



October 23, 2022

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Ken Bersche

*Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary*

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“The Lord, My God, Be Praised”

- ♪ The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heaven; My maker, who to me
Has soul and body given; My Father, who will shield And keep me day by day
And make each moment yield New blessings on my way.
- ♪ The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heaven, The Father’s own dear Son,
Whose life for me was given, Who for my sin atoned With His most precious blood
And gives to me by faith The highest heav’nly good.
- ♪ The Lord, my God, be praised, My hope, my life from heaven, The Spirit, whom the Son
In love to me has given. His grace revives my heart And gives my spirit pow’r,
Help, comfort, and support In sorrow’s gloomy hour.
- ♪ The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the ever-living, To whom the heav’nly host
Their laud and praise are giving. The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,
God Father, God the Son, And God the Holy Ghost.

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Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Through faith in Jesus Christ, we are adopted as God’s sons and daughters and drawn into His kingdom. Today, we gather to receive our Savior’s mercy and then respond to Him in thanksgiving and praise. Because of our sins of thought, word, and action, we are unworthy of the grace we receive. Therefore, at our Lord’s invitation, let us come before our heavenly Father in humility and faith, seeking His pardon for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, the sinner.

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.

Amen. *A Time of Silence*

Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Received into the certainty and security of His eternal kingdom, be assured that you belong to Him—He is your Father, and you are His beloved children! As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, You are always more ready to hear than we to pray and always ready to give more than we either desire or deserve. Strengthen us in the certainty of the forgiveness of sins and life everlasting in Your heavenly kingdom, that, as Your children, we may love and trust in You all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Hymn of Praise *Please Be Seated*

“This Is the Feast”

~This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

♪ Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,

Whose blood set us free to be people of God. ~This is the feast...

♪ Power, riches, wisdom and strength,

And honor, blessing, and glory are His. ~This is the feast...

♪ Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation.

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

~This is the feast...

♪ For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. ~This is the feast....

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Old Testament Reading

Genesis 4:1–15

¹Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, “I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD.” ²And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. ³In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, ⁴and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, ⁵but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. ⁶The LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? ⁷If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.”

⁸Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. ⁹Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?” ¹⁰And the LORD said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. ¹¹And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹²When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.” ¹³Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is greater than I can bear. ¹⁴Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.” ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, “Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.” And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18

⁶For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

¹⁶At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! ¹⁷But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

- ♪ Children of the heav'nly Father Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven Such a refuge e'er was given.
- ♪ God His own doth tend and nourish; In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them; In His mighty arms he bears them.
- ♪ Neither life nor death shall ever From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth, And their sorrows all He knoweth.
- ♪ Though He giveth or He taketh, God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely To preserve them pure and holy.

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Holy Gospel *Please Stand*

Luke 18:9–17

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighteenth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord!

⁹He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: ¹⁰“Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ ¹³But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

¹⁵Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. ¹⁶But Jesus called them to him, saying, “Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. ¹⁷Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ!

Children's Message *Please Be Seated*

Handbell Choir

Apostle's Creed

Hymn

“Just As I Am without One Plea”

- ♪ Just as I am, without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd’st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- ♪ Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- ♪ Just as I am, though tossed about With many_a conflict, many_a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- ♪ Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- ♪ Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- ♪ Just as I am; Thy love unknown Has broken ev’ry barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 570 -Text: Charlotte Elliott 1789-1871; Tune: William B. Bradbury 1816-68;
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Proclamation of the Word

“The Sinner”

Luke 18:9–17

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear Your children pray!

Lord’s Prayer

Benediction

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

2 Corinthians 13:14

Amen.

Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“I Love Your Kingdom, Lord”

- ♪ I love Your kingdom, Lord, The place of Your abode,
The Church our blest Redeemer saved With His own precious blood.
- ♪ Beyond my highest joy I prize its heav’nly ways,
Its sweet communion, solemn vows, Its hymns of love and praise.
- ♪ I love Your Church, O God, Your saints in ev’ry land.
Dear as the apple of Your eye And graven on Your hand.
- ♪ For them my tears shall fall; For them my prayers ascend;
For them my cares and toils be giv’n Till toils and cares shall end.
- ♪ Sure as Your truth shall last, To Zion shall be giv’n
The brightest glories earth can yield And brighter bliss of heav’n.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 651-Text: Timothy Dwight, 1752-1817; Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731-1776; Public Domain.

Postlude