

# **Follow Jesus! Faith Takes Action**

**Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost**

September 19 & 20, 2021

# ETERNAL LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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*a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)*

## FOR OUR GUESTS

Thank you for being here. During your visit today, you will see and hear what we're all about: God's eternal love for us through his Son, Jesus! Any directions for speaking or singing, standing or sitting will be indicated in this folder or projected on the wall in front of you.

- Restrooms are available just outside the chapel doors down the hallway to the left.
- If you have young children with you today, great! We encourage families to worship together. We do have a nursery area available just outside the chapel near the bathrooms, should you feel the need to step out of worship with your child for a moment. Activity sheets for your child are available from the ushers as well.

## WORSHIP SERIES: EVERY GOOD – BOOK OF JAMES SERIES

James 1:17 says, "Every good act of giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the lights, who does not change or shift like a shadow." During this worship series we'll see faith in action. We will reflect on the good gifts that God gives his people. Although change is all around us, our God does not change, and he continues to shower us with every good gift. His gifts of mercy and forgiveness change our hearts and inspire a faith that also wants to do good for those around us. The book of James is so practical in how it encourages a faith that shows itself in ways that are so good. God has helpful encouragement for us to share good in the words that we speak, in the people that we choose to help, in the peace that we promote, and in the humility that we show. What does the Christian life look like? It looks good!

**TODAY'S FOCUS:** In today's gospel, Jesus moves Peter along in his discipleship by celebrating his confession of faith, rebuking his false ideas, and encouraging him to take up his cross and follow Jesus. As we look at the book of James today we will focus on our discipleship too. James helps us see how important it is that we put *real* faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ into *real* action as we fight against favoritism.

## OUR HOLY COMMUNION PRACTICE

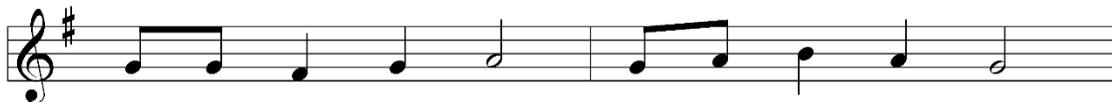
Eternal Love Lutheran Church views the Lord's Supper as a powerful disbursement of Jesus' grace. We receive it with joy and treat it with respect. Communing together signifies a oneness in faith, life, and worship. So we ask you to judge us; discover what we believe and determine if you wish to be one with us. If you are interested in taking communion in the future and are not a member of Eternal Love or of another congregation in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, please speak to one of our pastors.

# OPENING HYMN

## Jesus, Lead Us On

*Christian Worship #422*

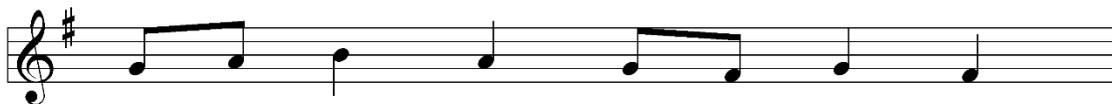
*Please stand for verse 4*



1 Je - sus, lead us on Till our rest is won;  
2 If the way be drear, If the foe be near,  
3 When we seek re - lief From a long - felt grief,  
4 Je - sus, still lead on Till our rest is won.



And al - though the way be cheer - less,  
Let not faith - less fears o'er - take us;  
When temp - ta - tions come al - lur - ing,  
Heav'n - ly Lead - er, still di - rect us;



We will fol - low, calm and fear - less.  
Let not faith and hope for - sake us,  
Make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing;  
Still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us



Guide us by your hand To our fa - ther - land.  
For through man - ya woe To our home we go.  
Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.  
Till we safe - ly stand In our fa - ther - land.

# ORDER OF SERVICE

## INVOCATION

*Psalm 140*

Minister: Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the saints.

**Congregation: May the praise of the Lord be in our mouths.**

M: For the Lord takes delight in his people;

**C: He crowns the humble with salvation.**

M: Let Israel rejoice in their Maker;

**C: Let the people of Zion be glad in their King.**

**All:** *(sung to the tune "Salvation Unto Us Has Come" CW # 390)*

 **All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise  
To Father, Son, and Spirit,  
The God who saved us by His grace –  
All glory to his merit!  
O Triune God in heav'n above,  
You have revealed your saving love;  
Your blessed Name be hallowed!**

*BE SEATED*

## CONFESSION

*Based on today's Gospel*

M: In our sinful weakness as Christians, we struggle with *taking up our cross*, that is, to follow Jesus no matter the cost. Let us confess our sin and find forgiveness in Jesus' name.

**C: Merciful Lord, we confess that we have disobeyed you in thought, word, and deed. We are guilty of setting aside your promises and at times seeking to preserve our own interests rather than laying down our lives for you.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

M: We have pursued the worldly comforts of wealth and fame.

