

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

With Eyes Wide Open

June 24, 27, 28, 2020

AS WE GATHER

Without the truly good news of the Gospel we cannot see the hard truth that we and all people are poor sinners who deserve nothing but punishment from almighty God. It takes the Gospel to open our eyes wide to the severity of God's Law, which our Savior took on Himself in our stead. In Jeremiah's day, and our own, false prophets proclaim an easy peace that requires little change in our daily living. Now, as when Paul was writing, some people in the Church think the freedom Christ won for us can mean a disregard for God's Law. And when Jesus was calling disciples, He had to warn them (and us) that some of their own family members would actively oppose their following the Lord. But the Gospel announces what is real and good: God has kept all His promises in our Savior Jesus Christ. His death shows the enormity of the punishment we deserve, and His resurrection assures us of eternal life. Because our Lord gave His life for us, with eyes wide open we can lose ourselves in service to Him and with the psalmist "sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever" (Psalm 89:1).

WELCOME

"When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come."

John 16:13

¶ PREPARATION ¶

OPENING HYMN #832

"Jesus Shall Reign"

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun Does its successive journeys run:
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made, And endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise With ev'ry morning sacrifice.

People and realms of ev'ry tongue Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim Their early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns: The pris'ners leap, unloose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest, And all who suffer want are blest.

Let ev'ry creature rise and bring Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud amen.

(Rise)

INVOCATION, CONFESSON & ABSOLUTION

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared.

Pastor: Because we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition and have sinned in thought, word, and deed, let us employ the faith the Holy Spirit has given us and go to our gracious heavenly Father, asking His forgiveness for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God has given His only Son to bear the punishment of our sins on the cross so that we might know the peace of His presence now and the joys of heaven hereafter. 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE #809 "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. ***Refrain***

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! ***Refrain***

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, by the working of your Holy Spirit,

People: **grant that we may gladly hear your Word proclaimed among us and follow its directing;**

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 28:5–9* (Jeremiah condemns Hananiah for preaching peace while God has exiled most of the people to Babylon.)

⁵ Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, ⁶ and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD make the words that you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles.” ⁷ Yet hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸ The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹ As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Romans 7:1–13* (The purpose of the Law is to show the gravity of our sin.)
Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives?² For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage.³ Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.⁴ Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God.⁵ For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death.⁶ But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.⁷ What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.”⁸ But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead.⁹ I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died.¹⁰ The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me.¹¹ For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me.¹² So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.¹³ Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SONG

“Lord, Be Glorified”

(AGPS 165)

In my life Lord, be glorified, be glorified. In my life Lord, be glorified today.

In my song Lord, be glorified, be glorified. In my song Lord, be glorified today.

In Your church Lord, be glorified, be glorified. In Your church Lord, be glorified today.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 10:34–42* (Jesus warns that following Him must take precedence over every relationship.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

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

³⁴ “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.³⁶ And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. ³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸ And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ⁴⁰ “Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. ⁴¹ The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. ⁴² And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN #760 “What God Ordains Is Always Good”

Verses 1-4

What God ordains is always good: His will is just and holy.

As He directs my life for me, I follow meek and lowly.

My God indeed In ev'ry need Knows well how He will shield me;
To Him, then, I will yield me.

What God ordains is always good: He never will deceive me;
He leads me in His righteous way, And never will He leave me.

I take content What He has sent; His hand that sends me sadness
Will turn my tears to gladness.

What God ordains is always good: His loving thought attends me;
No poison can be in the cup That my physician sends me.
My God is true; Each morning new I trust His grace unending,
My life to Him commanding.

What God ordains is always good: He is my friend and Father;
He suffers naught to do me harm Though many storms may gather.
Now I may know Both joy and woe; Someday I shall see clearly
That He has loved me dearly.

SERMON

(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.

