

ST. LUKE 13:23



“And someone said to Him, “Lord will those who are saved be few?”

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 24, 2025

Weekly Service 10:00 am

Prelude

*The Processional Hymn *Break Now the Bread of Life* (ELW) No. 515

*The Confession and Forgiveness (ELW) page 94

P: In the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy.....of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God,.....in the name of the Father, and of the †Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*The Apostolic Greeting (ELW) page 138

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

C: And also with you.

*The Kyrie (*sung response*) (ELW) page 138

P:, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

*The Hymn of Praise *O Day of Rest and Gladness* (ELW) page 521

*The Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray,

C: Care for your Church, O Lord, with perpetual mercy. Since we totter and are sure to fall without your grace, remove what will harm us and arrange what will make us whole. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 66:18-23

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody for the Day *(read responsively)*

Psalms 15:1-15

¹The Mighty One, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

²Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

³Our God comes; He does not keep silence; before Him is a devouring fire, around Him a mighty tempest.

⁴He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that He may judge His people:

⁵"Gather to Me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice!"

⁶The heavens declare His righteousness, for God Himself is judge!

⁷"Hear, O My people, and I will speak; O Israel, I will testify against you. I am God, your God.

⁸Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt offerings are continually before Me.

⁹I will not accept a bull from Your house or goats from Your folds.

¹⁰For every beast of the forest is Mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.

¹¹I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is Mine.

¹²"If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and its fullness are Mine.

¹³Do I eat the flesh of bulls or drink the blood of goats?

¹⁴Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High,

¹⁵and call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*The Gospel Acclamation (*sung*)

(ELW) page 142

**C: Allelula, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
Allelula. Allelula.**

* The Gospel

Luke 13:22-30

C: Glory to You, O Lord. (sung after announcement of the Gospel)

C: Praise to You, O Christ. (sung after conclusion of the Gospel)

Sermon

Rev. Robert B. Grewe

*The Hymn of the Day

O Living Bread of Heaven

(ELW) No. 542

*The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints; the forgiveness of sins; the Resurrection⁺ of the body, and the Life everlasting.
Amen.**

*The Prayers of the Church (response)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

*Sharing of the Peace

The Musical Offering

*The Offertory

Create in Me a Clean Heart

(SBH) No. 27

*The Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Announcements

*The Benediction (*sung response*)

C: Amen, Amen, Amen.

*The Recessional Hymn

God Be With You Til We Meet Again

(ELW) No. 536

*The Dismissal (*response*)

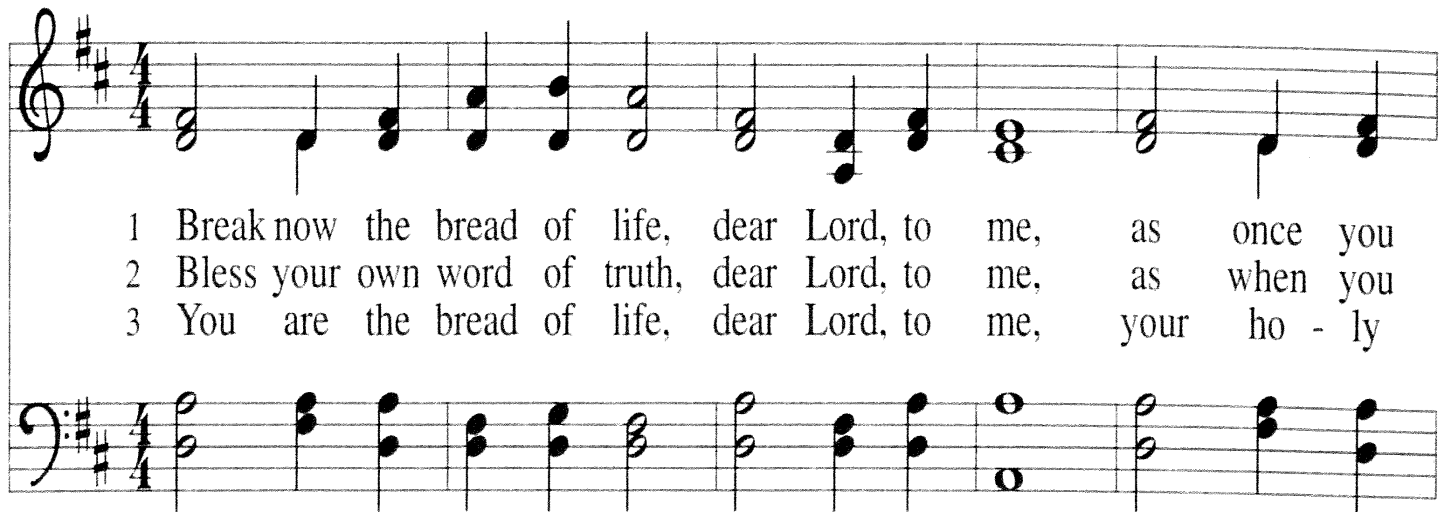
C: Thanks be to God.

