

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Given to Eternal Life

July 27, 30 & 31, 2022

AS WE GATHER

The three Readings today all tell of the contrasts between people who have faith in Christ and those who do not. The important message is that we recognize God's gracious blessings and so reflect them as we live. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches that "one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions" (Luke 12:15) and warns about one who is "not rich toward God" (v. 21). When in Ecclesiastes "the Preacher" sees vanity all around, he writes, "to the one who pleases Him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy" (Ecclesiastes 2:26). In the Epistle, Paul promises that we who, in our Baptism, "have been raised with Christ, . . . will appear with Him in glory" (Colossians 3:1a, 4b). We have been given not only physical life but also eternal life.

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

Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you,
everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin.

The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever.
So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." John 8: 34-36

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #590 "Baptized into Your Name Most Holy"

Baptized into Your name most holy, O Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and lowly, Among Your saints, Your chosen host.
Buried with Christ and dead to sin, Your Spirit now shall live within.

1 continued

My loving Father, here You take me To be henceforth Your child and heir.
My faithful Savior here You make me The fruit of all Your sorrows share.
O Holy Spirit, comfort me When threat'ning clouds around I see.

My faithful God, You fail me never; Your promise surely will endure.
O cast me not away forever If words and deeds become impure.
Have mercy when I come defiled; Forgive, lift up, restore Your child.

All that I am and love most dearly Receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely; Help me Your faithful child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own Serve any will but Yours alone.

(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 then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake 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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless you, Father; Your holy name, we sing
Our thanks for your great glory, Lord God, our Heav'nly King.

2 continued

To You, O solebegotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshipped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High.
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures you
have stored up for us in heaven, that we may never despair

People: but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of 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 *Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12–14; 2:18–26* (Life is much more
than possessions.)

²Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. ¹²I the Preacher
have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³And I applied my heart to seek and to search
out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has
given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴I have seen everything that is done
under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind. ¹⁸I hated all my toil in
which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after
me, ¹⁹and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for
which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned
about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun,
²¹because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill
must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is
vanity and a great evil. ²²What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with

which he toils beneath the sun? ²³For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a
vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity. ²⁴There is nothing
better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This
also, I saw, is from the hand of God, ²⁵for apart from him who can eat or who can have
enjoyment? ²⁶For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge
and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to
give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Colossians 3:1–11* (In Baptism, our old selves were buried with Christ;
therefore, our new self ought to reflect His presence in how we live.)

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ
is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on
things that are on earth. ³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in
God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.
⁵Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil
desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is
coming. ⁷In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸But now you
must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your
mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its
practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the
image of its creator. ¹¹Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised,
barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 12:13–21* (Life means more than earthly treasures.)

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

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance
with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?"
¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for
one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." ¹⁶And he told them a

parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully,¹⁷ and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’¹⁸ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.’¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’”²⁰ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’²¹ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN’S SONG & CHILDREN’S MESSAGE (Saturday & Sunday)

“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 #752 “Be Still, My Soul”

Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side; Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide; In ev’ry change He faithful will remain.

Be still, my soul; your best, your heav’nly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul; your God will undertake To guide the future as He has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.

Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know His voice
who ruled them while He dwelt below.

Be still, my soul; though dearest friends depart
And all is darkened in this vale of tears;
Then you will better know His love, His heart,
Who comes to soothe your sorrows and your fears.

Be still, my soul; your Jesus can repay From His own fullness all He takes away.

5 continued

Be still, my soul; the hour is hast’ning on When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love’s purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

SERMON

(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.

(Be seated)

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.

