of the Altar.

Dear Visitors and Friends Our practice of close communion is the historic practice of the church. It is prompted by love, both for God's Word and for God's people. It does not deny that members of other denominations are Christians. Rather, it bows the knee to the Bible's deep concern for doctrinal truth (Rom.16:17) and the Bible's witness that doctrinal unity is central to the common reception of this Sacrament.

For this reason, the congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of "Closed Communion." **If you desire to receive the Lord's Supper and are not a communicant member of Divine Shepherd, or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning.** Rather, we would invite you to speak with Pastor Zimmer about Holy Communion and about becoming a communicant member of this congregation. It is the sincere prayer of this congregation that our careful practice of the administration of the Lord's Supper will not be a hindrance to our fellowship with you but instead that it would lead you to appreciate the high regard we have for Christ and His Word concerning this precious gift. **We do invite those who are not a member of the LCMS to come to the altar for a blessing. God bless you for Your understanding.**