



---

July 16, 2023

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

---

Rev. Ken Bersche

*Janis Lapham, Organist  
Maggie Kent, Secretary*

---

## Prelude

### Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“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.

## Invocation

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

*Matthew 28:19b*

**Amen.**

For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures,

**Passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another.**

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared,

**He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy,**

By the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,

**Whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,**

So that being justified by His grace

**We might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.**

*Titus 3:3-7*

## Confession and Absolution

In that divine hope, let us confess our sins to God our Father.

**Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You by not letting You have Your way with us. We have become deaf to Your**

**Word. Because of our weak love for You and for our neighbor, we have become fruitless trees deserving only Your judgment. Therefore, we return to You today asking Your forgiveness and for the strengthening of our faith and love. By Your Word, restore us and renew us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Fruitful trees, the Spirit's sowing, the Father's adopted: upon this, your confession, I by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word announce the grace of God to 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 of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **The Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, 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 Day”

Lectern: ♪ This is the day,

Pulpit: ♪ This is the day,

Lectern: ♪ That the Lord has made,

Pulpit: ♪ That the Lord has made,

Lectern: ♪ We will rejoice

Pulpit: ♪ We will rejoice

Lectern: ♪ And be glad in it,

Pulpit: ♪ And be glad in it

♪ This is the day that the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Lectern: ♪ This is the day,

Pulpit: ♪ This is the day,

♪ That the Lord has made.

Pulpit: ♪ This is the day,

Lectern: ♪ This is the day,

Pulpit: ♪ That the Lord has made,

Lectern: ♪ That the Lord has made,

Pulpit: ♪ We will rejoice

Lectern: ♪ We will rejoice

Pulpit: ♪ And be glad in it,

Lectern: ♪ And be glad in it

♪ This is the day that the Lord has made; We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Pulpit: ♪ This is the day,

Lectern: ♪ This is the day,

♪ That the Lord has made.

*The Hymnal for Worship and Celebration, Hymn 590-Text and Tune: Les Garrett; adapted from Psalm 118:24; ©1967, 1980 Scripture in Song/ Admin. Maranatha Music; Christian Copyright License International #1217384.*

## **Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 55:10–13

<sup>10</sup>“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven

and do not return there but water the earth,

making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

<sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

<sup>12</sup>“For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

<sup>13</sup>Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Epistle

Romans 8:12–17

<sup>12</sup>So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. <sup>13</sup>For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. <sup>14</sup>For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. <sup>15</sup>For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” <sup>16</sup>The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, <sup>17</sup>and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

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.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 725 - Text: Carolina Sandell Berg 1832-1903, tr. Ernst W. Olson 1870-1958; © Augsburg Publishing House; LSBHymnLicense.net  
#100012386; Tune: Lofsanger och andeliga wisor, Sweden 1873; Public Domain.

## Holy Gospel *Please Stand*

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

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

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. <sup>5</sup>Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, <sup>6</sup>but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>He who has ears, let him hear.”

<sup>18</sup>“Hear then the parable of the sower: <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup>yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. <sup>23</sup>As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Nicene Creed

### Children’s Message *Please Be Seated*

#### The Hymn

“Christ Is Our Cornerstone”

♪ Christ is our cornerstone, On Him alone we build; With His true saints alone  
The courts of heav’n are filled. On His great love  
Our hopes we place Of present grace And joys above.

♪ Here may we gain from heav’n The grace which we implore,  
And may that grace, once giv’n, Be with us evermore  
Until that day When all the blest To endless rest Are called away.

♪ Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hallowed courts shall ring;  
Our voices we will raise The Three in One to sing  
And thus proclaim In joyful song, Both loud and long, That glorious name.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 912-Text: Latin c. 8<sup>th</sup> cent.; tr. John Chandler 1806-76;  
Tune: John Darwall, 1731-89; Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal 1941; Public Domain.

#### Proclamation of the Word

“You’re Adopted!”

Romans 8:12–17

#### Offering and Musical Offering

##### Preface *Please Stand*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*2 Timothy 4:22*

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

*Colossians 3:1*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

*Psalms 136*

#### Proper Preface

## **Sanctus**

Lord God of power and might:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**

Hosanna!

**Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**

## **Words of Our Lord**

### **Proclamation of Christ**

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

*1 Corinthians 11:26 & Revelation 22:20*

## **Lord's Prayer**

### **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## **Agnus Dei**

Jesus Christ,

**Lamb of God, You take our sin away;**

Jesus Christ,

**Lamb of God, have mercy on us, Lord we pray.**

Jesus Christ,

**Lamb of God, grant us Your peace, we pray.**

## **Distribution Hymn *Please Be Seated***

**“Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”**

♪ Draw near and take the body of the Lord, And drink the holy blood for you outpoured;  
Offered was He for greatest and for least, Himself the victim and Himself the priest.

♪ He who His saints in this world rules and shields, To all believers life eternal yields;  
With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole, Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

♪ Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere, And take the pledges of salvation here.  
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow As in this feast of love You bless us now.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 637-Text: Latin, 7<sup>th</sup> cent, tr. John Mason Neale 1818-66*

*Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva 1551; Public Domain; LSBHymnLicense.net #100012386.*

## **Prayer of the Church *Please Stand***

*Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord, in Your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

## **Benediction**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

*Numbers 6:24–26*

**Amen.**

## **Recessional Hymn** *Please Be Seated*

“Blest Be the Tie that Binds”

♪ Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above.

♪ Before our Father’s throne We pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our comforts and our cares.

♪ We share our mutual woes, Our mutual burdens bear,  
And often for each other flows The sympathizing tear.

♪ When here our pathways part, We suffer bitter pain;  
Yet, one in Christ and one in heart, We hope to meet again.

♪ From sorrow, toil, and pain, And sin we shall be free  
And perfect love and friendship reign Through all eternity.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 649-Text: John Fawcett 1740-1817; Tune: Lowell Mason 1792-1872; Public Domain.*

## **Postlude**