

## TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Faith in Trial

August 10, 13 & 14, 2022

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### AS WE GATHER

Today's Epistle continues the list of heroes of faith begun last week. Today, the emphasis is on the trials they endured because of their faith. Unlike the false prophets in the Old Testament Reading, they had heard and believed the promises of God. No wonder faith in Christ, especially when it goes through trials, inevitably produces conflict with any unbelieving people near us, even though they might be members of our family! Today is a day to resolve to run the race with endurance, following our Lord Jesus, acting on faith each day until it is turned to sight.

**Reception of Holy Communion:** If you are planning to receive Christ's supper today, please read through the words of exhortation in the fellowship folder. For members, it is a good review of important spiritual matters for gathering at the table. For guests, it explains our stance on confession of faith, doctrinal unity, and proper spiritual preparation to receive the Supper for your benefit.

### WELCOME

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him,  
"If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth,  
and the truth will set you free."

John 8:31-32

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

#### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

### OPENING HYMN #664

#### "Fight the Good Fight"

Fight the good fight with all your might;  
Christ is your strength, and Christ your right.  
Lay hold on life, and it shall be Your joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God's good grace;  
Lift up your eyes, and seek His face.

Life with its way before us lies; Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

Cast care aside, lean on your guide; His boundless mercy will provide.  
Trust, and enduring faith shall prove Christ is your life and Christ your love.

Faint not nor fear, His arms are near; He changes not who holds you dear;  
Only believe, and you will see That Christ is all eternally.

(Rise)

### INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins, recognizing the forgiveness we receive because of our Lord's sacrifice in our place. Gracious heavenly Father,

**People: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Pastor: People of God, "we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses," all of whom struggled in their day, none of them perfect, but all of whom looked forward in hope. Because our Lord Jesus, "for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, . . . is seated at the right hand of the throne of God," we can be confident that He fulfilled all God's promises and has made His total, gracious forgiveness available to us. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen. Thanks be to God!**

**Refrain** *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. *Refrain*

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,  
and honor, blessing, and glory are His. *Refrain*

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. *Refrain*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

### SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord our God, you have graciously bestowed on us the gift of faith in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Strengthen our faith so that we may fight the good fight of faith in times of trial, winning those daily struggles and anticipating the final victory that awaits us by your grace;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

### ✠ WORD ✠

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Jeremiah 23:16–29* (God decries the false prophets.)

<sup>16</sup> Thus says the LORD of hosts: “Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD. <sup>17</sup> They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, ‘It shall be well with you’; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, ‘No disaster shall come upon you.’” <sup>18</sup> For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened? <sup>19</sup> Behold, the storm of the LORD! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. <sup>20</sup> The anger of the LORD will not turn back until

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he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly. <sup>21</sup> “I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied. <sup>22</sup> But if they had stood in my council, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds. <sup>23</sup> “Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD, and not a God far away? <sup>24</sup> Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD. <sup>25</sup> I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, ‘I have dreamed, I have dreamed!’ <sup>26</sup> How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, <sup>27</sup> who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? <sup>28</sup> Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD. <sup>29</sup> Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *Hebrews 11:17–40; 12:1–3* (Heroes of faith acted when tested, well before Christ appeared in human history.)

<sup>17</sup> By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, <sup>18</sup> of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” <sup>19</sup> He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. <sup>20</sup> By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. <sup>21</sup> By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. <sup>22</sup> By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones. <sup>23</sup> By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. <sup>24</sup> By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, <sup>25</sup> choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. <sup>26</sup> He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. <sup>27</sup> By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. <sup>28</sup> By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them. <sup>29</sup> By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same,

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were drowned. <sup>30</sup>By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup>By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies. <sup>32</sup>And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— <sup>33</sup>who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup>quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup>Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. <sup>36</sup>Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup>They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated— <sup>38</sup>of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. <sup>39</sup>And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup>since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup>Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 12:49–56* (Jesus says families will be divided over Him.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

**People: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>49</sup>“I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled!<sup>50</sup> I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! <sup>51</sup>Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division.

<sup>52</sup>For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. <sup>53</sup>They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.” <sup>54</sup>He also said to the crowds, “When

you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, ‘A shower is coming.’ And so it happens. <sup>55</sup>And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. <sup>56</sup>You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Be seated)

## CHILDREN’S SONG & CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

### “My God is So Great”

My God is so great, so strong and so mighty,  
there’s nothing my God cannot do. (repeat)

The mountains are His, the rivers are His, the stars are His handiwork, too.

My God is so great, so strong and so mighty,  
there’s nothing my God cannot do, for you!

## SERMON HYMN #655 “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword  
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son And bring to naught all He has done.

Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow’r make known, For You are Lord of lords alone;  
Defend Your holy Church that we May sing Your praise eternally.

O Comforter of priceless worth, Send peace and unity on earth;  
Support us in our final strife And lead us out of death to life.

