NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
October 4, 2026 at 8:45 & 11:15am

Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School
9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD
www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Te Deum, I. Prelude
Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643-1704)

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.
Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN ELW 835–All Creatures, Worship God Most High!

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.
Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Please be seated.

THE WORD

FIRST READING Isaiah 5:1-7

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "rotten grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. 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; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes? 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. I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briers and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

The Word of the Lord. / **Thanks be to God.**

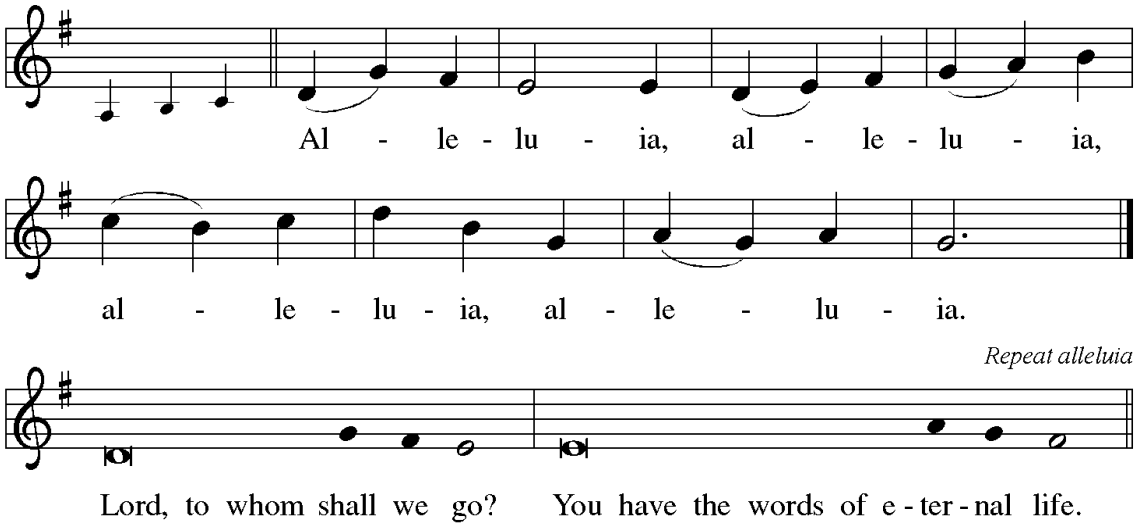
SECOND READING Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

[Paul writes:] If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord. / **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW Setting One



