

# All Saints Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

16510 Mt Oak Rd, Bowie, MD 20716      301-249-6300

## Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2023



SUNDAY WORSHIP In Person & Live Stream 10:30 a.m.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsBowie>

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CHURCH OFFICE

301-249-6300 | [church@allsaintsbowie.org](mailto:church@allsaintsbowie.org) | [www.allsaintsbowie.org](http://www.allsaintsbowie.org)

16510 Mount Oak Road, Bowie, MD 20716

## Worship Notes

\* indicates when the assembly is invited so stand

P = Presiding Minister

A = Assisting Minister

**C = Congregation**

*Words in italics are instructions and notes*

**Bold and Underlined are when to switch to the weekly insert.  
This happens for the weekly hymns and readings.**

The word "assembly" describes the whole of the gathered people of God: if you are unable to stand where the bulletin says "the assembly stands," know that you are still part of the assembly no matter your physical ability.

### Communion Instructions and Notes:

All are welcome at Christ's Table. For communion, ASLC offers gluten-free and dairy-free bread. Please pick up an empty cup for wine, or a prefilled cup of grape juice in the center of the tray, as you come to the Lord's Table by the center aisle. Empty cups may be placed in the bowls at the front of each aisle as you return to your seat.

If you are seated on the left side of the sanctuary, please approach the altar from the center aisle and fill in spaces to the left of the altar beginning at the front. If you are seated on the right side, approach the altar from the right side of the center aisle and fill in spaces beginning at the back of the altar.

If you cannot come to the table, the table can come to you: indicate to an usher and they will make sure communion is brought to you in your seat.

### For this joining us electronically

Welcome! You are part of our assembly. You are invited to join as fully as you are able, including sharing the peace by text, email, or phone call at the appropriate time!

Gathering  
*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude *We center our hearts and minds for worship.*

\*Confession & Forgiveness

*The assembly stands.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection*

P: Steadfast and faithful God,

**C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.**

**We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.**

**We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.**

**For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.**

**For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.**

**Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;**

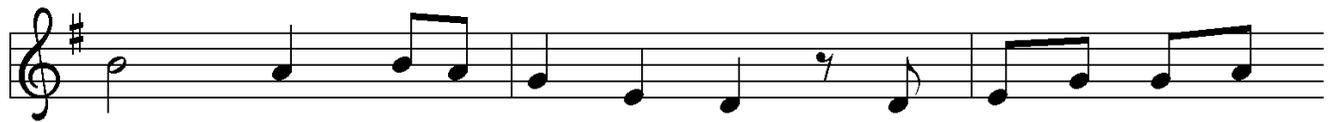
**In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, ... you are already and always forgiven.

**C: Amen.**

## **\*Gathering Hymn: Light Dawns on a Weary World**



1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to  
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find  
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -



see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a  
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a



wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

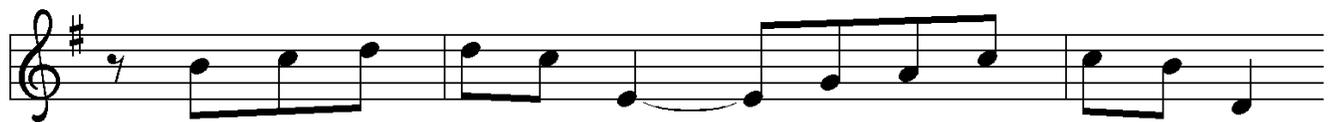


*Refrain*

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;



the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!



We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,



as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951

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\*Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ... be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

\*Canticle of Praise



1 ¡Glo-ria a Dios, glo-ria a Dios, glo - ria en los cie - los!  
1 Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!



¡Glo-ria a Dios, glo-ria a Dios, glo - ria en los cie - los!  
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!



¡A Dios la glo-ria por siem-pre! ¡A Dios la glo-ria por siem-pre!  
To God be glo-ry for - ev - er! To God be glo-ry for - ev - er!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!  
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!  
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén! ¡A - le - lu - ya! ¡A - mén!  
Al - le - lu - ia! A - men! Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

2 Glory to God,  
glory to God,  
glory to Christ Jesus!

3 Glory to God,  
glory to God,  
glory to the Spirit!

## **\*Prayer of the Day**

P: We pray together. Holy God,

**C: we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Word

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

## **Children's Chat**

### **First Reading: Exodus 14:19-31**

<sup>19</sup>The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. <sup>20</sup>It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

<sup>21</sup>Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. <sup>22</sup>The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. <sup>23</sup>The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. <sup>24</sup>At the morning watch the Lord in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. <sup>25</sup>He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the Lord is fighting for them against Egypt."

<sup>26</sup>Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." <sup>27</sup>So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the Lord tossed the Egyptians into the sea. <sup>28</sup>The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. <sup>29</sup>But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

<sup>30</sup>Thus the Lord saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw

the Egyptians dead on the seashore. <sup>31</sup>Israel saw the great work that the Lord did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the Lord and believed in the Lord and in his servant Moses.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 114

Hallelujah! When Israel came out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange speech,

**Judah became God's sanctuary and Israel God's dominion.**

The sea beheld it and fled; Jordan turned and went back.

**The mountains skipped like rams, and the little hills like young sheep.**

What ailed you, O Sea, that you fled, O Jordan, that you turned back,  
**You mountains, that you skipped like rams, you little hills like young sheep?**

Tremble, O earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob,

**Who turned the hard rock into a pool of water and flint-stone into a flowing spring.**

### Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on servants 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.

<sup>5</sup>Some 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. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If 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. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why 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. <sup>11</sup>For it is written,

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

<sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

L: Word of God, Word of life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

A-le-lu-ya, a-le-lu-ya. A-le-lu-ya, a-le-lu-ya.  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

A-le-lu-ya, a-le-lu-ya. El Se-ñor re-su-ci-tó.  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. Christ is ris-en, ris'n in-deed.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 7/8. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff. The first system of music has two lines of lyrics. The second system of music also has two lines of lyrics. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with chords and single notes.

