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August 13, 2023

The Eleventh 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*

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

♪ When morning gilds the skies, My heart awaking cries, “May Jesus Christ be praised!”  
When evening shadows fall, This rings my curfew call: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”

♪ When mirth for music longs, This is my song of songs: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”  
God’s holy house of prayer Hath none that can compare With “Jesus Christ be praised!”

♪ No loveli’r antiphon In all high heav’n is known Than “Jesus Christ be praised!”  
There to th’ eternal Word Th’ eternal psalm is heard: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”

♪ Ye nations of mankind, In this your concord find: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”  
Let all the earth around Ring joyous with the sound: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”

♪ Sing, suns and stars of space, Sing, ye that see His face, Sing, “Jesus Christ be praised!”  
God’s whole creation o’er, Both now and evermore Shall Jesus Christ be praised!

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 807 - Text: Katholisches Gesangbuch, Wurzburg 1828; tr. Robert S. Bridges 1844-1930;  
Tune: Joseph Barnby 1838-96; Setting: Service Book and Hymnal 1958; 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.**

The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock,

**And exalted be the God of my salvation.**

*2 Samuel 22:47*

I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,

**And I am saved from my enemies.**

In my distress I called upon the LORD;

**To my God I cried for help.**

From His temple He heard my voice,

**And my cry to Him reached His ears.**

*Psalms 18:3, 6, 46*

The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock,

**And exalted be the God of my salvation.**

*2 Samuel 22:47*

## Confession and Absolution

Let us consider our unworthiness to come before our almighty God and confess our sins to Him  
in the presence of one another. *A Time of Silence*

We confess, Creator Lord, that like Job, we become angry at times with what You have allowed  
in our lives and we have wondered why.

**Forgive our pride and turn us to humbly rely on Your gracious plans for us.**

We confess, Savior Lord, that unlike Paul, we have neglected people around us who have not accepted Your sacrifice for them.

**Forgive our self-centeredness and inaction, and move us to tell them the Good News as You provide opportunity.**

We confess, Spirit of truth, that like Peter, we have failed to trust You in all things and have been overwhelmed by the storms of life.

**Forgive our weakness of faith and enable us to follow where You lead the way.**

All things in heaven and earth are under God's rule. His almighty power was shown chiefly in sending His Son into this fallen world to destroy the powers of sin, death, and the devil. Your pride, self-centeredness, weakness of faith, and anything else that would separate you from His great love have been forgiven for Jesus' sake. 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 most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; 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 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 and Verse Hymn**

Job 38:4–18 & “O Worship the King”

<sup>4</sup>“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.

♪ O worship the King, all-glorious above, O gratefully sing His pow’r and His love;  
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,  
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

<sup>5</sup>Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?

<sup>6</sup>On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone,

<sup>7</sup>when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

♪ O tell of His might, O sing of His grace, Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

<sup>8</sup>“Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb,

<sup>9</sup>when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band,

<sup>10</sup>and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors,

<sup>11</sup>and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,  
and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?

♪ This earth, with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, Thy pow’r hath founded of old,  
Established it fast by a changeless decree,  
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

<sup>12</sup>“Have you commanded the morning since your days began,  
and caused the dawn to know its place,

<sup>13</sup>that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it?

<sup>14</sup>It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment.

<sup>15</sup>From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken.

♪ Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,  
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

<sup>16</sup>“Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep?

<sup>17</sup>Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?

<sup>18</sup>Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **The Epistle**

Romans 10:5–17

<sup>5</sup>For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>“or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. <sup>11</sup>For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of

all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

<sup>14</sup>How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? <sup>15</sup>And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” <sup>16</sup>But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” <sup>17</sup>So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gradual Hymn**

“O Worship the King” (vv. 4-5)

♪ Frail children of dust and feeble as frail, In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail.

Thy mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,

Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend!

♪ O measureless Might, Ineffable Love, While angels delight to hymn Thee above,

Thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays.

With true adoration shall sing to Thy praise.

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## **Holy Gospel Please Stand**

Matthew 14:22–33

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

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup>Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup>And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup>And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. <sup>26</sup>But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup>But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”

<sup>28</sup>And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” <sup>29</sup>He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” <sup>31</sup>Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” <sup>32</sup>And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup>And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Apostles’ Creed**

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

## The Hymn

“Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”

- ♪ Jesus, Savior, pilot me Over life’s tempestuous sea;  
Unknown waves before me roll. Hiding rock and treach’rous shoal.  
Chart and compass come from Thee. Jesus, Savior, pilot me.
- ♪ As a mother stills her child. Thou canst hush the ocean wild;  
Boist’rous waves obey Thy will When Thou say’st to them, “Be still!”  
Wondrous Sov’ reign of the sea, Jesus, Savior, pilot me.
- ♪ When at last I near the shore And the fearful breakers roar  
Twixt me and the peaceful rest, Then while leaning on Thy breast,  
May I hear Thee say to me, “Fear not, I will pilot thee.”

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 832-Text: Edward Hooper 1818-1888;  
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## Proclamation of the Word

“Fear is NOT Our Reality”

Matthew 14:22–33

## Offering and Musical Offering

### Prayer of the Church *Please Stand*

*Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

## 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*

“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”

- ♪ Eternal Father, strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bidst the mighty ocean deep Its own appointed limits keep:  
O hear us when we cry to Thee For those in peril on the sea.
- ♪ O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain, O’er which our traffic runs amain  
By mountain pass, or valley low; Wherever, Lord, Thy people go,  
Protect them by Thy guarding hand From ev’ry peril on the land.
- ♪ O Spirit, Whom the Father sent To spread abroad the firmament;  
O Wind of heaven, by Thy might Save all who dare the eagle’s flight,  
And keep them by Thy watchful care From ev’ry peril in the air.
- ♪ O Trinity of love and pow’r, Our people shield in danger’s hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe, Protect them wheresoe’er they go;  
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee Glad praise from air and land and sea.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 717 -Text: William Whiting 1825-78, vv.1&4; Robert N. Spencer 1877-1961 vv.2&3,  
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## Postlude