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June 11, 2023

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

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Rev. Ken Bersche

*Janis Lapham, Organist  
Maggie Kent, Secretary*

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## Prelude

### Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

- ♪ Today Your mercy calls us To wash away our sin. However great our trespass,  
Whatever we have been, However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,  
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.
- ♪ Today Your gate is open, And all who enter in Shall find a Father’s welcome  
And pardon for their sin. The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv’n,  
A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav’n.
- ♪ Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits; His blessed angels gather  
Around the heav’nly gates. No question will be asked us How often we have come;  
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father’s home.
- ♪ O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door, What should we do without You  
When heart and eye run o’er? When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,  
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 915-Text: Oswald Allen 1816-78; Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes 1812-c.1957;  
Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

## Invocation

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

*Matthew 28:19b*

**Amen.**

Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,

**His praise in the assembly of the godly!**

Let Israel be glad in his Maker;

**Let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!**

For the LORD takes pleasure in His people;

**He adorns the humble with salvation. Praise the LORD!**

*Psalms 149:1-2, 4, 9b*

## Confession and Absolution

Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father. *A Time of Silence*

**Merciful Father, we confess our sinfulness. We are not worthy for You to come among us. We are indeed sinful from our birth and since that time have transgressed against You in thought, word, and deed. Our actions have brought injury to others. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; we have done those things which we ought not to have done. We sincerely repent of our sins. Graciously hear this, our confession, O Lord, and grant us Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit within us, lead us to amend our sinful lives that each day we may grow in righteousness and in hope to the glory of Your holy name.**

Jesus, our Redeemer and God's greatest gift, promises forgiveness, life, and salvation, and welcomes us to His Table. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.

**Amen.**

## **The Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and to save the lost. Graciously open our ears and our hearts to hear His call and to follow Him by faith that we may feast with Him forever in His kingdom; through the same 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*

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

♪ My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.

Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away;

O let me from this day Be wholly Thine!

♪ May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart; My zeal inspire!

As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee

Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!

♪ While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my guide;

Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,

Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.

♪ When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll,

Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove;

O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 702 - Text: Ray Palmer 1808-87

Tune: Lowell Mason 1792-1872; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

## **Old Testament Reading**

Hosea 5:15–6:6

<sup>15</sup>I will return again to my place,

until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face, and in their distress earnestly seek me.

<sup>1</sup>“Come, let us return to the LORD; for he has torn us, that he may heal us;

he has struck us down, and he will bind us up.

<sup>2</sup>After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up,

that we may live before him.

<sup>3</sup>Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD; his going out is sure as the dawn;

he will come to us as the showers, as the spring rains that water the earth.”

<sup>4</sup>What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah?

Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes early away.

<sup>5</sup>Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;

I have slain them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light.  
6For I desire steadfast love<sup>[a]</sup> and not sacrifice,  
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.  
This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Epistle

Romans 4:13–25

<sup>13</sup>For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

<sup>16</sup>That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, <sup>17</sup>as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. <sup>18</sup>In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. <sup>20</sup>No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” <sup>23</sup>But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, <sup>25</sup>who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual Hymn

“Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”

- ♪ Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness My beauty are, my glorious dress;  
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
- ♪ Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;  
Fully absolved through these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
- ♪ Lord, I believe Thy precious blood, Which at the mercy seat of God  
Pleads for the captives' liberty, Was also shed in love for me.
- ♪ Lord, I believe, were sinners more Than sands upon the ocean shore,  
Thou hast for all a ransom paid, For all a full atonement made.
- ♪ When from the dust of death I rise To claim my mansion in the skies,  
This then shall be my only plea: Jesus hath lived and died for me.
- ♪ Jesus, be endless praise to Thee, Whose boundless mercy hath for me,  
For me, and all Thy hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 563 -Text: Nicolaus Ludwig Zinzendorf 1700-60; tr. John B. Wesley 1703-91;  
Tune: George J. Elvey 1816-93; Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

## Holy Gospel *Please Stand*

Matthew 9:9–13

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the ninth chapter.

### Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>9</sup>As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him.

<sup>10</sup>And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” <sup>12</sup>But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup>Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

### Praise to You, O Christ.

## Apostles' Creed

## Children's Message *Please Be Seated*

### The Hymn

“How Firm a Foundation”

♪ How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
What more can He say than to you He has said  
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

♪ “Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,  
For I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

♪ “The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose  
I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never, forsake!

♪ “When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,  
My grace, all-sufficient, will be your supply.  
The flames will not hurt you; I only design  
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

♪ “Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove  
My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,  
Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.”

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 728-Text: A Selection of Hymns, London 1787; Tune: Genuine Church Music, Winchester 1832;  
Setting: Joseph Herl b.1959; ©2006 Concordia Publishing House; Used by permission; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.

## Proclamation of the Word

“Attitude Check!”

Matthew 9:9–13

## Offering and Musical Offering

### Prayer of the Church *Please Stand*

As dear children ask their dear father, let us bring to the Lord our prayers this day, knowing that He will hear us and respond to our petitions. Confidently we come to our Father in heaven:

Lord, in Your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

As citizens of our blessed land, we pray for the world in which we live and for the leaders of every nation as well as of our own, that peace may prevail around the globe and that we may live without fear in our times. Lord, in Your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

In this season of growth, we pray for the Church, that it may grow and flourish even in those places where persecution for our Lord's sake is known. Grant that there be unhindered access to the Table of the Lord in every land. Lord, in Your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Gathered in heart and mind, we pray for those in need of our special petitions, including our shut-ins, those unable to be present in worship today:

We include those dealing with cancer and cancer treatments:

We also remember those with illness and health issues:

Lord, in Your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

With thankfulness, we remember those whose earthly lives have been completed, including relatives, friends, and members of this household of faith and so many others. Grant that we be blessed by the memory of all who have fallen asleep in Jesus as in blessed hope we await the resurrection to life eternal and the final invitation to the banquet in God's kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Gathered in the forgiving love of Christ and assured that our heavenly Father hears our petitions, we say with hopeful hearts and voices:

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

### Benediction

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and 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*

“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

♪ Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing, Fill our hearts with joy and peace;

Let us each Your love possessing, Triumph in redeeming grace.

O refresh us; O refresh us, Trav'ling through this wilderness.

♪ Thanks we give and adoration For Your Gospel's joyful sound.  
May the fruits of Your salvation In our hearts and lives abound.  
Ever faithful, ever faithful To Your truth may we be found.

♪ Savior, when Your love shall call us From our struggling pilgrim way,  
Let not fear of death appall us, Glad Your summons to obey.  
May we ever, may we ever Reign with You in endless day.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 924-Text: John Fawcett 1740-1817 vv.1-2, Godfrey Thring 1823-1903 v.3;  
Tune: Henry T. Smart 1813-79; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386*

## **Postlude**