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup>and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together

with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But 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.' <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>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. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

P: This is the gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Sermon

### **\*Hymn of the Day: God's Work, Our Hands**

*The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song. (see next page)*

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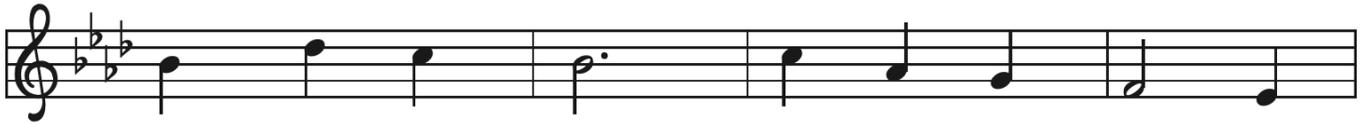
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1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,  
 2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,  
 3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,  
 4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,  
 fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,  
 prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,  
 seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,  
 walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,  
 pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,  
 Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.  
 run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.  
 claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.  
 gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,  
 Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,  
 Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,  
 Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.  
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.  
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.  
 shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

\*Apostles' Creed

P: Let us join our voices in confessing our shared faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

**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

*The assisting minister invites the assembly into prayer.*

Peace

*The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*The assembly shares the peace of the Lord with each other, being mindful of others' personal health concerns and preferences.*

## Meal

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### Musical Offering

#### Offertory Hymn

*The assembly stands to sing as the table is set.*



*Nues-tro Pa - dre nos in - vi - ta a la me - sa de la*  
God ex - tends an in - vi - ta - tion to the ta - ble of cre -



*vi - da, don - de hay vi - no, luz y pan; y no -*  
a - tion, where there's wine and light and bread. Here we



*so - tros nos reu - ni - mos, y lo nues - tro com - par - ti - mos, pues a -*  
gath - er in thanks - giv - ing and we of - fer all our liv - ing. Here the



*sí es la co - mu - nión; pues a - sí es la co - mu - nión.*  
feast of life is spread; here the feast of life is spread.

#### \*Offering Prayer

A: Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

**C: Amen.**

\*Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day or season.*

\*Sanctus



San-to, san - to, san - to Dios de glo - ria y po - der,  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly God of pow - er and might,



cie - los y tie - rra pro - cla - man tu glo - ria.  
heav - en and earth . . . are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na en los cie - los.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na en los cie - los.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.



Ben - di - to a - quel que vie - ne en el nom - bre de Dios.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of our God.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na en los cie - los.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na en los cie - los.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### \*Thanksgiving at the Table

### \*Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into the one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

### Distribution

*Instructions for distribution can be found on page 2 of this document.*

# Lamb of God



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui - tas el pe -  
O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the



ca - do del mun - do: ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.  
sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up - on us.



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui - tas el pe -  
O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the



ca - do del mun - do: ten pie - dad de no - so - tros.  
sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up - on us.



Cor - de - ro de Dios, tú que qui - tas el pe -  
O Lamb . . of God, you . . take a - way the



ca - do del mun - do: ten pie - dad de no -  
sin of the world; . . . have . . mer - cy up -



so - tros, ten pie - dad de no - so - stros.  
on us, have . . . mer - cy up - on us.



Da - nos tu paz. A - mén.  
Grant us your peace. A - men.

## Communion Chant

*Na - da te tur - be, na - da te es - pan - te.*  
Noth - ing can trou - ble, noth - ing can fright - en.

*Quien a Dios tie - ne na - da le fal - ta. Na - da te tur - be,*  
Those who seek God shall nev - er go want - ing. Noth - ing can trou - ble,

*na - da te es - pan - te. So - lo Dios bas - ta.*  
noth - ing can fright - en. God a - lone fills us.

## \*Post-Communion Prayer

**A:** We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

## Sending

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

### \*Blessing

### \*Sending Hymn: All Creatures, Worship God Most High!



- 1 All crea-tures, wor - ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and  
2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and  
3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth - ful, strong; drive far the shad - ows, join the  
4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen - dor  
grain: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,  
throng: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in  
grieve: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur - dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:  
clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:  
fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

5 And you, most gentle sister death,  
waiting to hush our final breath:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,  
fair is the night that leads us home.  
Alleluia.

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,  
and worship God with humble heart:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,  
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:  
Alleluia.

### \*Dismissal

A: We go in peace. God is at work in us.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

## Worship Matters

### New Perspective

Being a disciple requires an expansive perspective on forgiveness. Today our perspective is broadened by the good news that God's forgiveness is not based on our idea of fairness, but rather on abundant, unimaginable grace. God "does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities" (Ps. 103:10). The king forgives our entire debt, no matter how enormous it is (Matt. 18:23-27). We also are challenged to stretch our perspective and forgive each other. With Peter, we learn to stop keeping score (Matt. 18:21-22).

It's not an easy thing to do. Again and again we fall back on limited human understandings of what is "fair." Looking at the story of Joseph and his brothers, it's easy for us to say that his brothers really didn't deserve forgiveness. Even their plea for forgiveness is dishonest and manipulative—have they *really* repented (Gen. 50:15-17)? Joseph takes the wider view and realizes that it isn't his brothers' intentions that matter, but God's. God's forgiveness is much greater than what is fair, what we deserve.

So what does this new, broadened perspective look like in the lives of Christians and congregations? Paul provides a pragmatic glimpse: "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" (Rom. 14:3). If all are truly welcomed by God, we are called to share the good news of that welcome in all we say and do.

*-Sundays and Seasons*