OFFERING Offering plates will be placed in the narthex and elevator room for gathering at the end of the service.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the Church around the world and for all people in their various circumstances. We pray for people who are displaced from their homes, communities, and countries. Heavenly Father, use humanitarian efforts on every level to supply what they lack, and send us as your people to bless all people who are in need, and give us eyes to seek those who are marginalized. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for refugees from warfare, those who lack the basic necessities of life, and all who are dealing with long-term ills or sudden emergencies, especially Janine, Jack, Louis, Dawn, Charles, Carol, Debbie, Mary, Marilyn, Dennis, Diane, Arlene, Dorothy, June, Jerry, Russ, Bette, Cindy, Shirley, Katie, Sarah, Gladys, Shirley and Sarah. Lord Jesus, use compassionate people and agencies to provide food, clothing, and shelter where they are needed; guide emergency and medical professionals as they tend those under their care; and open our eyes to see opportunities in which we may serve. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for ourselves and the Church wherever it gathers in Christ's name. O Holy Spirit, strengthen us and our brothers and sisters around the world as we seek to give our lives in loving service to you, reaching out to the lost, strengthening the weak in faith, and rejoicing together as we receive the real good that comes to us through Word and Sacrament. Lord, in your mercy,

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: These and any other things you would have us ask, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI #550

"Lamb of God"

Your only Son, no sin to hide, But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod, And to become the Lamb of God.

Refrain:

**O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God!
O wash me in His precious blood, My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.**

Your Gift of love they crucified, They laughed and scorned Him as He died:
The humble King they named a fraud, And sacrificed the Lamb of God.

Refrain

I was so lost, I should have died, But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod, And to be called a lamb of God. **Refrain**
(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION *Wait for the ushers to direct you to come forward.*

HYMN #566

"By Grace I'm Saved"

By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless; My soul, believe and doubt it not.
Why stagger at this word of promise? Has Scripture ever falsehood taught? No!
Then this word must true remain: By grace you too will life obtain.

By grace! None dare lay claim to merit; Our works and conduct have no worth.
God in His love sent our Redeemer, Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;
His death did for our sins atone, And we are saved by grace alone.

By grace God's Son, our only Savior, Came down to earth to bear our sin.
Was it because of your own merit That Jesus died your soul to win?
No, it was grace, and grace alone, That brought Him from His heav'nly throne.

By grace! This ground of faith is certain; As long as God is true, it stands.
What saints have penned by inspiration, What in His Word our God commands,
Our faith in what our God has done Depends on grace-grace through His Son.

By grace to timid hearts that tremble, In tribulation's furnace tried,
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble, The Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure If grace were not my anchor sure?

By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart's condition, I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad, all grief has flown Since I am saved by grace alone.

HYMN #694

"Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower"

Thee will I love, my strength, my tower; Thee will I love, my hope, my joy.
Thee will I love with all my power, With ardor time shall ne'er destroy.
Thee will I love, O Light divine, So long as life is mine.

Thee will I love, my life, my Savior, Who art my best and truest friend.

Thee will I love and praise forever, For never shall Thy kindness end.

Thee will I love with all my heart Thou my Redeemer art!

I thank Thee, Jesus, Sun from heaven, Whose radiance hath brought light to me;

I thank Thee, who hast richly given All that could make me glad and free;

I thank Thee that my soul is healed By what Thy lips revealed.

O keep me watchful, then, and humble; Permit me never more to stray.

Uphold me when my feet would stumble, And keep me on the narrow way.

Fill all my nature with Thy light, O Radiance strong and bright!

Thee will I love, my crown of gladness; Thee will I love, my God and Lord,

amid the darkest depths of sadness, And not for hope of high reward,

For Thine own sake, O Light divine, So long as life is mine.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank you that for His sake you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament,

People: and we ask you not to forsake your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve you;

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: God the Father, who promised lasting peace; the ✕ Son, whose death and resurrection have made that peace real for all who call to Him in faith; and the Holy Spirit, who has opened our eyes that we may believe, bless you and keep you in His care today and forever.

People: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

CLOSING 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.

Preacher & Liturgist

Lector

Director of Parish Music

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