All is vanity, O Lord, without the grace and succor of your Word and Spirit. Guard our hearts against pride and arrogance and a life rich in things but poor in spirit. Put away from us all evil desires and grant to us wise hearts, that we may love rightly all that you have made and use them all for Your purpose and glory. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Guard your Church, O Lord, the people of your own possession, and give to her honorable and noble men for the Office of the Holy Ministry and gracious and devoted men and women commissioned for the teaching arts and works of charity within your Church. Make us rich in the treasure of your grace that will never disappoint us, that we may give generously toward those in need. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Grant that in our lives together we might show the love of Christ to one another. Give all husbands and wives fidelity to their vows and promises. Help all parents teach their children to know and love the Lord. Guide all single adults, that they might find fulfillment in their service to others. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, kingdoms rise and fall, and leaders are raised up and brought low by your will. Grant our nation and its leaders humility before you, that we might recognize the vanity of all our plans and so be ready to rejoice and give thanks for your every good gift in the days that you give us under the sun. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Be near to the suffering, the dying and the grieving especially your servants Audrey, Gloria, Janet, Brian, Steve, Norma, Vern, Brian, Amy, Cathy, Jim, Vern, Elaine, Dorothy, Cindy, Don, Shirley, Richard, Helga, Carol, Sarah, Debbie, Steve, Mary, June, Jerry, Shirley and Sarah. Sustain them in the truth that their lives are even now hidden with Christ in God, and that when He appears, they will also appear with Him in glory. Give them compassionate and skillful doctors and nurses, that their suffering may be alleviated and their minds and bodies returned to health. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord God, you have seated your Christ at your right hand and surrounded Him with all those that He has led out of the great tribulation. We thank you for the peace and rest you have given them in Him, and we pray that you would one day deliver us by His hand into the paradise He has won for us. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Answer all doubt and fear, O Lord, with confidence in your Word and Sacraments, that by these Means of Grace we may be kept in holiness and guarded from temptation and despair until the day when you bring all things to their perfect fulfillment and we are delivered to everlasting life; through 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.

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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O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

HYMN #644 “The Church’s One Foundation”

The Church’s one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;

She is His new creation By water and the Word.

From heav’n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;

With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, Yet one o’er all the earth;

Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth.

One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,

And to one hope she presses With every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder The world sees her oppressed,

By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,

Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, “How long?”

And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war

She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore

Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,

And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union With God, the Three in One,

And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won.

O blessed heav’nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace

That we, like saints before us, May see You face to face.

HYMN #633 “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

At the Lamb’s high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King.

Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from His pierced side. Alleluia!

Praise we Him, whose love divine Gives His sacred blood for wine,

Gives His body for the feast-Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!

Where the paschal blood is poured, Death’s dread angel sheathes the sword:

Israel’s hosts triumphant go Through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!

Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas’chal victim, paschal bread; with

sincerity and love Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!

Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell’s fierce pow’rs beneath You lie;

You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall;

You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;

From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!

Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live,

Spirit, guide through all our days; Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!

HYMN #595 “O Blessed Spring”

O blessed spring, where Word and sign Embrace us into Christ the Vine;

Here Christ enjoins each one to be A branch of this life-giving Tree.

Through summer heat of youthful years, Uncertain faith, rebellious tears,

Sustained by Christ’s infusing rain, The boughs will shout for joy again.

When autumn cools and youth is cold, When limbs their heavy harvest hold,

Then through us, warm, the Christ will move With gifts of beauty, wisdom, love.

As winter comes, as winters must, We breathe our last, return to dust;

Still held in Christ, our souls take wing And trust the promise of the spring.

Christ, holy Vine, Christ, living Tree, Be praised for this blest mystery;

That Word and water thus revive And join us to Your Tree of Life.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this Sacrament,

People: and we implore you that you would strengthen us through it in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another;

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.

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!

HYMN #894 “For the Fruits of His Creation”

For the fruits of His creation, Thanks be to God.

For His gifts to ev’ry nation, Thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping, Silent growth while we are sleeping,

Future needs in earth’s safekeeping, Thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God’s will is done.

In the help we give our neighbor, God’s will is done.

In our worldwide task of caring For the hungry and despairing,

In the harvests we are sharing, God’s will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, Thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit, Thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, For the truths that still confound us,

Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

Preacher & Liturgist
Lectors
Director of Parish Music

Pastor Josh Grotelueschen
Marc Stefanic, Debbie Nier
Michelle Prince

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