

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

June 15 & 18, 2023

**The Season** After reliving the great events of the life of Christ, the worshipping Church spends half a year focusing on the teachings of Christ. The Church wears green during the season of Pentecost as the Spirit uses those teachings of Jesus to grow the faith of believers. The appointed lessons teach us the characteristics of the Holy Ministry, the Christian, the Church, our God, and the Christian life.

**The Sunday** The Holy Ministry is filled with people who God called out of his boundless mercy. Nothing else could explain the choices for ministers that God made! He calls such sinful and weak men to fill this office. Only mercy can explain the men he chose in this Sunday's lessons: a despised tax collector, an exiled killer, a persecutor of Christians. How poignant these lessons are, when we remember that each lesson was penned by the unworthy minister called into service by God's boundless mercy! *The Holy Ministry is filled with people who God called out of his boundless mercy.*

*Thursday and Sunday 8:00 begins on p. 4, Sunday 10:30 begins below*

### Hymn:

CW 297 (10:30)



1 Bap - tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it,  
2 Bap - tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it,  
3 Bap - tized in wa - ter, Sealed by the Spir - it,



Cleansed by the blood of Christ our King:  
Dead in the tomb with Christ our King:  
Marked with the sign of Christ our King:



Heirs of sal - va - tion, Trust - ing his prom - ise,  
One with his ris - ing, Freed and for - giv - en,  
Born of one Fa - ther, We are his chil - dren;



Faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
Thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.  
Joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

Text: Michael Saward, b. 1932. © 1982 The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188).  
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Tune: BUNESSAN (55 8 D) Gaelic melody, 19th century.

### Remain Seated

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

### Morrison Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical  
Lutheran Synod



MORRISON  
ZION  
LUTHERAN

Our mission is to

**Glorify God**

as we

**Gather**

around the Gospel  
to help people

**Grow**

in the Gospel  
and

**Go**

with the Gospel

**Welcome!** We  
thank God that you  
have joined us at  
worship today.

Restrooms are  
located in the  
basement. Hearing  
loop headphones and  
Large Print Hymnals  
are available from an  
usher.

If your children  
need to leave worship,  
please take them to  
the basement. A TV  
broadcasts the  
service in the  
basement.

Today we gather  
together in the  
presence of God. He  
is present among us  
in a special way  
through his Word and  
Sacrament. We  
acknowledge our sin  
and rejoice in the  
good news of  
forgiveness through  
the life and death of  
Christ. This is the  
focus of our worship.

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## CONFESSION OF SINS

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M: Our Savior Jesus Christ commanded baptism when he said: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” All of us are born into this world with a deep need for baptism. From our parents we inherit a sinful nature; we are without true fear of God and true faith in God and are condemned to eternal death. But Jesus took away our sin by giving his life on the cross. At our baptism he clothes us with the robe of his righteousness and gives us a new life. Our sinful nature need not control us any longer. We recall what baptism means for our daily lives as we speak these words:

**C: Baptism means that the sinful nature in us should be drowned by daily sorrow and repentance, and that all its evil deeds and desires be put to death. It also means that a new person should daily arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.**

M: As baptized children of God we confess our sins:

**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*The Rite of Baptism continues at the font.*

M: In obedience to the command of our Lord and trusting in his promise, you have brought this child to be baptized. Jesus told us, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.” It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy and peace to little children. By the power of God’s Word, this gracious water of life washes away sin, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

Receive the sign of the cross from the head to the heart to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

Aila Ciel Springstube, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The almighty God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a dear child of your Father in heaven.

May God strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life.  
Peace be with you.

*Stand*

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## EXHORTATION

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M: Brothers and sisters in Christ:

Our Lord commands that we teach his precious truths to all who are baptized. Christian love therefore urges all of us, especially parents and sponsors, to assist in whatever manner possible so that Aila may remain a child of God until death. If you are willing to carry out this responsibility, then answer: Yes, as God gives me strength.

