

June 26 & 29, 2025  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



*Art inspired by the Gospel Lesson  
Luke 9:58 - Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."*

## Undivided Attention On Christ's Call for Commitment

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There is the type of fan who follows his team if they make the playoffs. Then there is the type of fan who, regardless of his team's record, watches every game and knows the stats for every player. There are different types of followers: the half-hearted versus the committed. Jesus is uninterested in followers who pay attention to his Word and will only when their other pursuits provide the time. Jesus wants followers who are all in . . . who love him above all things . . . who would be willing to leave everything else behind if that were what it would take to be with him. We simply do not have it inside us to produce that level of commitment. But in the gospel, we see how Jesus went all in for our salvation. As we witness the way Jesus made our eternal happiness the focus of his undivided attention, the Spirit creates within us the very commitment that Christ seeks.

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## Opening Hymn

## Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake *CW*<sup>21</sup> 702:1-2



1 “Come, fol - low me,” the Sav - ior spake, “all in my  
2 “I am the light, I light the way, a god - ly  
way a - bid - ing; de - ny your-selves, the world for - sake,  
life dis - play - ing; I bid you walk as in the day,  
o - bey my call and guid - ing. O bear the cross, what -  
I keep your feet from stray - ing. I am the way, and  
e’er be - tide, take my ex - am - ple for your guide.  
well I show how you must so - journ here be - low.

Text: Johann Scheffler, 1624–1677, abr.; tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–1896, alt.

Tune: Bartholomäus Gesius, c. 1555–1613, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

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### INVOCATION AND CONFESSION OF SINS

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

**Congregation: And also with you.**

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

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## PRAYER AND PRAISE

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

### Hymn

### Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake CW<sup>21</sup> 702:3-4



3 "I teach you how to shun and flee what harms your  
4 Then let us fol - low Christ our Lord and take the  
soul's sal - va - tion, your heart from ev - 'ry guile to free,  
cross ap - point - ed and, firm - ly cling - ing to his Word,  
from sin and its temp - ta - tion. I am the ref - uge  
in suf - f'ring be un - daunt - ed. For those who bear the  
of the soul and lead you to your heav'n - ly goal."  
bat-tle's strain the crown of heav'n - ly life ob - tain.

Text: tr. Charles W. Schaeffer, 1813–1896, alt.; (st. 3): Geistliche Lieder und Lobgesänge, 1695; (st. 4): Johann Scheffler, 1624–1677, abr.  
Tune: Bartholomäus Gesius, c. 1555–1613, adapt.  
Text and tune: Public domain

### Prayer of the Day

M O God, you have prepared joys beyond understanding for those who love you. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

*Be Seated*

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## THE WORD

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### Epistle Lesson

### 2 Corinthians 11:21b-30

Christ had shown grace to Paul. That grace moved Paul to be committed to Christ, no matter the personal cost.

<sup>21</sup> However bold anyone might be (I am speaking in a foolish way), I am going to be bold too. <sup>22</sup> Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they Abraham's seed? So am I. <sup>23</sup> Are they ministers of Christ? (I am speaking in a crazy way.) I am even more. I've done more hard work, been in prisons more often, been whipped far more, and I've been close to death many times. <sup>24</sup> Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. <sup>25</sup> Three times I was beaten with rods. One time I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked. I have spent a night and a day on the open sea. <sup>26</sup> I have often been on journeys, in danger from rivers, in danger from robbers, in danger from my own people, in danger from Gentiles, in danger in the city, in danger in the wilderness, in danger on the sea, in danger among false brothers. <sup>27</sup> I have worked hard and struggled. I've spent many sleepless nights. I've been hungry and thirsty. I've gone without food many times. I've been cold and lacked clothing.

<sup>28</sup> Besides those external matters, there is the daily pressure on me of my concern for all the churches. <sup>29</sup> Who is weak without my being weak? Who falls into sin without my being distressed?

<sup>30</sup> If it is necessary that I boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.  
(EHV)

## Psalm of the Day

Psalm 62 CW<sup>93</sup>

### *Refrain*



The might-y Lord is with us; the God of Ja-cob is our for-tress.

### *Psalm tone*



My soul finds rest in God alone;\*  
my salvation comes from him.

He alone is my rock and my salvation;\*  
he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.

Find rest, O my soul, in God alone;\*  
my hope comes from him.

### *Refrain*

Though your riches increase,\*  
do not set your heart on them.

My salvation and my honor depend on God;\*  
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.

Trust in him at all times, O people;\*  
pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

**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*

Refrain Tune: Dale Wood. From *Seasonal Psalms*. © 1978 Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

*Stand*

## Gospel Lesson

**Luke 9:51-62**

Jesus teaches that following him means leaving this world behind.

