

Welcome to Worship for
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Sunday, September 13, 2026

All Saints Lutheran Church

722 Rockbridge Road | Lilburn, GA 30047

Rev. James Hilden-Minton, Pastor
John Womack, Director of Music



Welcome to worship! We are so glad that you are here. Please feel free to utilize this QR code using your smart phone to access our website, Facebook & Instagram pages, and to give online. Your generosity for God's church and presence is making a difference, both here in this ministry and throughout the community. Thank you!

---GATHERING---

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. James Hilden-Minton

PRELUDE

John Womack

During this time of meditation the assembly is asked to remain silent.

The congregation stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Rev. James Hilden-Minton

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

Amen.

Where Charity and Love Prevail



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
 2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,



brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
 as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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GREETING

Rev. James Hilden-Minton

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Rev. James Hilden-Minton

Let us pray.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The congregation is seated.

---WORD---

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Genesis 50:15-21

Amy Cauble

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

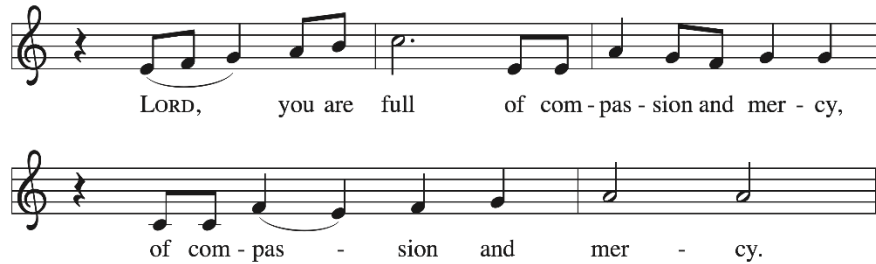
Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



PSALM 103:1-13

John Womack



Psalm 103:8

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- ¹ Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's | holy name.
- ² **Bless the LORD, | O my soul,
and forget not | all God's benefits—**
- ³ who forgives | all your sins
and heals all | your diseases;
- ⁴ **who redeems your life | from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast | love and mercy; R**
- ⁵ who satisfies your desires | with good things
so that your youth is renewed | like an eagle's.
- ⁶ **O LORD, you provide | vindication
and justice for all who | are oppressed.**
- ⁷ You made known your | ways to Moses
and your works to the chil- | dren of Israel.
- ⁸ **LORD, you are full of compas- | sion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love; R**
- ⁹ you will not al- | ways accuse us,
nor will you keep your an- | ger forever.
- ¹⁰ **You have not dealt with us according | to our sins,
nor repaid us according to | our iniquities.**
- ¹¹ For as the heavens are high a- | bove the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for | those who fear you.
- ¹² **As far as the east is | from the west,
so far have you removed our transgres- | sions from us.**
- ¹³ As a father has compassion | for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear | you, O LORD. **R**

SECOND READING: Romans 14:1-12

Amy Cauble

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is

before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God."

¹²So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 18:21-35

Rev. James Hilden-Minton

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²³"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the

throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.'²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation is seated.

SERMON

The congregation stands.

Rev. James Hilden-Minton



In Thee Is Gladness



1 In thee is glad-ness a-mid all sad-ness, Je-sus, sun-shine of my
2 Je-sus is ours! . . . We fear no pow-ers, not of earth or sin or

heart. By thee are giv-en the gifts of heav-en, thou the
death. He sees and bless-es in worst dis-tress-es; he can

true re-deem-er art. Our souls thou wak-est; our bonds thou
change them with a breath. Where-fore the sto-ry tell of his

break-est. Who trusts thee sure-ly has built se-cure-ly
glo-ry with heart and voic-es; all heav'n re-joic-es

and stands for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! Our hearts are
in him for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia! We shout for

pin-ing to see thy shin-ing, dy-ing or liv-ing,
glad-ness, tri-umph o'er sad-ness, love him and praise him

to thee are cleav-ing; naught can us sev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!
and still shall raise him glad hymns for-ev-er: Al-le-lu-ia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

Praise the
Lord, my soul;
all my inmost
being, praise
his holy name.

Psalm 103:1 NIV

APOSTLES' CREED

Rev. James Hilden-Minton

**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 the 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

Amy Cauble

The congregation sits or kneels.

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers,
confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

Move your church throughout the world away from judging and despising others. Lead us to embody the forgiveness you have given us in Jesus. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

The endless beauty of your creation reminds us of your mercy. Protect those who care for farms and ranches. Guide those who lead us to wonder at your creation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Raise up leaders (*like John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, whom we remember today*) to hold all in authority accountable for any misuse of the power entrusted to them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Calm the fears of all in need with your promises. Compassionately free the lives of any who feel bound by their failures. Remember your children in need.

We offer you now the concerns of our hearts, either silently or aloud.

A brief silence

- We pray for Lorraine; Sharon; Gary; Pastor Randy; Kellen.
- We pray for David; Willie; Jerry and Jackie; Roger; Jim.
- We pray for Jan; Mark; Phillip; Kathryn; Robin and Cathy.