*Sending Hymn

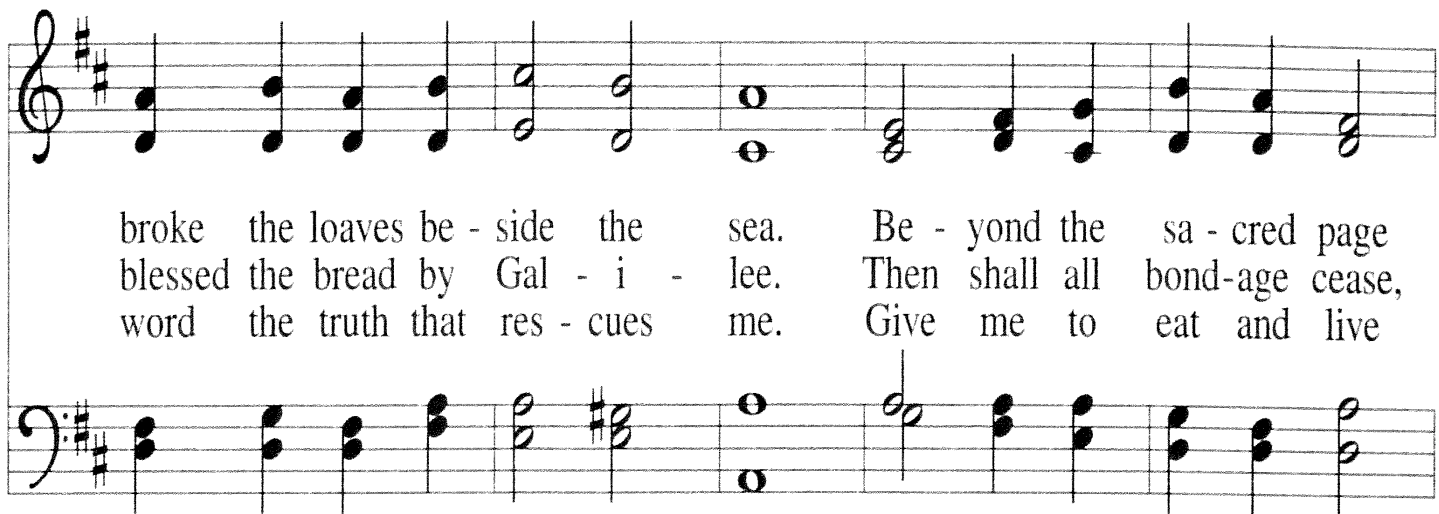
Be the Love of Christ

Postlude

Break Now the Bread of Life



1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
 2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
 3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly



broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
 blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,
 word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live



I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
 all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!
 with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