<sup>51</sup> When the days were approaching for him to be taken up, Jesus was determined to go to Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup> He sent messengers ahead of him. They went and entered a Samaritan village to make preparations for him. <sup>53</sup> But the people did not welcome him, because he was determined to go to Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup> When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, “Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?”

<sup>55</sup> But he turned and rebuked them. “You don’t know what kind of spirit is influencing you. <sup>56</sup> For the Son of Man did not come to destroy people’s souls, but to save them.” Then they went to another village.

<sup>57</sup> As they went on the way, a man said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.”

<sup>58</sup> Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.”

<sup>59</sup> He said to another man, “Follow me!”

But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”

<sup>60</sup> Jesus told him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”

<sup>61</sup> Another man also said, “I will follow you, Lord, but first let me say good-bye to those at my home.”

<sup>62</sup> Jesus told him, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.” (EHV)

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

## Take My Life and Let It Be *CW*<sup>21</sup> 695



- 1 Take my life and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly for my King;  
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with-hold;



take my mo-ments and my days, let them flow in cease-less praise.  
take my feet and let them be swift and beau-ti - ful for thee.  
take my lips and let them be filled with mes-sag - es from thee.  
take my in - tel - lect and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

- 5 Take my will and make it thine,  
it shall be no longer mine;  
take my heart, it is thine own,  
it shall be thy royal throne.

- 6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879  
Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

## 1 Kings 19:19–21

Elisha commits himself completely to the work to which the Lord had called him, leaving family and wealth behind.

<sup>19</sup> So Elijah went from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat. Elisha was doing the plowing with twelve teams of oxen in front of him, and he himself was driving the twelfth team. Elijah crossed over to him and threw his cloak over him. <sup>20</sup> Then Elisha left the oxen and ran after Elijah. He said, “Let me kiss my father and my mother good-bye! Then I will follow you.”

Then Elijah said, “Go back! For what have I done to you?”

<sup>21</sup> So Elisha turned back from following him. Then he took the team of oxen and slaughtered them. Using the equipment from the oxen as fuel, he cooked the meat and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he got up, followed Elijah, and served him. (EHV)



## WELS Connection

**Installation of Morrison Leadership Team (Sunday 8 am)**

*Stand*

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## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below. You keep your promises to your servants and have fulfilled all things through your holy Son, Jesus Christ.

Your Name is among us, Lord. **Hear your servants' plea for mercy.**

You have clothed us in the righteousness of your Son and have adopted us as your own. Since we are heirs of all things according to your promise in Christ, fill our hearts with faith and hope in every situation.

Your Name is among us, Lord. **Hear your servants' plea for mercy.**

None of us are worthy to have you come under our roof, but you are pleased to dwell among us. Call people near and far into your church by your Word, and bring them to new life by your Spirit.

Your Name is among us, Lord. **Hear your servants' plea for mercy.**

Let your peace guard the hearts and minds of your people when the wicked attack, exploit and deceive. Bring discernment, healing and strength with the truth of your Word.

Your Name is among us, Lord. **Hear your servants' plea for mercy.**

You have come to the help of your servants, and have remembered your promise of mercy by sending Jesus Christ to be the Savior of humanity. Fill us with this blessed hope, that we may always bear fruits of faith for your glory.

Your Name is among us, Lord. **Hear your servants' plea for mercy.**

Look on those who suffer afflictions and illnesses of all kinds, [*especially...*]. In their troubles draw them to you. With your Word strengthen their faith. Then say the word, and your servants will be healed.

Your Name is among us, Lord. **Hear your servants' plea for mercy.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you the prayers from the depths of our hearts.

*Silent prayer.*

Almighty God, you are the only source of health and healing. In you there is calm, and the only true peace in the world. In all pain, weariness and anxiety teach us to yield ourselves to your never-failing care, trusting in your wisdom and providence to give us health, strength and peace when your time is best; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

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## **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: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

## **Benediction**

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.**

## Closing Hymn

## I'm But a Stranger Here CW<sup>21</sup> 853



1 I'm but a stran - ger here, heav'n is my home;  
2 What though the tem - pest rage, heav'n is my home;  
3 There - fore I mur - mur not, heav'n is my home;



earth is a des - ert drear, heav'n is my home;  
short is my pil - grim - age, heav'n is my home;  
what - e'er my earth - ly lot, heav'n is my home;



dan - ger and sor - row stand round me on ev - 'ry hand;  
and time's wild, win - try blast soon shall be o - ver - past;  
and I shall sure - ly stand there at my Lord's right hand;



heav'n is my fa - ther - land, heav'n is my home.  
I shall reach home at last, heav'n is my home.  
heav'n is my fa - ther - land, heav'n is my home.

Text: Thomas R. Taylor, 1807–1835, abr.

Tune: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900

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