



And
So it is that ^{the} last
shall be first and
the first - last MATT 20:16

September 18, 2011 – 11:00am

Refrain: Congregation

Verse 2: Cantor/Choir

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Creator.
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the God of Love:
receive our prayer.

Refrain: Congregation

Verse 3: Cantor/Choir

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit
in the Glory of God almighty. Amen.

f Refrain

Glo-ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, sing_ .
Glo-ri - a, sing to God on high. Glo-ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o, sing_ .
peace to God's peo - ple on earth. Sing_ peace to God's peo - ple on earth. ___

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We focus our attention on our relationship with God.

A: Almighty and eternal God,
C: **you show perpetual loving kindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

Please be seated

CHORAL OFFERING *Softly and Tenderly, Jesus Is Calling*
Paul Davis – soloist

Thompson

WORD

READING: Philippians 1:21-30

A contemporary of Jesus writes about how Jesus can affect us: Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well — ³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

A: The Word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Stand as you are able.

PSALM: Psalm 145:1-8 (sung responsively)

¹I will exalt you, my ¹God and king,
and bless your name forev- ¹er and ever.

**²Every day¹ will I bless you
and praise your name fore-¹er and ever.**

**³Great is the LORD and greatly¹ to be praised!
There is no end¹ to your greatness.**

**⁴One generation shall praise your works¹ to another
and shall de-¹clare your power.**

**⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor¹ of your majesty
and all your¹ marvelous works.**

**⁶They shall tell of the might of your¹ wondrous acts,
and I will re-¹count your greatness.**

**⁷They shall publish the remembrance of¹ your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully¹ of your righteousness.**

**⁸The LORD is gracious and full¹ of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in¹ steadfast love.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 20th chapter.
C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

The Good News of how Jesus fits into our lives: Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' ⁵So they went. ⁶When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁷And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁸They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁹When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ¹⁰When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹¹Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹²And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹³saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹⁴But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁵Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give

to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

P: The Gospel of the Lord
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Be seated

CHILDREN'S TIME (Children are invited to come forward for a message.)
The Good News is shared with our children.

DISTRIBUTION of Confirmation Bibles to 6th graders: *Mara DiDonato, Cooper Jacobs, Tristan Mitchell, Amelia Shunk, Hayden Stocker, Luke Zlatunich*

SERMON

God's word is explained and applied to our daily lives.

Pastor Gable

Stand as you are able

HYMN

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

We sing our praise to God.

(During this hymn, prayer requests will be collected and brought forward by the usher.)

Prayer request slips (yellow) can be found in a pocket folder in the back of the pew in front of you.)



Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for
Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us
Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your



love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear, though
as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim, but
joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty to

(Cont'd)



marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our
 by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your
 turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that



heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.
 mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.
 faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

Text: Brian Wren, b. 1936, © 1977, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company
 Music: MELITA John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

APOSTLES' CREED

P: There is one Lord, one faith, and one baptism. United in Christ, let us confess the faith we hold in common.

C: 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

A: Seeking the renewal of the Holy Spirit in our communities and in our world, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

A: Generous and merciful God, pour out your grace upon your people, especially when we are suffering. Support us to persist joyfully in our lives, so that others may see your goodness. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Be present in the ongoing work of peacemakers. Use them to establish your peace among nations and your hope among peoples. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Guide those who are confused, are losing memory, or are failing in health (*especially . . .*) and those we name before you out loud or that we hold in the quiet of our hearts. Give them security in your abundant goodness and hope in your promises. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Renew the lives of those celebrating baptismal anniversaries especially, Caitlin Jacobs. Continue to bless her life and stir in her heart passion for the ministry to which you have called her. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Transform our communities into places of welcome for those who have been shunned or marginalized. Send us forth with greetings of grace and peace on our lips. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, holy God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

MEAL

SHARING THE PEACE

We greet each other with love and compassion.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Greet one another with a sign of peace.

Be seated

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME AND TALENTS

Our offerings are received

We celebrate the gifts we have received. We acknowledge the ways we use our gifts.

Stand as you are able

OFFERTORY

Congregation *f*

Lord, we of - fer up to
heav - en our sac - ri - fice now. Lord,
* *Fine*
op - en thou my lips and my mouth shall sing praise.
mf
1. Oh Lord, we of - fer thanks and praise for
D.S. al Fine
bless - ings poured up - on us. Lord, we

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Merciful God,

C: as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

We prepare ourselves to receive the bread & wine of communion which we believe is the body & blood of Christ.

