

# A Guide to the Divine Service

9:00 a.m.

September 8, 2024

## Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity *Anxious Bondage vs. Confident Trust*

“You cannot serve God and money” (St. Matt. 6:24–34), for they require two contrary forms of service. Worry is the worship given to the false god of mammon, an unbelieving anxiousness and focus on the things of this world. Faith is the worship of the true God, a confident trust that He is a loving Father who will care for all of our needs in both body and soul. The widow of Zarephath served God— that is, she believed the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah that the bin of flour would not be used up nor would the jar of oil run dry (1 Kings 17:8–16). He who feeds the birds and clothes the flowers will certainly provide for our daily needs; since He has already provided for our eternal needs, clothing us with Christ’s righteousness in Baptism and feeding us His Body and Blood for our forgiveness. With such confidence, we are liberated from worry and freed to do good with our material resources, especially to those who are of the household of faith (Gal. 5:25–6:10).



*Inclina Domine aurem tuam me*  
“Incline Your ear to me, O LORD”

**Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
**Seek Ye First Sunday**

Prophecy of the Day: 1 Kings 17:17-24  
Epistle of the Day: Ephesians 3:13-21  
Holy Gospel of the Day: St. Luke 7:11-16

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*A Confessional, Evangelical, Sacramental, and Liturgical  
Congregation of the Lutheran Confessions --  
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## NOTE ON PARTICIPATING IN THE LORD'S SUPPER

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church throughout history, "closed communion" is observed here, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those who:

- (a) are baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit;
- (b) have been instructed in the truth of Holy Scriptures as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, have been confirmed in this Lutheran faith and practice, and now embrace this same Lutheran faith in the same way that it is believed, taught, confessed, and practiced in this congregation;
- (c) believe that in this Sacrament the real body and blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) repent of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal.

Guests at our services who are able to affirm these facts should speak to our pastor or the elder on duty before receiving the Sacrament. To other guests with us today, we express to you our sincere interest, friendship, and concern, and we assure you that it is for the spiritual welfare of all that we practice closed communion. Those desiring to learn more about our beliefs are asked to speak with our pastor.

[We rise and face the Processional Cross]

Processional  
Hymn **"With the Lord Begin Your Task"** #869

**Confession of Sins and Holy Absolution** p. 184

### The Service of the Word begins with the Introit

Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me,  
**save Your servant, who trusts in You -- You are my God.**

Be gracious to me, O Lord,  
**for to You do I cry all the day.**

Gladden the soul of Your servant,  
**for to You, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.**

Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;  
**listen to my plea for grace.**

But You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious;  
**turn to me and be gracious to me;**

give Your strength to Your servant,  
**and save the son of Your maidservant.**

(Ps. 86:4, 6, 15a, 16; antiphon: Ps. 86:1a, 2b, 3)

**Gloria Patri, Kyrie** p. 186

**Gloria in Excelsis** p. 187

**Salutation** p. 189

**Collect for the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity** – O Lord, we implore You, let Your continual pity cleanse and defend Your Church; and because she cannot continue in safety without Your aid, preserve her evermore by Your help and goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever.

**A - - - men!**

[We are seated]

Prophecy of the Day **1 Kings 17:8-16**

*[Elijah and the Widow]*

This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God!**

### Gradual

It is better to take refuge in the LORD  
**than to trust in man.**

It is better to take refuge in the LORD  
**than to trust in princes.**

(Ps. 118:8-9)

Epistle of the Day **Galatians 5:26 – 6:10**

*[Be Generous and Do Good]*

This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God!**

[We rise] **Triple Alleluia** p. 190

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**  
Holy Gospel of the Day **St. Matthew 6:24-34**

*[Do Not Worry]*

Responses to the Holy Gospel p. 190

**Nicene Creed** p. 191

[We are seated]

Hymn of the Day  
**"What God Ordains is Always Good"** #760

Sermon

[We rise] **Offertory** p. 192

[We are seated]

**The offering is received**

*God richly bless you for your support of His work among us!*

[We rise] **Prayer of the Church**

*[Please review our Communion Policy inside this Guide]*

**The Service of the Sacrament** p. 194

[We are seated for the Distribution of the Body & Blood of Christ]

Hymn **"Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared"** #622

[We rise] **Doxology** #805

**Dismissal, Nunc Dimittis, Thanksgiving, Salutation, Benedicamus, Benediction** p. 199

[We are seated for announcements]

[We rise for the Recessional Hymn]

**"Rejoice My Heart Be Glad and Sing"** #737