**C: Yes, as God gives me strength.**

M: Let us pray:

Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the blessing of baptism by which you offer and grant the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Help us to regard our baptism as the robe of righteousness we are to wear all the days of our life. Look with special favor on Aila and grant her a rich measure of your Spirit that she may grow in faith and godly living. Make us willing to carry out our responsibilities to those who have been baptized, so that all of us may finally come to the blessed joys of heaven, through Jesus our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*Worship Continues with the Prayer and Praise at the bottom of the page 5*

## Opening Hymn

*Lord, 'Tis Not that I Did Choose You* CW 380



1 Lord, 'tis not that I did choose you; That, I  
2 It was grace in Christ that called me, Taught my  
3 Praise the God of all cre - a - tion; Praise the



know, could nev - er be, For this heart would  
dark - ened heart and mind, Else the world had  
Fa - ther's bound - less love. Praise the Lamb, our



still re - fuse you Had your grace not cho - sen me.  
yet en - thralled me, To your heav'n - ly glo - ries blind.  
ex - pi - a - tion, Priest and King en - throned a - bove.



You re - moved the sin that stained me, Cleans -  
Now I wor - ship none a - bove you; For  
Praise the Spir - it of sal - va - tion, Him



ing me to be your own; For this pur - pose  
your grace a - lone I thirst, Know - ing well that,  
by whom our spir - its live. Un - di - vid - ed



you or - dained me, That I live for you a - lone.  
if I love you, You, O Fa - ther, loved me first.  
ad - o - ra - tion To the great Je - ho - vah give.

Text: Josiah Conder, 1789–1855, alt.

Tune: O DU LIEBE MEINER LIEBE (87 87 D) *Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz*, Basel, 1745, alt.

*Stand*

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

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## CONFESSION OF SINS

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M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

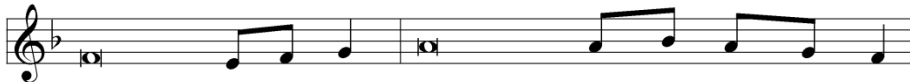
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## PRAYER AND PRAISE

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M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

### Glory Be To God



C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,



we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the



sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the  
 sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of  
 God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;  
 you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Spirit,  
 are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

### Prayer of the Day

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

**M:** Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who trust in you, mercifully hear our prayers. Be gracious to us in our weakness and give us strength to keep your commandments in all we say and do; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

*Be Seated*

## THE WORD

### First Lesson

### Exodus 3:1-15

We see the pre-incarnate Christ calling Moses into service by his mercy. What else could explain the choice? Moses had already proven himself a failure at delivering God's people from bondage. He was an exiled killer, living in the wilds of Midian after fleeing the court of Pharaoh. No wonder Moses asked, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh?" Everyone called into God's service asks this question of themselves again and again. It comes from knowing that only mercy can explain God choosing us to serve him. But when the minister stops marveling at God's mercy and instead starts questioning God's choice, then God's answer rings out loud and true: I. Not you. I. Thirteen times in the NIV God uses the first person pronoun. Can the point be clearer? Your call is by my mercy, and the ability to perform the service I give you comes only from me, the great I AM. What comfort for both preacher and parishioner!

**3** Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. **2** There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. **3** So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”

**4** When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!”

And Moses said, “Here I am.”

**5** “Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” **6** Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

**7** The LORD said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. **8** So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. **9** And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. **10** So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”

**11** But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

**12** And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

**13** Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

**14** God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

**15** God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’”

“This is my name forever,  
the name you shall call me  
from generation to generation. (NIV)

## Psalm of the Day

## Psalm 119c

### Refrain



Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

### Psalm tone



Oh, how I love your law!\*

I meditate on it all day long.

I have more insight than all my teachers,\*  
for I meditate on your statutes.

I have more understanding than the elders,\*  
for I obey your precepts.

### Refrain

I have kept my feet from every evil path\*  
so that I might obey your Word.

I have not departed from your laws,\*  
for you yourself have taught me.