O Day of Rest and Gladness

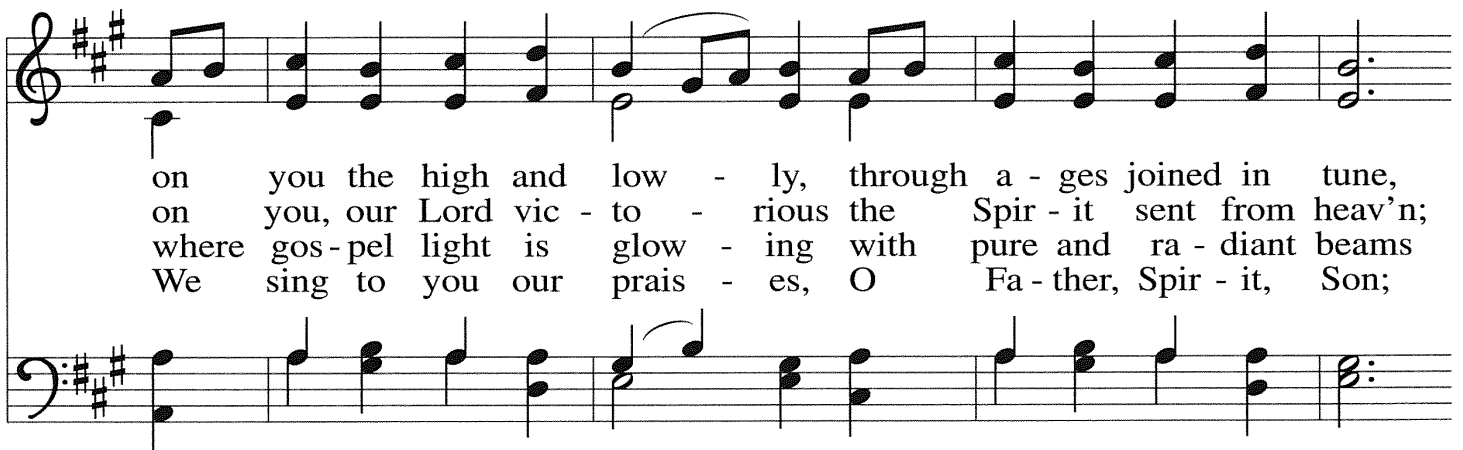
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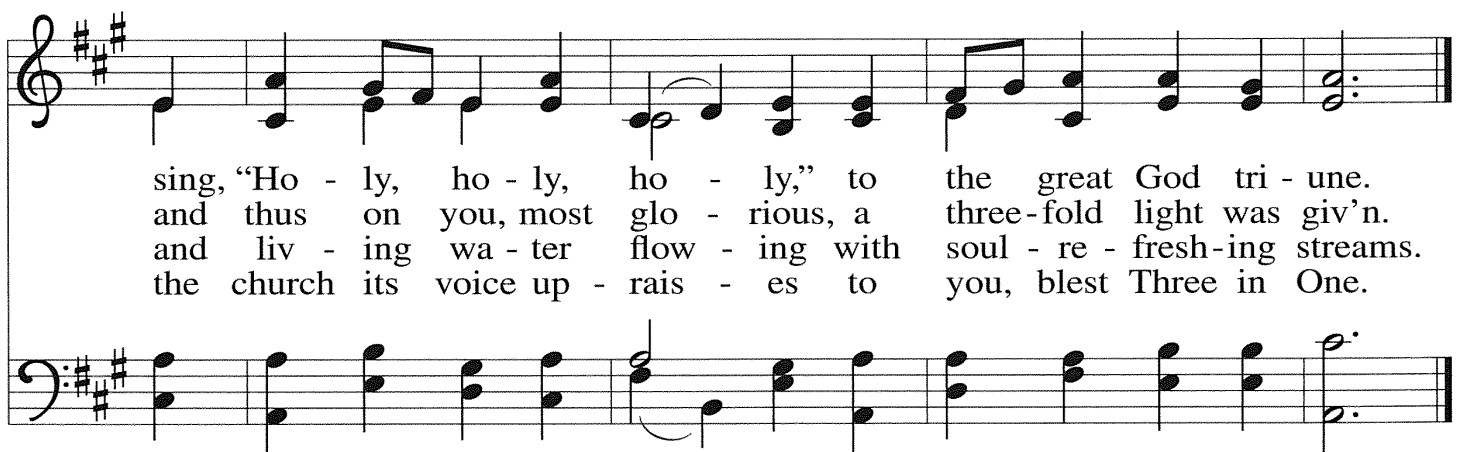
1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth;
3 To - day on wea - ry na - tions the heav'n - ly man - na falls;
4 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,



O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright:
on you, for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth;
to ho - ly con - vo - ca - tions the sil - ver trum - pet calls,
we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.



on you the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,
on you, our Lord vic - to - rious the Spir - it sent from heav'n;
where gos - pel light is glow - ing with pure and ra - diant beams
We sing to you our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;



sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly," to the great God tri - une.
and thus on you, most glo - rious, a three - fold light was giv'n.
and liv - ing wa - ter flow - ing with soul - re - fresh - ing streams.
the church its voice up - rais - es to you, blest Three in One.