GOSPEL READING Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

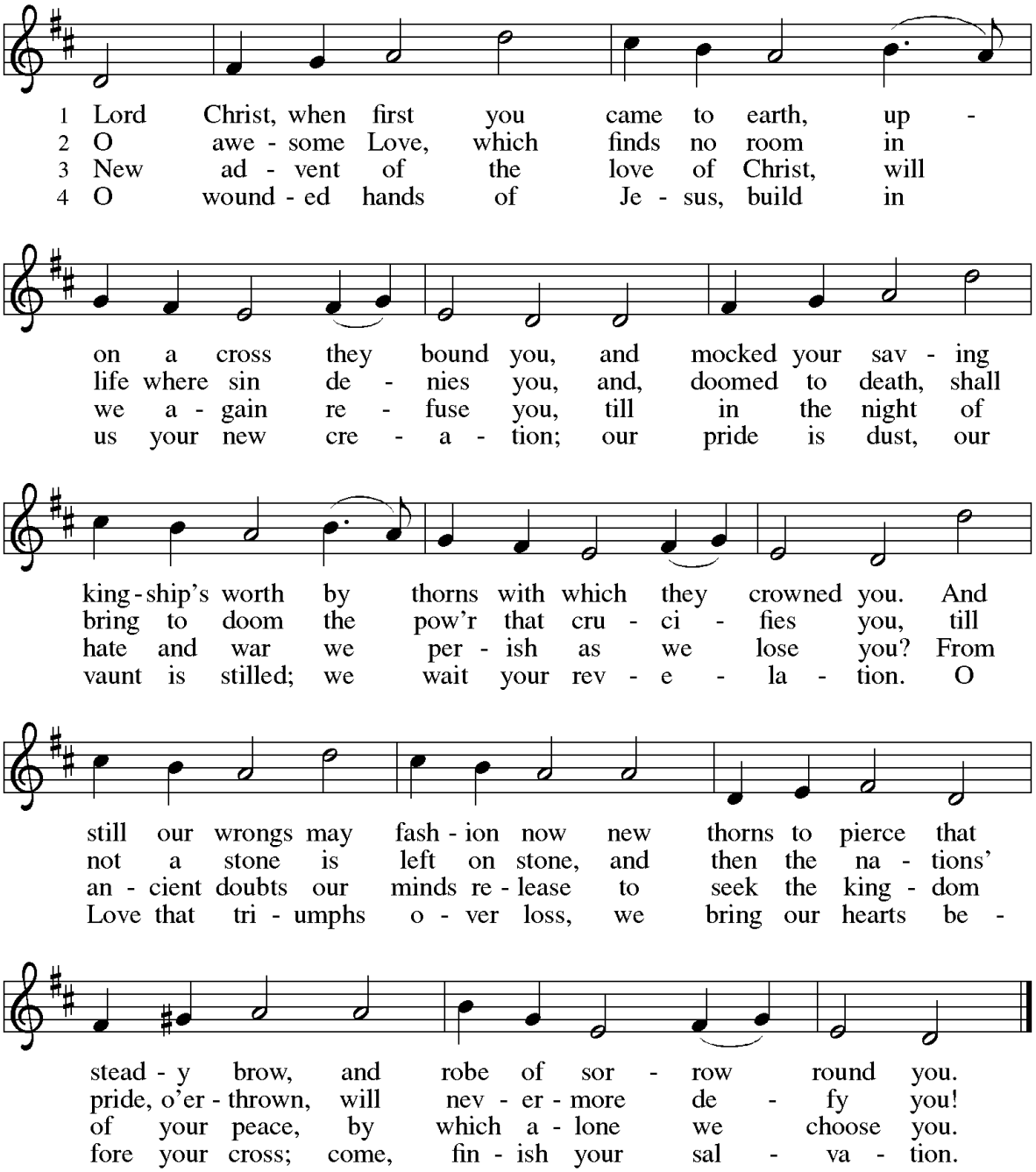
The holy gospel according to Saint Matthew. / **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." 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 amazing in our eyes'? "Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Zawistoski

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 727–Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth



APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love,
we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

After each portion of the prayers:

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

The prayers conclude:

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask,
and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

All may share a sign of Peace.
Please be seated.

THE MEAL

OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at saintlukegive.us or place it in the offering plate, or use this QR code with your device to securely give your Offering.

You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

OFFERTORY MUSIC (8:45) Christ the Vine
Robert Powell (1932-2025)

Christ, the vine, and God, the gardener, we, the branches bearing fruit. We can bring forth shoots of promise when our lives in Christ take root. Christ, the fruit from Jesse springing, you fulfilled the prophet's trust. And you pray that we, your body, will fulfill your trust in us. Christ, may we submit to pruning that we bear more grapes for wine. Help us, when we're overburdened, draw new strength from you, the vine. You made us to be partners growing Spirit's fruit anew. Keep us one in love together: you in us, and we in you!

OFFERTORY MUSIC (11:15) Toccata, Adagio & Fugue in C Major, BWV 564 – II. Adagio
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The offering is received and is presented at the altar.
Please stand.

OFFERING HYMN Take My Life and Let It Be

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray.

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(Continued on the next page)

It is indeed right that we should give thanks and praise, for in the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Please pray in your own preferred language.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

Padre Nuestro, que estas en los cielos,
santificado sea tu nombre,
venga a nosostros tu reino,
hagase tu voluntad,
asi en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia;
perdona nuestras ofensas,
como nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden;
y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion,
mas libranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
el poder, y la gloria,
por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites us to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!
Thanks be to God!