Leader All Leader
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts.
All Leader
We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

f Refrain
Sanc - tus, Sanc - tus, Sanc - tus. Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly.
Sanc - tus, Sanc - tus, Sanc - tus. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

A: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth, Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

C: Refrain

A: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Heaven and earth, Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

C: Refrain

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

Be seated

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

By eating the bread & drinking the wine we receive Christ into our lives to strengthen & nurture us spiritually.

All who believe that Christ comes to us through this bread and wine are invited to the communion table

*The bread and wine will be distributed continuously at the communion rail. Please come forward at the invitation of the usher. **White grape juice** is provided on each tray of glasses. You may take **red wine** or **white grape juice** from the **individual glasses** or drink from the **common cup**.*

LAMB OF GOD

Leader

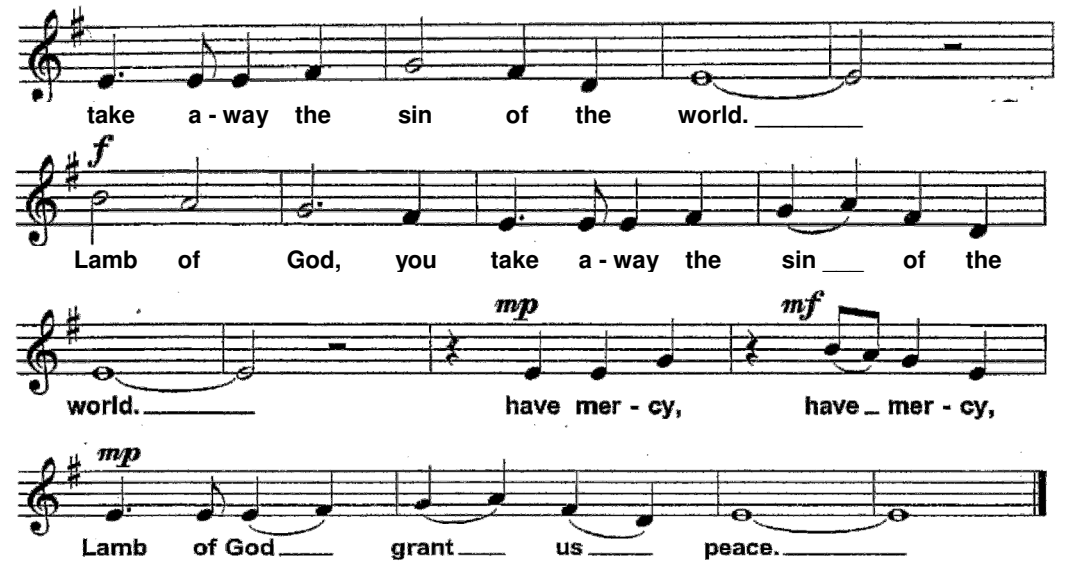


Lamb of God, who takes a-way the sin of the world. Grant us your peace.

mp Congregation



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

MUSIC

Make Us True Servants
Marilyn Davis - flautist

arr. Purifoy

Stand as you are able

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: God our shepherd,

C: you have gathered us again from scattered places and nourished us with rich food in word and sacrament. Go with us now, that we may seek the lost, bind up the injured, and strengthen the weak, until you gather us and all the saints into your eternal feast with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

We are blessed so that we might be a blessing every day of the week.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen

Please turn and face the cross as the cross bearer recesses to the back of the church. This symbolizes that we are following Christ into the world.

SENDING HYMN *The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve* **ELW** (red book) # 551

DISMISSAL

We go out into our daily lives renewed, refreshed and restored for service in the world.

A: Go in peace. The Lord is near.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Alerte

Poulenc

Worship Assistants

Assisting Lay Minister

Greeter

Usher

Lector

Communion Assistant

Sound

Altar Guild

Counter

Paul Davis

Barbara Bischoff

Joe O'Neill, Jr.

Annemarie Hofling

Barbara Bischoff & Jane McKenzie

John Bischoff

Bev Kamphoefner

Kamphoefner



The Sanctuary flowers are given by the Randigs in glory to God.



We wish to thank Jane McKenzie for hosting coffee hour this morning.