O Living Bread from Heaven



1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, how well you feed your guest!
 2 My Sav - ior, you have led me with - in your ho - liest place,
 3 You gave me all I want - ed; this food can death de - stroy.
 4 Oh, grant me then, well - strength - ened with heav'n - ly food, while here



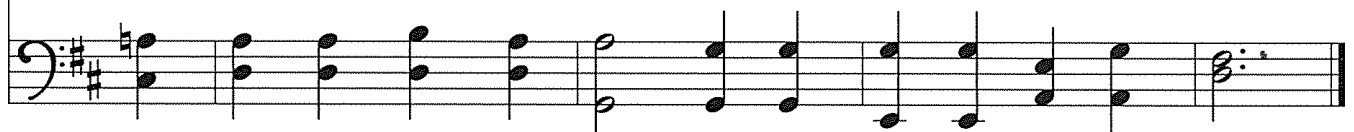
The gifts that you have giv - en have filled my heart with rest.
 and here your - self have fed me with trea - sures of your grace;
 And you have free - ly grant - ed the cup of end - less joy.
 my course on earth is length - ened, to serve you, free from fear;



O won - drous food of bless - ing! O cup that heals our woes!
 for you have free - ly giv - en what earth could nev - er buy,
 My Lord, I do not mer - it the fa - vor you have shown,
 and bring me home to praise you where none can peace de - stroy,



My heart, this gift pos - sess - ing, in thank - ful song o'er - flows!
 the bread of life from heav - en, that now I shall not die.
 and all my soul and spir - it bow down be - fore your throne.
 where I will ev - er raise you glad songs in end - less joy.



The Communion

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and bass line from the first system. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

way from thy pres - ence: and take not thy Ho - ly

The third system of musical notation continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of

The fourth system of musical notation continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

thy sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with thy free Spir - it.

The fifth and final system of musical notation on the page concludes the piece. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

536

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; by good coun-sels guide, up - hold you,
2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; ho - ly wings se - cure - ly hide you,
3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils thick con-found you,

with a shep-herd's care en - fold you;
dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.
put un - fail - ing arms a - round you;

Refrain
Till we meet, till we meet, till we
till we meet, till we meet a - gain,

meet at Je - sus' feet; till we meet, till we
till we meet, till we meet, till we

meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.
meet a - gain,

First Lutheran Church

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Online services posted weekly on website:

<https://firstlutheranwashington.church/>

The Rev. Robert B. Grewe

724-705-4050

revrob@flcwash.church

Dennis Schmidt, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Mark Black, Lutheran Lay Worship Leader

Matthew Cimino, Organist and Music Director

The Flowers on the Chancel are given to the glory of God.

The Lay Reader is Sonie Rea.

Acolytes are Jacin and Trevor Flowers.

Counters/Greeters today are D. Schmidt and K. Luketich.

Welcome to our Visitors! The people of this congregation welcome you as you join us in worship this morning. Please sign the register, located in the narthex. If you have questions, please see the pastor or contact the church office.

Do you wish to become a member of First Lutheran Church? Please contact Pastor Grewe.

Nursery: We welcome all children to be a part of worship, but we realize that sometimes the service can be too long for the little ones. We have a nursery for those attending to the needs for infants and small children. There is a speaker in the nursery so that parents can still hear the service. You are welcome to use the nursery for the entire service, or just a small part.

The Flower Chart for 2025 is posted in the narthex. If you wish to place flowers, (real or artificial) near the altar, sign your name opposite the date of your choice. You will be reminded of your date and asked for the wording you want in the bulletin two weeks before the due date.

Sign-up sheets are posted to host a coffee hour in 2025. Please write your names under the month you would like to host. The coffee hours have been a wonderful time of fellowship and the hosts have been awesome! Thank you!!

