

## Order of Worship for October 5, 2025

### Prelude:

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

### Opening Hymn: “*Hear Us, Father, When We Pray* – Hymn #773

**Confession and Absolution** page 203

### Service of the Word

#### Entrance Psalm:

P: Praise the Lord!

C: **Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD!**

P: Blessed be the name of the LORD

C: **from this time forth and forevermore!**

P: From the rising of the sun to its setting,

C: **the name of the LORD is to be praised!**

P: The Lord is high above all nations,

C: **and His glory above the heavens!**

P: Who is like the LORD our God,

C: **who is seated on high,**

P: who looks far down

C: **on the heavens and the earth?**

P: He raises the poor from the dust

C: **and lifts the needy from the ash heap,**

P: to make them sit with princes,

C: **with the princes of His people.**

P: He gives the barren woman a home,

C: **making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the Lord!**

**All: 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.**

P: Praise the LORD!

C: **Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD!**

#### Kyrie (“Lord, Have mercy”): page 204

#### Hymn of Praise: “*Glory to God in the Highest*” – page 204

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day:**

P: Almighty God, You show mercy to Your people in all their troubles. Grant us always to recognize Your goodness, give thanks for Your compassion, and praise Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Old Testament Lesson: Ruth 1:1-19a**

R: In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the LORD had visited his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The LORD grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!" Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept. And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons, would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the Lord has gone out against me." Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

And she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said, "Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the Lord do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you." And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Epistle Lesson: 1 Timothy 2:1-4**

R: First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia and Verse** page 205

### **Holy Gospel – Luke 17:11-19**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 17th chapter.

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

Now on His way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As He was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy[a] met Him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!” When He saw them, He said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked Him—and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then He said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**Creed:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Petitions of the Lord’s Prayer and Explanation.

**Sermon Hymn:** “*O God of Light*” **Hymn #836**

**Sermon:** “*What Does God Desire?*” 1 Timothy 2:1-4

We are about halfway through the fall semester. After some tests, students find that the key to getting a good grade is often a matter of knowing what the professor is going to put on the exam. You may have been assigned a lot of pages to read and view certain videos, that information may or may not be on the exams. Often it is better to take good notes and memorize them, because what is most important to the professor is what he speaks in lecture. Greek houses help their members get through by having a collection of old tests that really help to focus on what may be on the exams. But you can’t always be sure. What will the professor put on the test?

The same kind of question is asked by workers wanting to know what their bosses are really expecting from them or by contractors providing a service for someone. What do they really want? A greater dilemma can exist for a man who is trying to find the perfect gift for his wife. He may know something she could use, but what does she really want?

What does God want from our lives? What is His will with us? We think of people in the Bible who found that out. Moses was called by God in the burning bush to lead His people out of slavery in Egypt. David was anointed by God's prophet Samuel to be king. Mary was told by the angel Gabriel that she would give birth to God's promised Savior, Jesus. Peter and Andrew, James and John were called away from their fishing boats by Jesus to be His disciples. Paul was literally knocked out of his saddle by a blinding light and the voice of Jesus. He was then told he was to be Jesus' missionary to the Gentiles. But what about us? What is God's will for your life and my life?

You might think about me, "You are to be a pastor?" But God did not speak to me in a light from heaven as He did with Paul. It might be His will that I quit doing this next week. But it is more likely that as an old person I am pretty much set in my ways. What about some of you who are young, who are still at the crossroads wondering what to do with your lives, who can truly wonder, "What is God's will for me?"

Many people have found themselves going into all kinds of directions trying to find an answer to that question.

William Borden was born in 1887 as an heir to great wealth from his family in Chicago. At age 16 his parents took him on a trip around the world to give him a more cosmopolitan view of life. Instead, it opened his eyes to all the suffering in the world. He decided to enroll at Yale University to be trained to be a missionary. At Yale he organized a Bible study that grew into more groups until by the time he was a senior, 1,000 of the 1,300 students were in one of those groups. The groups were involved with outreach to the poor in New Haven, Connecticut where Yale is. Borden graduated and trained to be a missionary in a remote part of China. On his way to China, he traveled through the Suez Canal and became sick. He died in Egypt of spinal meningitis.

So, what was God's will for William Borden—to die before he could even begin the mission work he felt called to do?