Announcements

This Week's Calendar

| | | |
|-----------|---------|---|
| Sunday | Sept 18 | 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am KOTK classes 10:15am Adult Education led by Ted Peters 11:00am Worship Service 5:00pm Confirmation Class 8:00pm AA Meeting |
| Monday | Sept 19 | Pastor Tom office hours: 10:00am-2:00pm Pastor Kathryn – day off 9:30am OA Meeting 6:30pm MA Meeting 7:30pm Men's Alanon |
| Tuesday | Sept 20 | Pastors' office hours: 10:00am -2:00pm 10a-5p Marin Writers Group 10:30am Pastors meet with David 7:00pm SLAA Meeting 7:15pm Church Council Meets |
| Wednesday | Sept 21 | Pastor Tom office hours: 10:00am-2:00pm Pastor Kathryn – day off 12:15pm Men's Lunch – Rocco's Pizzeria, 711 E. Blithdale Ave., MV 7:00pm Choir Practice |
| Thursday | Sept 22 | Pastor Kathryn out on visits Pastor Tom – day off 9:30am Recovery International |
| Friday | Sept 23 | Pastor Kathryn office hours: 1:00-2:30pm Pastor Tom – day off 9:30am OA Meeting 5:30pm Alanon Meeting 8:30pm AA Meeting |
| Saturday | Sept 24 | |
| Sunday | Sept 25 | Pastor Tom departs for immersion trip to El Salvador 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am KOTK classes 10:15am Adult Education led by Ted Peters 11:00am Worship Service |

+ **Our adult class** led by PLTS Professor Ted Peters continues this morning in a three-part session on *Sin: Understanding Myself as a Sinner and Embracing It*, it will conclude next Sunday, September 25. Copies of an article co-authored by Ted Peters, *What Is Sin?* for the November issue of *The Lutheran* magazine are on the table in the narthex. Those interested in more in-depth reading, the book, *Sin – Radical Evil in Soul and Society* authored by Ted Peters is recommended. It is available from amazon.com.

+ The **Time & Talent Fair** is scheduled for **Sunday, October 2nd**. Come that day and see what all the committee/ministry teams at church are planning or involved in. You can learn a lot about our church this way.

+ **Fabric (Sewing) Kits for Lutheran World Relief:** This year, the fall LWR project that the women are undertaking is the collection of Fabric Kits. As always, the help of the entire congregation is being asked for. You may shop for the fabric/thread that is needed to make each kit, or you may donate money and the MLC professional shoppers will be happy to purchase the necessary supplies for the kits. See the insert found in the narthex for the requirements – these need to be followed exactly to maximize their usefulness. All the kits we collect will be delivered to the LWR Ingathering in Antioch on October 8th.

+ **2nd mile giving** for September is the ELCA Disaster Fund. Though vital all year, it follows in the wake of Hurricane Irene, and the fires in Texas when increased funding is needed to help with the recovery efforts of these disasters. Please make checks payable to MLC and note “2nd mile” or “ELCA Disaster” in the memo line.

+ **Pictorial Directory:** It is time to put together a new pictorial directory for our congregation. Lifetouch will be doing this for us. They will be here three days in October – 20, 21 & 22 to take our pictures. We ask that you sign up for a portrait sitting time. You may do this by visiting our web site www.marinlutheran.com. On the home page is a link to Lifetouch's on line scheduling. **A sign-up sheet is also available this morning in the narthex where you can sign up for an appointment.**

+ Please keep **Pastor Tom** and the other religious leaders who will be **visiting El Salvador** next week (September 25th through October 1st) in your prayers. They are going on an immersion trip hosted by International Partners in Mission (IPM). (This is the group with whom Jim K. traveled to Nicaragua a couple years ago.) As part of the trip they will visit educational programs supported by IPM and some important cultural and religious sites.

+ **Remember these People in Prayer:** Anker & Lee Andersen, Emmy Anderson, Clint Bell, Margot Gergus, Dorothy Walters, Jean Wallman, Shirley & Dick Morrow (Susan's parents), Don & Neva Conrad (Michele Jacobs' parents), Sebastian (Cathie Schinski's friend), Ilton da Costa, Jr., serving in Afghanistan.

Marin Lutheran Church

OFFICE HOURS

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(415) 924-3785

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EMAILS

Pastor Tom Gable

Pastor Kathryn Gulbranson

PastorTomGable@gmail.com

PastorKathryn@msn.com

Worship Attendance

Last Sunday

9:00am – 62; 11:00am – 27

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**The Last
Will Be
First**