Sign-up sheets are posted for Lay Readers in 2025. Please sign up.

Please pray for those in need of healing:

Isaac Christian, Tyler, Amy Verderber, Lou Mayne, Judy, Brooke, Debbie, Linnese, Donna B., Karen John. Phyllis Daniels, Beckie Wood, Bridgette, Alex Houck, Stacy Carroll, Ron Erdmann & Belinda, James, Lori Mauer, John, Ed Dupas, Sandy Salerno, the Gavazzi family, Janelle Henderson, Rex Gibson, Pat Dupas, Gwen Roberts, Tammy, Judi, Larry Downing, Carol Cancelmi, Amanda Laib, Sandy Hebrank, Jennifer Sasek, Elizabeth, Phyllis, Joe Kern, Lisa Wilds, Julia Jeffcoat, Richard Hager, Rob, John, Terri Newton, Holly Hiser, Shari Kienzle, Susan Westcott, Eric Group, Terry Jurkovsky, Karen Dawson, Judd Lacko, Cadence, Sandy Mannsman, Robyn Cameron, Ian, Isaiah, and Alecia, Nettie Walsh and her parents and family, Greg Mason, Kenny and Josh, and Linda, Edelgard, Wolfgang, Thomas, Lowell, Paula, Klaus and Mel Behrens, Kim, Alice Z. Lindsay Mankey, Apollos Yocca, Jackie, Mikao S, Joe McBride, Pastor Rob, Neil Bassi, Roger C., Rhonda, Anneliese, Carl Group, Raisa Rodsky, Ms. Karen and family, Myeir & Raven, and Barb Hoover, Kathleen, Sharita McIntosh and family and son Larry, and Dan and family.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

PA Mental health support and referral line

1-855-284-2494

WASHINGTON, PA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS LINE

1-877-225-3567

WASHINGTON COUNTY BHDS LINE

724-228-6832

SCOTT BERRY DIRECT LINE

724-250-4079 (FOR CHURCH MEMBERS ONLY)

FOR OTHER NEEDS, CONTACT 211 OR THE CHURCH.

Sober House Living

724-228-2203

Turning Point at Washington

Bell Choir rehearsal is Thursday at 7:00 pm. We would love for you to join us. Please see Kris Briggs if you are interested, kkbrgs1@gmail.com. All are welcome.

Chess Club meets on Thursday evenings at 7:30 pm. All are welcome from beginners to experienced. We hope that you will join us for fellowship and fun. Please contact the church office if you have any questions.

HAPPY MOMENTS, PRAISE GOD

DIFFICULT MEMENTS, SEEK GOD

QUIET MEMENTS, WORSHIP GOD

PAINFUL MOMENTS, TRUST GOD

EVERY MOMENT, THANK GOD

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost – August 24, 2025

22 He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem. 23 And someone said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" And he said to them, 24 "Strive to enter through the narrow door. For many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. 25 When once the master of the house has risen and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then he will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.'
Luke 13:22-25 –

Will those who are saved be many or few? Jesus does not tell us in this parable. Someone asks Jesus, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" But Jesus does not answer the question posed to him. Instead, he responds with a command, "Strive to enter through the narrow door." It's as if Jesus were saying to this person, "Quit speculating about the number of the saved and focus instead upon your own salvation."

Jesus then clarifies that many will seek to enter through this door but will be unable to do so. Their problem is not that they have chosen the wrong door, but that they have tried to enter after the master of the house has already shut the door. But again, this fails to answer the original question. The question was whether the saved will be few in number. However, rather than speaking about the saved, Jesus speaks of the lost and says that they will be many. So, from Jesus' response, we still don't know whether the saved will be many or few and how the saved and the lost compare in relative terms.

Later in the parable, however, it seems that many will be saved. "In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God but you yourselves cast out. And people will come from east and west, from north and south, and recline at table in the kingdom of God (Luke 13:28-29)."

It seems that Jesus has spoken this parable against Israel and says that a massive number of Gentiles will come in to join the patriarchs and the prophets in the kingdom of God. So, will those who are saved be many or few? Jesus does not answer this question here, but he gives us some hopeful hints!