

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 26, 2020

Trinity Free Lutheran Church, Grand Forks, ND

INVOCATION

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

Amen.

INTROIT: PSALM 105:1-6 (ESV)

- 1 Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!
- 2 ***Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!***
- 3 Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!
- 4 ***Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually!***
- 5 Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,
- 6 ***O offspring of Abraham, his servant,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!***

OPENING PRAYER

O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your Holy Word. We pray that You will open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of Your Word we may be taught to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and in death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake.

Amen.

#178: "OH, WORSHIP THE KING

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

- 2 Oh, tell of His might; oh, 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.
- 3 The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, Your pow'r has founded of old;
Established it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.
- 4 Your 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.
- 5 Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In You do we trust, nor find You to fail;
Your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.
- 6 O measureless Might, ineffable love,
While angels delight to hymn You above,
The humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall sing to Your praise.

CONFESSION OF SIN

"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:8-9) And so with confidence we bow before the Lord to confess our sins.

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy and ask You for Christ's sake, grant us forgiveness of all our sins, and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE

O God the Father in heaven, have mercy upon us!

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us!

O God the Holy Ghost, true Comforter, have mercy upon us!

ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name, He gives power to become sons of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes, and is baptized, shall be saved. Grant this, LORD, to us all.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: DEUTERONOMY 7:6-9 (ESV)

⁶“For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.”

EPISTLE LESSON: ROMANS 8:28-39 (ESV)

²⁸And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all

things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

CONFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from where He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING RESPONSE

We give Thee but Thine own, whate'er the gift may be.

All that we have is Thine alone, a trust O Lord from Thee. Amen.

#235 "DEAREST JESUS, DRAW THOU NEAR ME"

- 1 Dearest Jesus, draw Thou near me,
Let Thy Spirit dwell with mine;
Open now my ear to hear Thee,
Take my heart and seal it Thine;
Keep me, lead me on my way,
Thee to follow and obey,
E'er to do Thy will and fear Thee,
And rejoice to know and hear Thee.
- 2 Underneath Thy wings abiding,
In Thy Church, O Savior dear,
Let me dwell, in Thee confiding,
Hold me in Thy faith and fear;
Take away from me each thought
That with wickedness is fraught,
Tempting me to disobey Thee,
Root it out, O Lord, I pray Thee.
- 3 Thou, earth's greatest joy and gladness,
And salvation, full and free,
Let Thy presence cheer my sadness,
And prepare my soul for Thee!
In the hour when I depart,
Touch my spirit, lips, and heart,
With Thy word assure, uphold me
Till the heav'nly gates enfold me.

GOSPEL LESSON: MATTHEW 13:44-52 (ESV)

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶ who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸ When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

SERMON

Micah Berge

#568 "DAY BY DAY"

- 1 Day by day and with each passing moment,
Strength I find to meet my trials here;
Trusting in my Father's wise bestowment,
I've no cause for worry or for fear.
He whose heart is kind beyond all measure
Gives unto each day what He deems best—
Lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure,
Mingling toil with peace and rest.
- 2 Ev'ry day the Lord Himself is near me
With a special mercy for each hour;
All my cares He fain would bear, and cheer me,
He whose name is Counselor and Pow'r.
The protection of His child and treasure
Is a charge that on Himself He laid;
"As thy days, thy strength shall be in measure,"
This the pledge to me He made.
- 3 Help me then in ev'ry tribulation
So to trust Thy promises, O Lord,

That I lose not faith's sweet consolation
Offered me within Thy holy word.
Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting,
E'er to take, as from a father's hand,
One by one, the days, the moments fleeting,
Till I reach the promised land.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BENEDICTION (Numbers 6:24-26)

The LORD bless you and keep you.
The LORD make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you.
The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Amen.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

Amen. Amen. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.***