So, what is God's will? Paul clearly tells that to Timothy, "God, our Savior, wants all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." "Saved" often calls to mind that people will not go to hell. That is the intent when we are asked, "Are you saved?" But "saved" means a whole lot more than not going to hell. If it did then the main reason we would want to be "saved" is to save our own skins, and that is as selfish as you can get. "Saved" means being in a living relationship with God, so that we can be in a real living relationship with each other. "To come to the knowledge of the truth," is not some intellectual thing like you earn a university degree to get. No, it means to "know" God in Jesus. That "know" is best expressed by Jesus as the faith a child has. The child may not know as much about a parent as other adults do, but the child "knows" the parent better in terms of trust and love. God's will is that all people be His, as we were created to be.

So, what does that mean in your life, my life? It means that no matter what else happens in our lives, God wants us to be His. In Jesus Christ, He has given us forgiveness to take away the sin that separates us from Him. We may not know how things will play out from now until the time we die, but we know that we are God's, forever.

When we stand at the moments like deciding where to go to school, what major to have, what job offers to pursue, which person to marry, what job to transfer to, when to retire, what treatment to take for a disease, we probably won't know what is God's will for those decisions. But we do know that God will be with us to the end?

Two hundred and fifty years ago the American Revolution had started. The war went back and forth between defeats and victories for what would become the United States of America. I think of two decisions that were made during that war. One was the decision of a man named who was in charge of the defenses at Fort Stanwix in New York. At the same time another general named St. Clair was in charge of the defenses at Fort Ticonderoga. Gros decided to hold on to the fort. It began to look bleak for them until a larger American army scared away the British forces surrounding the fort. St. Clair, on the other hand, decided to abandon the fort. He was seen as a coward. Yet, though the fort fell with a lot of supplies, the men who escaped with him were later a part of the victory later that year at Saratoga where a British army surrendered. That victory caused France to get into the war, which was needed for the revolution to succeed.

We can never see how things will go on in our lives. Borden's death may have prevented him from going to China, but his legacy is still an inspiration to Christians.

In our Old Testament lesson, we heard about Ruth who was a Moabite, not an Israelite. Yet, she chose to remain with Naomi taking the risk of not being taken care of as a foreigner. She did this to be able to stay with Naomi and Naomi's God. She did not know how things would turn out. But she learned God's will that God wanted her to be a part of His people. In our Gospel lesson, the Samaritan man returned to give thanks to Jesus for healing him from his leprosy. We don't know how the rest of his life turned out. Even though he was no longer a leper, an outcast to society, he probably was a part of the typical peasant class who lived each day not knowing if he and his family would go to bed hungry or not. But he knew the will of God that even he, a Samaritan, was wanted by God through Jesus.

What does God want from me? He wants you and me. What is His will for my life? To be His along with everyone else. No, not everyone will because many chose not to be. But He wants you and me to be His, no matter what else happens!

**Prayer of the Church (P: Lord, in Your mercy; C: Hear our prayer.)**

**Sharing His Ministry:**

**Offering & Voluntary:**

## **Service of the Sacrament**

**Preface:** page 208

P: It is truly good, right, and proper that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, almighty God, heavenly Father, for You have shown us that Your will is that all people come to the knowledge of Jesus and be saved. Therefore with angels and all the company of heaven we praise and make great Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing. . .

**Sanctus** (Holy, Holy, Holy) page 208

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

P: We give thank to You Lord God, King of the universe for You have shown us in Your Son, Christ Jesus that You desire that all people be led back to You. Send us Your Holy Spirit so that we join in the meal that Jesus sets before us of His true body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. Hear us as we pray the prayer He taught us . . .

**The Lord's Prayer and Words of the Lord, and Pax Domini** (Peace of the Lord) page 209

**Agnus Dei** (Lamb of God) page 210

### **Distribution:**

*"Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace"* - **Hymn # 844**

*"Hope of the World"* - **Hymn #690**

### **Dismissal**

**Nunc Dimittis (Song of Simeon):** page 211

### **Closing Prayer:**

P: O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servant, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and rules with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Benedicamus and Benediction:** page 212

**Closing Hymn:** *"Before You, Lord, We Bow"* - **Hymn #966**

### **Postlude:**