

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 55:6–9

- ⁶ “Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call upon him while he is near;
⁷ let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD, that he may
have compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly
pardon.
⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares
the LORD.
⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the
earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

Epistle: Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

¹⁹For I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

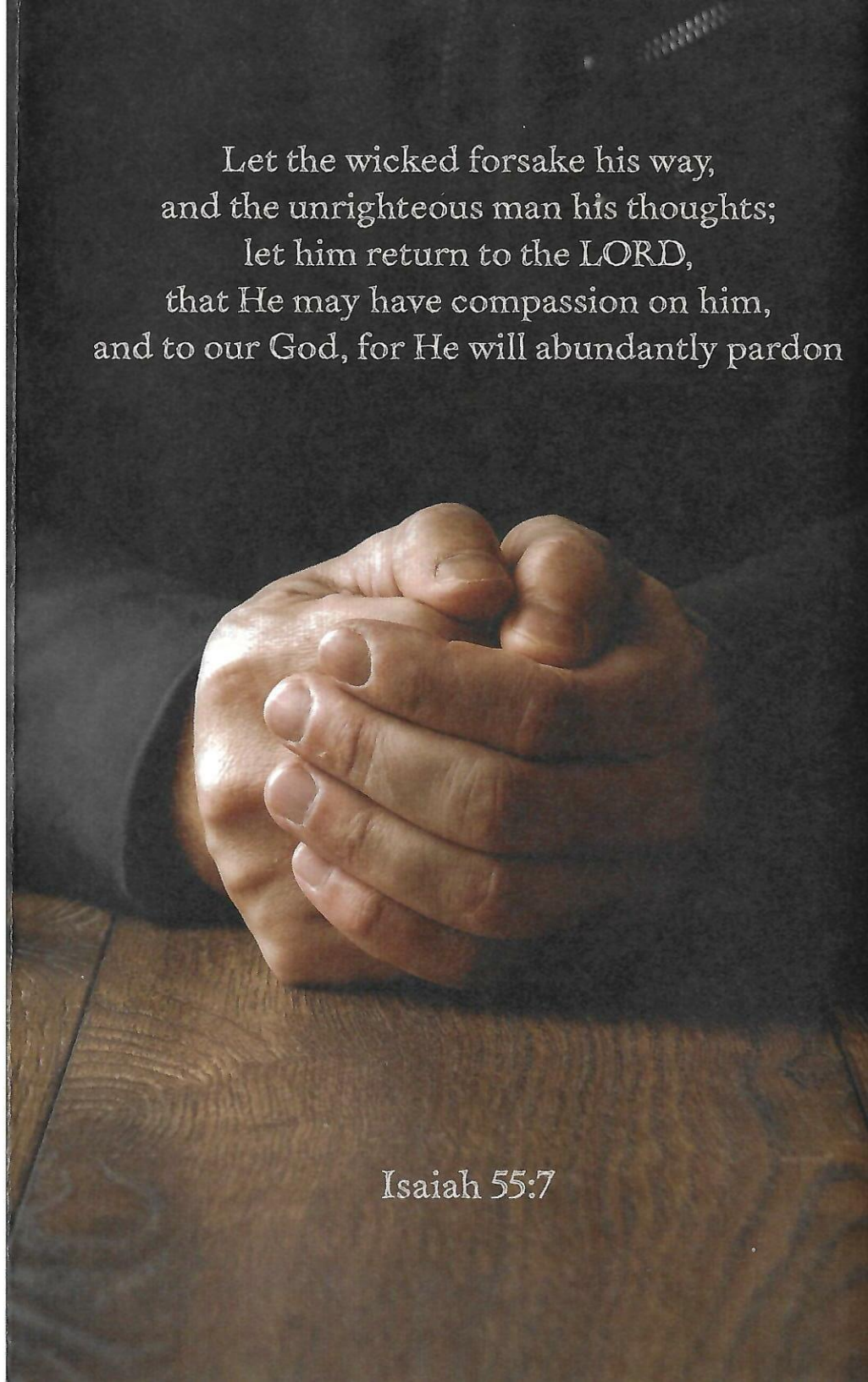
²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you

that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 20:1–16

¹[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ ⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ ⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last.”

Let the wicked forsake his way,
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;
let him return to the LORD,
that He may have compassion on him,
and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon



Isaiah 55:7



Pentecost

About the Cover: The weight of our sin can only be lifted by the Lord. How blessed are we, His children, to know that He desires to forgive us abundantly! There is no sin too great for His grace and pardon. Christ's love is so abundant for us that He died for us before we even had a say in the matter (Romans 5:8). So, by faith in His promises, we receive the abundant life-giving benefits of His death and resurrection forever.

MOUNT OLIVET LUTHERAN CHURCH

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DIVINE WORSHIP -10AM

**17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
September 20, 2026**

Hymn . . . "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" LSB #733 (1-4)

Divine Service Three

Invocation

Confession & Absolution p.184 LSB

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

Who made heaven and earth.

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(PAUSE FOR SELF EXAMINATION)

O almighty God, merciful Father,

I a poor miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserve Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent,

bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.

Upon this your confession, I as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Introit

The Lord is gracious and righteous;

Our God is full of compassion.

I love the Lord, for He heard my voice;

He heard my cry for mercy.

Because He turned His ear to me,

I will call on Him as long as I live.

The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came upon me.

I was overcome by trouble and sorrow.

Then I called on the name of the Lord:

"O Lord, save me!"

The Lord is gracious and righteous;

Our God is full of compassion.

Be at rest once more, O my soul,

For the Lord has been good to you.

For You, O Lord, have delivered my soul from death,

My eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling,

That I may walk before the Lord

In the land of the living. 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.

Kyrie, "Gloria In Excelsis", Salutation & Collect p.186-189

Lessons & the Gospel p.190-191

Nicene Creed p.191

Hymn . . . "I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus" LSB #729 (all)

Sermon

Offering

Prayers of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Lord's Prayer

Words of Institution

Communion Dismissal

Post Communion Prayer

Salutation & Benedicamus p.201

Benediction

Hymn . . . "If God Himself Be For Me" LSB #724 (1-4)

Announcements

***If you are visiting with us today please fill out our visitor card so that we can inform you of upcoming events or respond to a request.**

Mount Olivet's Communion Statement

We welcome to the Lord's Supper all who have been baptized into the Christian faith; who have received instruction concerning the Sacrament and have been admitted to the Lord's table; who repents of their sins; and who seek the forgiveness and strength to live the new life which the Lord's Supper gives. Members of Lutheran congregations in fellowship with us are welcome to share together with us in the blessings of the Sacrament of the Altar. Others who wish to receive Holy Communion or have questions about our Lutheran understanding of this Sacrament, are invited to have conversation with the Pastor Johnson after the service (if he is available) or by contacting him to set up an appointment. Also, anyone, child or adult, who wishes may come forward at the time of the distribution to receive a blessing.

SERMON NOTES

Sermon Title _____

Texts _____

Main Ideas / Thoughts _____

I Want to Remember _____

What Response Does God Want? _____