## SERMON

### “Dropping Out of the Race”

(Rise)

### NICENE CREED

**People:** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.  
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

**OFFERINGS** As your offering is collected, please sign our fellowship folder located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the folder along to others in your pew, and return it to the center aisle. You may check the folder to see names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**Pastor:** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.  
Gracious God, our fathers in the faith gave a good confession of your truth before the powers of this world. In the spirit of Jeremiah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and Moses, strengthen our hearts in days of division to confess in our words and lives the glory of your name.  
Lord, in your mercy,  
**People:** hear our prayer.

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**Pastor:** Lord of hosts, you inspired your servant Jeremiah to proclaim your Word amid the lies of false prophets. Arm your servants in our day with the power of your Holy Spirit to contradict the lies of the enemy, and build up your Church upon the eternal foundation of your Word. Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** Heavenly Father, you settle the solitary in families in order to nurture their faith and train them in righteousness. Bless and strengthen parents to bring up their children to resist temptation and to endure all things for the sake of your name. Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** Lord God Almighty, behold our nation and all those in authority in your mercy and replenish them by your grace, that all who receive the sword would bear it according to your Word, always inclining to your will and walking in your way. Grant that we might lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** O Lord, grant healing to the sick, especially to Russell, Marlene, Gloria, Janet, Brian, Steve, Brian, Norma, Vern, Amy, Cathy, Jim, Vern, Elaine, Dorothy, Cindy, Don, Shirley, Richard, Helga, Carol, Sarah, Debbie, Steve, Mary, June, Jerry, Shirley and Sarah. Grant strength to the weak, endurance to bear up under trial, patience to await His deliverance and peace at the last. Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** Lord God, your Son promises division even as He promises salvation. Inspire our hearts to prize our Baptism and the communion of the saints above all other relations in this world, even as we fervently pray and strive for the salvation of those we know and love. Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** God of our fathers, you bless your Church with the enduring witness of your saints, who now rest from their labors. As we join their heavenly communion in our Lord's Supper, grant that we would share their faith in Christ now and to life's end. Lord, in your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

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Pastor: Hear us, most merciful Father, in these our humble requests, which we offer unto you in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: **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.**

#### ✠ SACRAMENT ✠

#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

#### PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

#### AGNUS DEI

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Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Be seated)

#### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

##### HYMN #728 "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."

#### HYMN #662 "Onward, Christian Soldiers"

Onward Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,  
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.

Christ, the royal master, Leads against the foe;  
Forward into battle See His banners go!

**Refrain** *Onward Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,  
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.*

Like a mighty army Moves the Church of God;  
Brothers, we are treading Where the saints have trod.

We are not divided, All one body we,  
One in hope and doctrine, One in charity. **Refrain**

Crowns and thrones may perish, Kingdoms rise and wane,  
But the Church of Jesus Constant will remain.

Gates of hell can never 'Gainst that Church prevail;  
We have Christ's own promise, And that cannot fail. **Refrain**

Onward, then, ye faithful, Join our happy throng,  
Blend with ours your voices In the triumph song:  
Glory, laud, and honor Unto Christ, the king;  
This through countless ages Men and angels sing. **Refrain**

**HYMN #631 “Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face”**

Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;  
Here would I touch and handle things unseen;  
Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,  
And all my weariness upon Thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God,  
Here drink with Thee the royal wine of heav’n;  
Here would I lay aside each earthly load,  
Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv’n.

This is the hour of banquet and of song;  
This is the heav’nly table spread for me;  
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong  
The brief bright hour of fellowship with Thee.

I have no help but Thine;  
nor do I need Another arm but Thine to lean upon.  
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;  
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.

Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;  
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;  
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:  
The blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord, my God.

Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;  
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;  
The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;  
Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.

Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,  
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,  
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,  
The Lamb’s great marriage feast of bliss and love.

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that in this Sacrament you have blessed us, refreshed us, and strengthened us firm in the faith of our Savior. Accompany us on our pilgrim journey that we may stand up to all trials and give you the glory for your gracious presence and strength; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: 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.

**People: Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**CLOSING HYMN #660 “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”**

Stand up, stand up for Jesus, Ye soldiers of the cross.  
Lift high His royal banner; It must not suffer loss.  
From vict’ry unto vict’ry His army He shall lead  
Till ev’ry foe is vanquished, And Christ is Lord in deed.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus; The trumpet call obey;  
Stand forth in mighty conflict In this His glorious day.  
Let all His faithful serve Him Against unnumbered foes;  
Let courage rise with danger And strength to strength oppose.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus; Stand in His strength alone,  
The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own.  
Put on the Gospel armor; Each piece put on with prayer.  
Where duty calls or danger, Be never wanting there.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus; the strife will not be long;  
This day the din of battle, The next the victor's song.  
The soldiers, overcoming, Their crown of life shall see  
And with the King of Glory Shall reign eternally.

Wednesday Preacher & Liturgist

Preacher

Liturgist

Lectors

Organist

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Pastor Josh Grotelueschen

Pastor Harold Bender

Pastor Doug Bender, Russell Hurst, Bob Reynolds

Olivia Kukor