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are stations at the foot of the chancel steps. Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ.
(Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server)

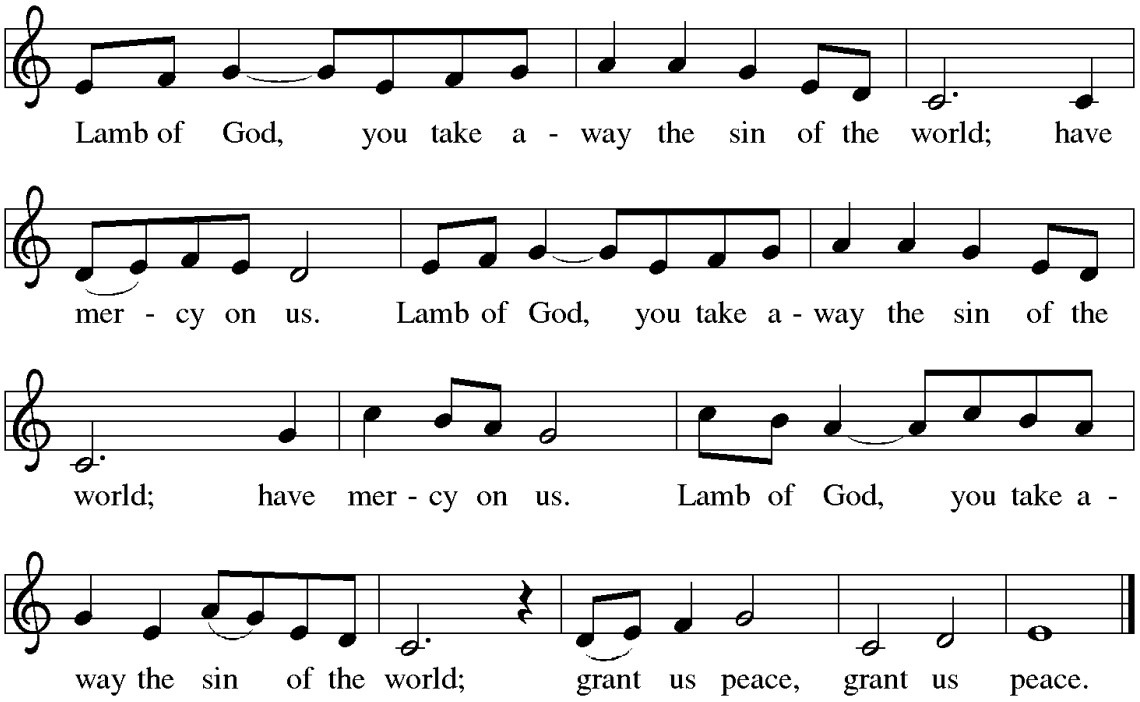
Then receive in the individual cup the blood of Christ. You may deposit your cup in the basket near the side wall. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's supper are also encouraged to come forward. Those who wish to receive the sacrament in the pew, please inform an usher. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:
The body of Christ, given for you. / The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

ELW Setting One



COMMUNION HYMN ELW 342–There in God's Garden

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Please stand as you are able.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you,
and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.
Amen.

The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.
Amen.

The God of grace ✢ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW 729–The Church of Christ, in Every Age

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Chaconne

Louis Couperin (1626-1661)

WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTERS
The Rev. Connie A. Miller
Senior Pastor

PREACHING MINISTER
The Rev. Richard Zawistoski
Confirmation Pastor

ASSISTING MINISTERS 8:45
The Rev. Dean McDonald
The Rev. Jim McDonald

COMMUNION SERVER
Gerson Vasquez
I.T. Ministry

READERS
Sarah Pfanz
Debra Johnson

CRUCIFERS
Leo Breuer
Venith Bolledu

MUSICIANS
Adam Scott Graham
Director of Music

Schola Cantorum
8:45 Worship Service

Barbara Sanders
8:45 Carillon Guild

Sarah Aderholdt, Cello
11:15 Offertory Music

THE FLOWERS about the altar are given to the glory of God by Marcia Laundy and in thanksgiving for the life and witness of her beloved husband Roger Alan Laundy.

FAITH FORMATION FOR ALL AGES
10:00 a.m.
Pick up a flyer on the credenzas.

LET'S TALK – THIS MORNING
10:10 a.m.
Fireside Room

Saint Luke: Caring for God's Creation
Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake
Sarah Redden, Outreach Coordinator
Saint Luke has become very Green, working with IPC and we have definitely become partners.

Come hear about future possible Green dreams for Saint Luke with the help of IPC and so much we have already done.

