



June 22, 2025

The Second Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Ken Bersche

Maggie Kent, Secretary

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“O Holy Spirit, Enter In”

- ♪ O Holy Spirit, enter in, And in our hearts Your work begin,
Your dwelling place now make us. Sun of the soul, O Light divine,
Around and in us brightly shine, To joy and gladness wake us That we may be
Truly living, To You giving Prayer unceasing And in love be still increasing.
- ♪ Give to Your Word impressive pow’r, That in our hearts from this good hour
As fire it may be glowing, That in true Christian unity
We faithful witnesses may be, Your glory ever showing. Hear us, cheer us
By Your teaching; Let our preaching And our labor Praise You, Lord, and serve our neighbor.
- ♪ O mighty Rock, O Source of life, Let Your dear Word, in doubt and strife,
In us be strongly burning That we be faithful unto death
And live in love and holy faith, From You true wisdom learning. Your grace and peace
On us shower; By Your power Christ confessing, Let us see our Savior’s blessing.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 913 – Text: Michael Schirmer, 1606–73, adapt.; (sts. 1, 3):
tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (st. 2): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Text: Public domain

Invocation

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

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful,

And kindle in them the fire of Your love.

The Lord has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,

And all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Isaiah 52:10

Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:

**“I am the Lord your God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you
should go.”**

Isaiah 48:17

Seek the Lord while He may be found;

Call upon Him while He is near.

Isaiah 55:6

Confession and Absolution

Seeking our Lord, His wisdom, and His grace, we confess:

**Almighty and all-merciful God, in wisdom You have created all things, and in grace,
You seek the lost and erring. Yet, through our selfish choices and sinful nature, we
ignore Your wisdom and refuse Your grace. We prefer our own way, resisting the Holy
Spirit and His work of bringing forth the fruits of faithfulness. For the sake of Your
Son, Jesus Christ, console and correct us, that we might forsake our wicked ways and
unrighteous thoughts and turn to You, the God who has compassion and abundant
pardon.**

The Lord is gracious, for He declares, “Listen to Me, you stubborn of heart, you who are far from righteousness: I bring near My righteousness; it is not far off, and My salvation will not delay.”

Isaiah 46:12-13

The Lord has brought His righteousness in giving His Son, Jesus Christ, to die for you. Through Him, and Him alone, you have forgiveness, life, and salvation. In the stead and by the command of Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O God, You have prepared for those who love You such good things as surpass our understanding. Cast out all sins and evil desires from us, and pour into our hearts Your Holy Spirit to guide us into all blessedness; 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*

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

- ♪ God of grace and God of glory, On Your people pour Your pow’r;
Crown Your ancient Church’s story; Bring its bud to glorious flow’r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.
- ♪ Lo, the hosts of evil round us Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.
- ♪ Cure Your children’s warring madness; Bend our pride to Your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage Lest we miss Your kingdom’s goal,
Lest we miss Your kingdom’s goal.
- ♪ Save us from weak resignation To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Your salvation Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, Serving You whom we adore,
Serving You whom we adore.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 850 – Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1878–1969; Text: Public domain

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 65:1–9

¹I was ready to be found by those who did not seek me.

I said, “Here I am, here I am,” to a nation that was not called by my name.

²I spread out my hands all the day to a rebellious people,
who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices;

³a people who provoke me to my face continually,
sacrificing in gardens and making offerings on bricks;

⁴who sit in tombs, and spend the night in secret places;

who eat pig's flesh, and broth of tainted meat is in their vessels;
⁵who say, "Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."
These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all the day.
⁶Behold, it is written before me: "I will not keep silent, but I will repay;
I will indeed repay into their lap

⁷both your iniquities and your fathers' iniquities together, says the Lord;
because they made offerings on the mountains and insulted me on the hills,
I will measure into their lap payment for their former deeds."

⁸Thus says the Lord: "As the new wine is found in the cluster,
and they say, 'Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,'
so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all.

⁹I will bring forth offspring from Jacob, and from Judah possessors of my mountains;
my chosen shall possess it, and my servants shall dwell there.
This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

Galatians 3:23–4:7

²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

¹I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ²but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

"Jesus, Lead Thou On"

- ♪ Jesus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won; And although the way be cheerless,
We will follow calm and fearless. Guide us by Thy hand To our fatherland.
- ♪ If the way be drear, If the foe be near, Let not faithless fears o'ertake us;
Let not faith and hope forsake us; For through many_a woe To our home we go.
- ♪ When we seek relief From a long-felt grief, When temptations come alluring,
Make us patient and enduring. Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.
- ♪ Jesus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won. Heav'nly leader, still direct us,
Still support, console, protect us, Till we safely stand In our fatherland.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn: 718 – Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt.;
Text: Public domain*

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁶Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me.” ²⁹For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Legion,” for many demons had entered him. ³¹And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. ³²Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned.

³⁴When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. ³⁶And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.**Apostles' Creed****Children's Message** *Please Be Seated***The 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.

Proclamation of the Word

“Rights and Privileges Under the Law”

Galatians 3:23–4:7

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand*

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. For the faithful of every nation, that they be so called by the Gospel and equipped to declare to their communities how much God has done for them, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For Your one holy Christian and apostolic church, that believers might be united in sound teaching and a clear confession of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those in the grip of darkness, ruled by the demons of grief, addiction, anxiety, and chronic disease, awaiting Your deliverance, and those hurting among us, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Special Intercessions

For our homes, that parents and caregivers be guided by Your wisdom to lovingly serve their neighbors and all in their care, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the fruit of the Spirit to blossom in the lives of all believers, to the glory of God the Father, and pointing hearts to Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all this, and whatever more Your fatherly mercy would grant to us, we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's 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 on You with favor and + give You peace.

Numbers 6:24–26

Amen.

Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise”

♪ Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise With one accord our parting hymn of praise;
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.

♪ Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way; With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the day.
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon Thy name.

- ♪ Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the coming night; Turn Thou for us its darkness into light.
From harm and danger keep Thy children free;
For dark and light are both alike to Thee.
- ♪ Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life, Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,
Call us, O Lord, to Thine eternal peace.

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 917 – Text: John Ellerton, 1826–93; Text: Public domain

Postlude