

Introit



A He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High*
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.

C I will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my | fortress,*
my God, in | whom I trust.”

Because you have made the Lord your | dwelling place—*
the Most High, who is my | refuge—

no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,*
no plague come | near your tent.

Glory 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 He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High*
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.
(Psalm 91:2, 9–10; antiphon: v. 1)

Collect of the Day

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, Your mercy attends us all our days.
Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world,
and at life’s end grant us Your promised rest and the full joys of Your
salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns
with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament – Zechariah 9:9–12

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall speak peace to the nations;
his rule shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Gradual

A Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowl- | edge of God!*
How unsearchable are his judgments and how
inscrutable | his ways!
For from him and through him and to him are | all things.*
To him be glory forever. | Amen.

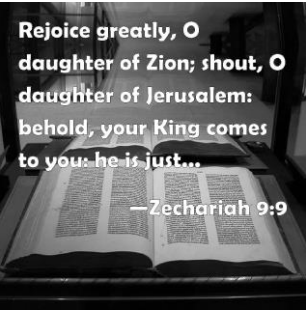
Epistle – Romans 7:14–25a

We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵I
do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do
the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the
law, that it is good. ¹⁷So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that
dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in
my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to
carry it out. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want
is what I keep on doing. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I
who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at
hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³but I see in
my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and
making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.

²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!



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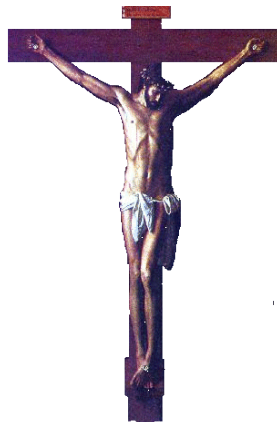
The Holy Gospel – Matthew 11:25–30

At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”



Jesus Christ, Our Savior, Is Our True Peace and Sabbath Rest

Though we have died with Christ in Holy Baptism, and we are raised to new life in Him, we find “another law waging war” in our body and life, that is, between our old Adam and the new man (Rom. 7:23). By the Spirit of Christ, we “desire to do what is right,” but we are not able to do so because “nothing good” dwells in our sinful flesh (Rom. 7:18). “Thanks be to God,” therefore, “through Jesus Christ our Lord,” who delivers us from “this body of death” (Rom. 7:24–25). We rejoice in Him, our gentle King, who comes “righteous and having salvation” (Zech. 9:9). He speaks peace to our embattled hearts, and by His blood of the New Testament He sets us “free from the waterless pit,” and He returns us to the stronghold of our Baptism (Zech. 9:10–12). Though we “labor and are heavy laden,” He calls us to Himself and gives rest to our souls through His free and full forgiveness (Matt. 11:28), not because we are “wise and understanding,” but by the “gracious will” of God the Father, whom “the Son chooses to reveal” in love (Matt. 11:25–27).



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.

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

July 9, 2023

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:

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.** If you would like a blessing, as you kneel at the altar, please cross your arms so that your right hand is on your left shoulder and left hand is on your right shoulder. God bless you for Your understanding.