How sweet are your words to my taste,\*  
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### Refrain

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## Second Lesson

## 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Paul tells the end result of a bright light on the Damascus road—Christ had come to call Saul to service by his mercy. But what an astounding choice! Such a man, to such an office! Only mercy could explain why Christ picked Paul, the worst of sinners. Could there have been a more unlikely man to call as Apostle to the Gentiles? The reason had nothing to do with Paul. It had to do with Christ. It had to do with us: Jesus wanted us to know that the call to ministry is not based on merit, but on mercy. Here is the example of ministry based on Christ's mercy and not human merit: Saul, the persecutor, is called into ministry as Paul, the Apostle. When he reflects on God calling him to ministry, Paul cannot help but sing the praises of the King of mercy.

<sup>12</sup> I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service. <sup>13</sup> Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and



unbelief. <sup>14</sup> The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

<sup>15</sup> Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the worst. <sup>16</sup> But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life. <sup>17</sup> Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen. (NIV)

### **Verse of the Day**

M: Alleluia. God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Alleluia. (2 Corinthians 5:19)

*Stand*

M: The Gospel according to Matthew 9

**C: Glory be to you, O Lord!**

### **Gospel**

### **Matthew 9:9-13**

The call of Matthew manifests the mercy of God. The Pharisees knew the Scriptures and walked the walk. They left no sacrifice undone. Their outward righteousness and place of respect among the people were the mirror opposite of the man sitting in the tax collector's booth. His only companions were the other "sinners" who lived beyond the pale of Jewish Law. Yet the call of Christ to faith and apostleship did not come to these outwardly righteous Pharisees, but to the tax collector. Jesus tells the teachers of Israel to go and learn Scripture, to see the difference between mercy and sacrifice...to see that their claims of righteousness were nothing but more whitewash on tombs. Can they really be healthy when they are blind to mercy for their brothers, blind to the prophets, and blind to the Messiah? Christ wanted different ministers than these. He wanted ministers who knew the mercy of God and would share the mercy of God. So he turned to the sinner, Matthew, and called him from his life of sin to a life of ministry with those merciful words, "Follow me."

<sup>9</sup> As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.

<sup>10</sup> While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. <sup>11</sup> When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

<sup>12</sup> On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. <sup>13</sup> But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.'<sup>[Hosea 6:6]</sup> For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners." (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

### **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth,**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

*Be Seated*

**Hymn of the Day:**

*Let Me Be Yours Forever CW 596*



1 Let me be yours for - ev - er, My faith - ful  
 2 Lord Je - sus, my sal - va - tion, My light, my  
 3 O gra - cious Ho - ly Spir - it, My com - fort -



God and Lord; Let me for - sake you nev - er  
 life di - vine, My on - ly con - so - la - tion,  
 er and guide, Grant that in Je - sus' mer - it



Nor wan - der from your Word. Lord, do not  
 To you I all re - sign, For you have  
 I al - ways may con - fide, Him to the



let me wa - ver But give me stead -  
 dear - ly bought me With blood and bit -  
 end con - fess - ing Whom I have known



fast - ness, And for such grace and fa - vor  
 ter pain. Let me, since you have sought me,  
 by faith. Give me your con - stant bless - ing



Your ho - ly name I'll bless.  
 E - ter - nal life ob - tain.  
 And grant a Chris - tian death.

## Sermon

Exodus 3:1-15

## Offering

*Stand*

## Prayer of the Church

### Lord's Prayer

**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.**

M: Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

### Benediction

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

*Be Seated*

# Closing Hymn

# Go, My Children, With My Blessing CW 332



1 Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing,  
2 Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en,  
3 Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished,  
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you



Nev - er a - lone. Wak - ing, sleep - ing,  
At peace and pure. Here you learned how  
Clos - er to me; Grow in love and  
And give you peace; I the Lord will



I am with you; You are my own.  
much I love you, What I can cure.  
love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free.  
smile up - on you And give you peace;



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; Here you  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here his  
I the Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior,



made you mine for - ev - er. Go, my chil - dren,  
touched him, saw his glo - ry. Go, my chil - dren,  
ten - der com - fort stilled you. Go, my chil - dren,  
Com - fort - er, and Broth - er. Go, my chil - dren;



with my bless - ing— You are my own.  
sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.  
fed and nour - ished, Joy - ful and free.  
I will keep you And give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008. © 1983 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
Tune: AR HYD Y NOS (84 84 88 84) Welsh melody, 18th century.