**C: Christ, have mercy upon us.**

M: As your disciples in this world, we have failed to give faithful witness of you to others.

**C: Lord, have mercy upon us. Reconcile us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

### **ABSOLUTION**

M: As a called servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. Our heavenly Father through his Son Jesus Christ has reconciled you to himself. You are renewed, restored, and forgiven. You are peace with God.

**C: Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

M: Lord, we pray that your mercy and grace may always go before and follow after us that, loving you with undivided hearts, we may be ready for every good and useful work; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **PSALM 95 VIDEO**

## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON

### Isaiah 50:4-10

*Jesus is the example of patient endurance in suffering. He listened to the Word of his Father and obeyed it perfectly.*

<sup>4</sup>The LORD God gave me a tongue like the learned, an instructed tongue,  
so I know how to sustain the weary with a word.

He wakes me up morning by morning.

He wakes up my ears so that I listen like the learned.

<sup>5</sup>The LORD God opened my ear,  
and I myself was not rebellious.

I did not turn back.

<sup>6</sup>I submitted my back to those who beat me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard.  
I did not hide my face from disgrace and from spit.

<sup>7</sup>The LORD God will help me,  
so I will not be disgraced.

Therefore I have made my face hard like flint.

I know that I will not be put to shame.

<sup>8</sup>The one who will acquit me is near!

Who can accuse me?

Let us take our stand.

Who can pass judgment on me?

Let him approach me.

<sup>9</sup>Look, the LORD God will help me.

Who then can declare me guilty?

Look, all of them will wear out like a garment.

A moth will consume them.

<sup>10</sup>Who among you worships the LORD  
and listens to the voice of his servant?

Anyone who walks in darkness

and who has no bright light—

let him trust in the name of the LORD,

and let him lean on his God.

STAND

## GOSPEL

Mark 8:27-35

*Jesus is the Christ and not just another great prophet or teacher or role model for good living. Christ came to suffer, Christ came to die; he did it in perfect obedience to his Father; he did it in perfect love for us and for our salvation.*

<sup>27</sup> Jesus went away with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?”

<sup>28</sup> They told him, “John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others say one of the prophets.”

<sup>29</sup> “But who do you say I am?” he asked them.

Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.”

<sup>30</sup> Then he warned them not to tell anyone about him.

<sup>31</sup> Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things; be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the experts in the law; be killed; and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> He was speaking plainly to them. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup> But after turning around and looking at his disciples, Jesus rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! You do not have your mind set on the things of God, but the things of men.”

<sup>34</sup> He called the crowd and his disciples together and said to them, “If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever wants to save his life will lose it. But whoever loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

BE SEATED

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

*Young children may come forward for a brief devotion.*

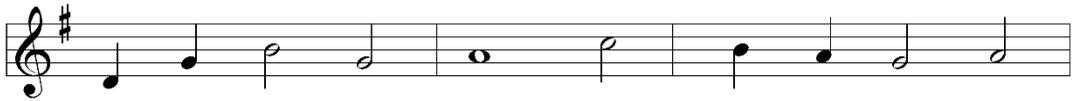
HYMN OF THE DAY

Oh, that the Lord World Guide My Ways

*Christian Worship #462*



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To  
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your Word, And  
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A  
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands— 'Tis



keep his stat - utes still! Oh, that my God would  
make my heart sin - cere; Let sin have no do -  
strict - er watch to keep; And should I e'er for -  
a de - light - ful road— Nor let my head or



grant me grace To know and do his will!  
min - ion, Lord, But keep my con - science clear.  
get your way, Re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.  
heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.



My brothers, have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ without showing favoritism.<sup>2</sup> For example, suppose a man enters your worship assembly wearing gold rings and fine clothing, and a poor man also enters wearing filthy clothing.<sup>3</sup> If you look with favor on the man wearing fine clothing and say, “Sit here in this good place,” but you tell the poor man, “Stand over there” or “Sit down here at my feet,”<sup>4</sup> have you not made a distinction among yourselves and become judges with evil opinions?<sup>5</sup> Listen, my dear brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom, which he promised to those who love him? . . .<sup>8</sup> However, if you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well.<sup>9</sup> But if you show favoritism, you are committing a sin, since you are convicted by this law as transgressors.

<sup>10</sup>In fact, whoever keeps the whole law but stumbles in one point has become guilty of breaking all of it. . .

