17th Sunday after Pentecost September 24th, 2023





A common focus for the month of September is education. In Great Britain, the school term for autumn traditionally begins on or near September 29, the day Christians traditionally celebrate St. Michael and All Angels. Our learning goes on throughout our lives. A Sunday School song by American hymnwriter Fanny J. Crosby, who lived from 1820 to 1915, begins, "Let me learn of Jesus; He is kind to me; once He died to save me, nailed upon the tree." Learning the greatness of our God and growing in our understanding of the amazing plan for our salvation is our duty and delight in every season of our earthly life. And it does not stop then. The German hymnwriter Johann Mentzer, who lived in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, shares a special vision of heaven as he concludes the text of "Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices" with a view of eternal education, expressing the faithful hope one day that he will "learn with choirs of heaven to sing eternal anthems to my King" (*LSB* 811:5). May our learning and our singing both be blessed!

Opening Hymn: LSB #557 Seek Where You May to Find a Way

Confession and Absolution

Psalmody

Venite LSB 220

Psalmody

Psalms Psalm 27:1–9; antiphon: v. 4a

Hymn of the Day: LSB #555 "Salvation unto Us Has Come"

Readings

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:6–9

New Testament Reading

Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

Holy Gospel Reading Matthew 20:1–16

Responsory LSB 221

Sermon

Canticle

Benedictus LSB 226

Offering

Prayer

Kyrie LSB 227

LSB 227

Collects LSB 227

Collect of the Day

Collect for Grace

Benedicamus LSB 228

Benediction LSB 228

Closing Hymn: LSB #853 "How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord"

Acknowledgments

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I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. *Philippians* 1:12–13,