

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Passing on Faith in Jesus

August 21 & 22, 2021

AS WE GATHER

What is your favorite family tradition? Perhaps it is an annual celebration such as Halloween, Thanksgiving, or Christmas. Perhaps it is a more common tradition—an old family recipe or a favorite game. Traditions are passed down from generation to generation. They are often wonderful and meaningful. But sometimes we pass down traditions that are not good for us or the world. The Israelites had passed down traditions related to divorce and giving that were not what God had intended. Jesus rightly criticizes such traditions. Today we consider how through family traditions we continually pass on the faith from generation to generation: Jesus.

WELCOME

"[Jesus] is the head of the body, the church.
He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,
that in everything he might be preeminent." (Colossians 1:18, ESV)

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #685 "Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus"

Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading, Pilgrims here, our home above,
full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where you guide.

Let us suffer here with Jesus And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness; Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter, We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share your woe; Help me there your joy to know.

Let us gladly die with Jesus. Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction, Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here with you I die, There to live with you on high.

Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken. Jesus, you are now our head.
We are your own living members; Where you live, there we shall be
In your presence constantly, Living there with you forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be, Life eternal grant to me.

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: O Lord, I love the habitation of your house,

People: and the place where your glory dwells.

Pastor: Lord, restore the fortunes of your people.

People: Let all your people rejoice and be glad!

Pastor: From generation to generation, you are our God.

People: Your Word shall be heard among our children and our children's children.

Pastor: Let us ever share the joys of Jesus.

People: Let us spread His grace and love to all the nations.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Indeed, it is good to be here, worshiping the Lord and receiving His gifts for our forgiveness, life, and salvation. Yet, we must admit that there have been times when we have taken God for granted. There have been times when we have created our own religious, political, and social traditions and given those human-made traditions more attention than Jesus. Still, our heavenly Father invites us to come to Him and ask for forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: we confess that we have not always looked to you for all good. We have created idols for ourselves. We confess our sins of thought, word, and deed. Forgive us, Father, for these weak failures. Renew us and lead us, so that we follow you and look to you for all good, for the sake of Jesus. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die and rise for you and because of Jesus forgives you all your sins. 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.

People: Amen. We are forgiven in Christ. He is our true inheritance forever. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE "You Are My All In All"

1. You are my strength When I am weak
You are the treasure That I seek
You are my all in all
Seeking You as a precious jew'l
Lord to give up I'd be a fool
You are my all in all

**Chorus: Jesus Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name
Jesus Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name**

2. Taking my sin My cross my shame
Rising again I bless Your name
You are my all in all
When I fall down You pick me up
When I am dry You fill my cup
You are my all in all

Repeat Chorus

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and merciful God, defend your Church from all false teaching and error that your faithful people may confess you to be the only true God and rejoice in your good gifts of life and salvation; 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)

REDEDICATION OF SCHOOL STAFF (Sunday)

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 29:11-19*

¹¹ And the vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." ¹² And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read."¹³ And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, ⁴ therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden."¹⁵ Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?" ¹⁶ You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me"; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"? ¹⁷ Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest? ¹⁸ In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see. ¹⁹ The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Colossians 1:15-20*

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 7:1-13*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem,² they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. ³ (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, ⁴ and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.)⁵ And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” ⁶ And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, “‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; ⁷ in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’⁸ You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”⁹ And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! ¹⁰ For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ ¹¹ But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “‘Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban”’ (that is, given to God)—¹² then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, ¹³ thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

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 #549 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

All hail the pow’r of Jesus’ name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown Him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown Him Lord of all.

Crown Him, ye martyrs of our God, Who from His altar call;
Extol the stem of Jesse’s rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Extol the stem of Jesse’s rod And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel’s chosen race, Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.

Hail Him, ye heirs of David’s line, Whom David Lord did call,
The God incarnate, man divine, And crown Him Lord of all.
The God incarnate, man divine, And crown Him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne’er forget The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.
Go, spread your trophies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.

Let ev’ry kindred, ev’ry tribe, On this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe And crown Him Lord of all.

Oh, that with yonder sacred throng We at His feet may fall!
We’ll join the everlasting song And crown Him Lord of all.
We’ll join the everlasting song And crown Him Lord of all.

SERMON **“Preeminent in All Things”** **Colossians 1:15-20**

HYMN #698 **“May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill”**

May we Thy precepts, Lord, fulfill And do on earth our Father’s will
As angels do above;
Still walk in Christ, the living way, With all Thy children and obey
The law of Christian love.

So may we join Thy name to bless,
Thy grace adore, Thy pow’r confess,
From sin and strife to flee. One is our calling, one our name,
The end of all our hopes the same, A crown of life with Thee.

Spirit of life, of love and peace, Unite our hearts, our joy increase,
Thy gracious help supply.
To each of us the blessing give In Christian fellowship to live,
In joyful hope to die.

(Rise)

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, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence he will 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.

(Be seated)

OFFERING

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Hear us, Father, when we pray,

People: for needed help from day to day.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, by your Spirit, inspire us to put Jesus first in all things in our lives, our families, and our homes. Give us courage to speak to those family members and friends who have ceased to follow you or who have never followed you. Strengthen us for both difficult and joyful conversations that we pass on the most important thing we have ever been given: faith in Jesus Christ. Hear us, Father, when we pray,

People: for needed help from day to day.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, you sent your Spirit and your Son to be our comfort in times of mourning and grief. Bring comfort to all those who are suffering at the death of loved ones or are dealing with a family member nearing death. Comfort the Pipkorn family as they mourn the passing of Dale’s brother. Point them to the hope of the resurrection and eternal life. Hear us, Father, when we pray,

People: for needed help from day to day.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, you delight in both young and old growing together in faith and life. Bless St. Paul’s Lutheran School, her staff and her students, that all of us may grow together in grace. Bless parents to rely not alone on Christian instruction at school, but to talk with their children and grow in faith at home. Hear us, Father, when we pray,

People: for needed help from day to day.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, remember all those who struggle with infertility. Comfort them in their sadness and mourning. Protect them from foolish commentary and judgment. Lead them where you would want them to go and answer the prayers of their hearts. Hear us, Father, when we pray,

People: for needed help from day to day.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, we pray for all families, for husbands and wives, for children and grandchildren, for brothers and sisters, and every relationship. Bless Ben and Amanda as they vow their love to each other and are joined by you in holy marriage. Help all our earthly families to reflect the love, honor, and sacrifice of our Lord Jesus. Hear us, Father, when we pray,

People: for needed help from day to day.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, especially Cindy, Deanna, Helga, Steve, Kathy, Ray, Versa, Don, Judy, Nancy, Dorothy, Steve, Marilyn, Cindy, Louis, Dawn, Carol, Debbie, Mary, Diane, June, Jerry, Shirley, Sarah, Gladys, Shirley and Sarah. Have mercy upon them and heal them according to your good and gracious will. Hear us, Father, when we pray,

People: for needed help from day to day.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, we commend all these prayers into your loving hands, for you live and reign with the Spirit and the Son, 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.

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.

CLOSING HYMN #861 "Christ Be My Leader"

Christ be my Leader by night as by day;
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.
Gladly I follow, my future His care,
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.

Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation; with Jesus I reign.

Preacher & Liturgist Saturday
Preacher & Liturgist Sunday
Lector
Director of Parish Music

Pastor Brandon Koble
Pastor Harold Bender
Debra Nier
Michelle Prince