

# Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

## September 24, 2023

\* *Please stand if you are able*

Prelude: "I Exalt Thee"

P. Sanchez Jr.

### Gathering

WELCOME & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Acolyte: May the Holy Spirit unite us in worship, point us toward Jesus Christ, and inspire us to love mercy, do justice, and walk humbly with God. Come, let us worship God.

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

**All: Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever.**

Liturgist: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

**All: One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts.**

Liturgist: Come, let us celebrate and proclaim the goodness and power of God.  
Let us joyfully sing of his righteousness. *Psalm 145:1-7*

\* **All Singing: 562 "We Will Extol You, God and King"**  
*Singing verses 1, 3, and 4*

\* GOD'S GREETING

\* GOD'S PEOPLE GREETING ONE ANOTHER

\* **All Singing: 575 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"**

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Children: The peace of Christ be with you.  
All: And also with you.

Reconciliation

Liturgist: The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.  
The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

All: The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does.  
The Lord upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.  
*Psalm 145:8-9, 13-14*

Liturgist: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word,  
and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

All: We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors  
as ourselves.

Liturgist: We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

All: For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we  
may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name.

Silent Confession and Reflection

\* All Singing: "He Will Hold Me Fast" Habershon / Merker

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast  
When the tempter would prevail, he will hold me fast  
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path  
For my love is often cold; he must hold me fast

Refrain

Those he saves are his delight; Christ will hold me fast  
Precious in his holy sight; he will hold me fast  
He'll not let my soul be lost; his promises shall last  
Bought by him at such a cost; he will hold me fast Refrain

For my life he bled and died; Christ will hold me fast  
Justice has been satisfied; he will hold me fast  
Raised with him to endless life; he will hold me fast  
Till our faith is turned to sight when he comes at last Refrain

Liturgist: Matthew 20:1-16

## Proclamation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**All:** **God of mercy, send your Spirit now to guide and strengthen your church through the witness of your Word. Humble us and heal us. For whether we are first or last or somewhere in between, there is room for all of us in God's kingdom and more than enough grace to go around. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

Scripture: Philippians 1:1-14

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: *Koinonia*

\* **All Singing:** **258** **"Koinonia"**

## Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Liturgist: With joy, let us now offer our gifts, in music, heart, and resource, as a sign of our deep devotion and covenant faithfulness.

OFFERING

1. General Fund
2. World Relief Chicagoland

OFFERTORY "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

Anna Laura Page

DOXOLOGY

\* **All Singing:** **965** **"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

## Sending

\* BENEDICTION

\* **All Singing:** **"Stars in the World"**  
*Singing twice; join as able*

P. van der Bijl  
based on Phil. 2:15-16

**God will give you strength, God will give you peace,  
God will give you hope in your time of need.**


**Go in the name of Christ, go with the Word of life,  
Shine like the stars in this darkening world.  
Walk in his love, filled with his joy, blameless and pure.**

Postlude

## **Worship Leaders**

Pianist / Vocalist:	Erin Pacheco	Acolyte:	Lilian Post
Vocalists:	Lisa, Karis & Moriah Dykstra	Liturgist:	Bev Hofman
	Lydia Carlson	Prayer:	Aron Reppmann
Guitar:	Jenson Varghese		
Percussion:	Clay Carlson		
	Ginny Carpenter		
Minister:	Roger Nelson		

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