A FEW ITEMS FOR THE CALENDAR:

LET'S TALK
Sunday, October 11
One Family, Two Faiths:
My Journey of Christian-Muslim Love and Understanding

Saint Luke member, Sunday Shomari
shares his life journey
in Tanzania
with a Christian mother and Muslim father

Sunday, October 18
Festival of St. Luke, Evangelist
Guest Preacher Bishop Philip Hirsch
God's Work our Hands Sunday
Quilt Dedication
Service project between the services at 10:00 a.m.
Blankets for the Linus Project

Sunday, October 25
Festival of the Reformation
One Morning Service 10:00 a.m.
Oktoberfest, Music, Fun following Worship

Sunday, November 1
All Saints' Sunday
Remembering with the tolling of a bell thoswe who have died since last All Saints Day, those saits here on the earth and those yet to come

LET'S TALK
10:10 a.m.
Join Bishop Graham and Pastor Miller

Sunday, November 8
10:00 a.m. Prayer Partners' Brunch

Sunday, November 15
LET'S TALK
10:10 a.m.
Special Screening in the Nave: *Jesus Was a Migrant*

TODAY'S MUSIC

ELW 835
All Creatures, Worship God Most High!
Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226;
tr. composite
Music: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, Köln, 1623
Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

ELW 342
There in God's Garden
Text: Király Imre von Pécselyi,
c. 1590–c. 1641; tr. Erik Routley, 1917–1982
Music: K. Lee Scott, b. 1950
Tune: SHADES MOUNTAIN

ELW 727
Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth
Text: W. Russell Bowie, 1882-1962, alt.
Music: Medieval European tune
Tune: MIT FREUDEN ZART

ELW 729
The Church of Christ, in Every Age
Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000
Music: William Knapp, 1698-1768
Tune: WAREHAM

Take My Life and Let It Be
Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879
Music: Henri A.C. Malan, 1787-1864
Tune: HENDON

Robert J. Powell Robert J. Powell was born in 1932 in Benoit, Mississippi. He earned his Bachelor of Music in Organ and Composition from Louisiana State University in 1954 and his Master of Sacred Music from Union Theological Seminary School of Sacred Music, New York, in 1958. He held Certificates of Fellow (FAGO) and Choirmaster (ChM) from the American Guild of Organists and was a member of the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP). He received the Standard Music Award from ASCAP for 35 consecutive years. Mr. Powell had approximately 300 works in print for choral, solo, organ, handbells, and instrumental ensembles with major American and English church music publishers. He was a member of the Choristers' Guild Board from 1987 to 1993 and the National Certification Committee of the American Guild of Organists from 2000 to 2005. Mr. Powell was named Louisiana State University School of Music Alumnus of the Year in 1989. He was married and had three children, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.
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THIS WEEK AT SAINT LUKE

Sunday, October 04
XIX PENTECOST
7:30 AM Tech Rehearsal
8:00 AM Schola Cantorum
8:45 AM Worship (English)
10:00 AM The Gathering
10:00 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Affirmation of Baptism
10:00 AM SLSHY+
10:00 AM Up for Discussion
10:10 AM LET'S TALK
11:15 AM Worship (English)
1:00 PM Worship (Spanish)
2:00 PM The Gathering

Monday, October 05
8:30 AM CDS Classes
4:00 PM La Sagrada Familia- Art

Tuesday, October 06
8:30 AM CDS Classes
10:00 AM CDS Music
7:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal

Wednesday, October 07
7:00 AM Faith Connections (Online)
8:30 AM CDS Classes
10:00 AM Women in Community
10:00 AM CDS Chapel
3:45 PM La Sagrada Familia- After School Tutoring
7:30 PM Schola Cantorum

Thursday, October 08
8:30 AM CDS Classes - Pajama Day
4:00 PM La Sagrada Familia- En Camino Tutoring
7:30 PM AA
7:30 PM Centering Prayer (Online)

Friday, October 09
8:30 AM CDS Classes
3:45 PM La Sagrada Familia- Music
6:00 PM AA

Saturday, October 10
8:30 AM Men's Group
9:30 AM AA
11:00 AM Al-Anon
8:30 PM AA

Sunday, October 11
XX PENTECOST
7:30 AM Tech Rehearsal
8:00 AM Schola Cantorum
8:45 AM Worship
10:00 AM The Gathering
10:00 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Affirmation of Baptism
10:00 AM SLSHY+
10:00 AM Up for Discussion
10:10 AM LET'S TALK
11:15 AM Worship