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers, if someone says that he has faith but has no works? Such “faith” cannot save him, can it?<sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister needs clothes and lacks daily food<sup>16</sup> and one of you tells them, “Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,” but does not give them what their body needs, what good is it?<sup>17</sup> So also, such “faith,” if it is alone and has no works, is dead.<sup>18</sup> But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

### **Christians Fight Against Favoritism**

## NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is,  
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## OFFERING

*The members of Eternal Love congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work in this city and around the world. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our church's ministry. However, we do ask that everyone take part in completing the connection card. Whether you are worshipping in person or watching online, please fill it out now or later at [www.eternal-love.org/onlineworship](http://www.eternal-love.org/onlineworship) or scan the provided QR code to do so now.*



## OFFERING SONG

### Let the Praises Ring

*By Lincoln Brewster*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- M: Loving God and Lord, you created the universe that surrounds us and the world in which we live. You control all things through your Son, who sits at your right hand in glory.
- C: Comfort us with the promise of your eternal presence.**
- M: Give your Word power as it works in our hearts and minds. Clear away our confusion and demolish our doubts. Send your Spirit to strengthen both our confidence in your promises and our desire to live according to your will.
- C: Take away our love of sinning and restore us each day by your grace.**
- M: The signs of the times warn us that the end of time is near. Protect us from scoffers who sneer at your truth. Spare us and Christians around the world from all forms of hate and persecution.
- C: Give us courage to carry the cross with patience and joy.**
- M: Instill in the hearts of our children a desire to follow you as they prepare for future days. Help them distinguish between what is passing and what is eternal, between instant thrills and lasting joy. Encourage more young people to prepare for service in the public ministry of the gospel.
- C: Mold us and move us to be good examples for our youth.**

M: Hold in your care, Lord, those who are experiencing physical or emotional pain and all who are afflicted by disease or facing death. Pour out your compassion on the grieving and comfort the mourners who miss someone they loved.

**C: Move us to pray for these brothers and sisters and to help when we can.**

M: Hear us Lord as we pray in silence.

*Silent Prayer*

M: Whether we pray together or alone, you have promised to hear and answer us. Give us patience to accept your blessings in whatever way you send them. In your love and wisdom, prepare us for the day when you will take us to be with you forever.

**C: Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

*STAND*

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**C: Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,**

**your will be done**

**on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins,**

**as we forgive those**

**who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,**

**and the glory are yours**

**now and forever. Amen.**

## THE SACRAMENT

*Eternal Love Lutheran Church practices close communion. We ask that only members partake of the Sacrament. If you are not a member of Eternal Love or of another congregation in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, please speak to one of our pastors.*

M: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

**C: Amen.**

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: Amen.**

*BE SEATED*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

*Christian Worship #465*



1 Je - sus, I my cross have tak - en,  
 2 Let the world de - spise and leave me;  
 3 Go, then, earth - ly fame and trea - sure!  
 4 Haste, my soul, from grace to glo - ry,



All to leave and fol - low you. Des - ti -  
 They have left my Sav - ior, too. Hu - man  
 Come, dis - as - ter, scorn, and pain! In your  
 Armed by faith and winged by prayer. All but



tute, de - spised, for - sak - en, You on  
 hearts and looks de - ceive me; You are  
 ser - vice pain is plea - sure; With your  
 heav'n is tran - si - to - ry; God's own



earth once suf - fered, too. Per - ish ev - 'ry  
 not, like them, un - true. And since you have  
 fa - vor loss is gain. I have called you  
 hand shall guide you there. Soon shall end this



fond am - bi - tion, All I've ev - er  
 smiled up - on me, God of wis - dom,  
 Ab - ba, Fa - ther! You my all in  
 earth - ly sto - ry; Swift shall pass the



hoped or known; Yet how rich is my con-  
love, and might, Foes may hate and friends may  
all shall be. Storms may howl, and clouds may  
pil - grim days, Hope soon change to heav'n - ly



di - tion! God and heav'n are still my own.  
shun me— Show your face, and all is bright.  
gath - er; All must work for good to me.  
glo - ry, Faith to sight and prayer to praise.

*STAND*

M: We give thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. Grant that we may live as your people now and as your guests forever at the marriage feast of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**BLESSING**

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look at you with his favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

*BE SEATED*

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Liturgist: Pastor Dave Pries  
Preacher: Pastor Dave Backus  
Accompanist: Ben Rusch  
Scripture Readers: Jason Kempfert (8:00 am)  
Bruce Heckmann (10:45 am)

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### Jesus, Lead Us On

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700-60, adapt.; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-97, alt. SEELENBRÄUTIGAM Tune: Adam Drese, 1620-1701 55 88 55 All rights reserved. Text, tune, & setting: public domain.

### Oh, that the Lord World Guide My Ways

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, abr., alt. EVAN Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793-1870, adapt. C. All rights reserved. Text, tune, & setting: public domain.

### Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847, abr., alt. HYFRYDOL Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-87 87 87 D. All rights reserved. Text, tune, & setting: public domain.

### Holy Bible

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