

## SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 2, 2011



LITURGY – LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK  
DIVINE SERVICE SETTING THREE PAGE 184

### HYMNODY

**Entrance Hymn**            **498** *Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest*

**Hymn of the Day**        **544** *O Love, How Deep*

### Distribution Hymns

**637** *Draw Near & Take the Body of the Lord*

**566** *By Grace I'm Saved*

**753** *All for Christ I Have Forsaken* (alt.tune)

**664** *Fight the Good Fight*

**Hymn to Depart**            **922** *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

**SERMON TITLE – “Pressing On & Straining Forward”**

**SERMON TEXT – Phil. 3:12b-13**

### PRAYER UPON ENTERING WORSHIP

Heavenly Father, since You have founded Your Church on Christ and His Word, grant that every generation of your people may build on this Rock in every place by hearing and doing Christ's Word, so that when temptations and trials come, Your Church and Your people may stand firm and grow stronger. Because all have sinned, You commissioned Your Church to go into the world to proclaim the Gospel of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Overcome our sinful reluctance to support and promote this saving Gospel. Move us by Your Spirit to give of our time, talent, and earthly treasure so that the Gospel may be proclaimed in our communities and throughout the world. Amen

### Introit

P: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

**C: for his steadfast love endures forever!**

P: The stone that the builders rejected

**C: has become the cornerstone.**

P: This is the LORD's doing;

**C: it is marvelous in our eyes.**

P: This is the day that the LORD has made;

**C: let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**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.**

### Collect of the Day

Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love, and grant us the fullness of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Old Testament Reading****Isaiah 5:1–7**

<sup>1</sup>Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. <sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. <sup>3</sup>And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. <sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? <sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. <sup>6</sup>I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. <sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

**Epistle Reading****Philippians 3:4b–14**

<sup>4</sup>If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. <sup>7</sup>But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup>Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith—<sup>10</sup>that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

**The Holy Gospel****Matthew 21:33–46**

<sup>33</sup>[Jesus said:] “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. <sup>34</sup>When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. <sup>35</sup>And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup>And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. <sup>40</sup>When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” <sup>41</sup>They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.” <sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’? <sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. <sup>44</sup>And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.” <sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.