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

- We pray for peace and reconciliation among the nations, especially in Iran, Lebanon, Gaza, Israel, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ukraine, and Myanmar.
- We pray for victims of storms and natural disasters and for all facing extreme temperatures.
- We pray for the United States as we commemorate the 25th anniversary of 9/11.
- We pray for safe and positive environments for students, teachers, and all school personnel.
- We pray for justice around the world and here at home, that God may delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion, and peace.

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

Ground this congregation in the welcome you show us in forgiving our sin. Inspire each of us to welcome others for your honor and glory. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

With you is found the joy and promise of eternal life. Keep us in that joy as we remember all those who have gone before us. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

PEACE

Rev. James Hilden-Minton

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

If you are joining us online, reach out by phone, text, email, or social media this week to share the Peace of Christ.

---MEAL---

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

Amy Cauble

We have several ways to receive your offering. There is a basket on the table by the sanctuary doors, or you can utilize the QR code on the front of your bulletin to submit your offering online. If you're joining us online, a link is available in the comments. Mailing your offering to the church is also an option.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

ELW 182

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
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OFFERING PRAYER

Amy Cauble

Let us pray.
God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always..

Amen.

DIALOGUE

Rev. James Hilden-Minton



The Lord be with you! And al-so with you! Lift up your hearts! We lift them to the Lord!



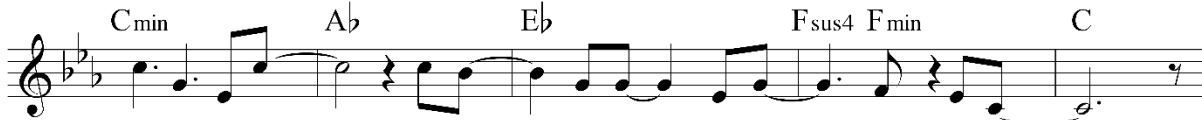
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God! It is right to give our thanks and praise.



On the night He was be-trayed, He took the bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:



"Take and eat. This is my bo-dy, gi-ven for you. Take and eat. This is my bo-dy,



gi-ven for you. Do this for the re-mem - brance of me."



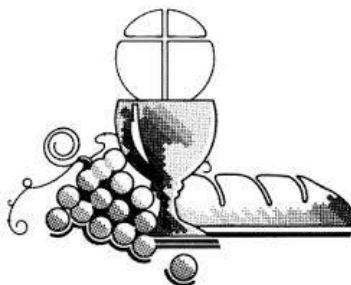
On the night He was be-trayed He took the cup gave thanks, and raised it up:



"Take and drink. This is my blood, poured out for you. Take and drink. This is my blood,



poured out for you. Do this for the re-mem - brance of me."



LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, hal-lo-wed be Thy name. Thy
king-dom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in hea-ven. Give us this
day our dai-ly bread, and for - give us as we for-give our debt-ors; and
lead us not in-to temp - ta - tion, but de - li-ver us from e - vil; for
Thine is the king-dom and the po - wer and the glo - ry, for - e - ver. A - men.

COMMUNION SONG

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin
of the world. Have mer - cy on us.
Grant us peace. Grant us peace. Grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Tune: John Tirro

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INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

The congregation is seated.

MUSIC FOR COMMUNION

The congregation stands.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Rev. James Hilden-Minton

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace unto life everlasting.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Amy Cauble

Let us pray.

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray

Amen.

---SENDING---

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Rev. James Hilden-Minton

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace

✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Blessed

SENDING SONG

Wonderful Grace of Jesus

1 Won-der - ful grace of Je - sus, great - er than all my sin;
2 Won-der - ful grace of Je - sus, reach - ing to all the lost,
3 Won-der - ful grace of Je - sus, reach - ing the most de - filed,

how shall my tongue de - scribe it, where shall its praise be - gin?
by it I have been par - doned, saved to the ut - ter - most.
by its trans - form - ing pow - er I now am God's dear child.

Tak - ing a - way my bur - den, set - ting my spir - it free—
Chains have been torn a - sun - der, giv - ing me lib - er - ty—
Pur - chas - ing peace and heav - en for all e - ter - ni - ty—

the won - der - ful grace of Je - sus reach - es me.
the won - der - ful grace of Je - sus reach - es me.
the won - der - ful grace of Je - sus reach - es me.

Refrain
Won-der-ful the match-less grace of Je - sus, deep - er than the might-y roll - ing
sea; high - er than the moun - tain, spar - kling like a foun - tain,
all suf-fi - cient grace for e - ven me; broad - er than the scope of my trans -
gres - sions, great - er far than all my sin and shame; oh,
mag - ni - fy the pre - cious name of Je - sus, praise his name!

Text: Haldor Lillenas, 1885-1959
Music: WONDERFUL GRACE, Haldor Lillenas, 1885-1959

DISMISSAL

Rev. James Hilden-Minton

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

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