

## TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Faithful Confession and Conviction

October 17 & 18, 2020

5:00pm & 8:00am

### AS WE GATHER

As the Lord speaks to us in His Word, He calls the righteous to live by faith and always gives reason why His people can do so through His continual presence, power, and providence. The Readings today urge us, in various ways, to live by faith in our confession and conviction. In Isaiah, He with great conviction reminds through the prophet, "I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides Me there is no God." In the Epistle, Paul assures the Thessalonians, "He has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction." Finally, in today's Gospel, Christ urges us to live by faith and as stewards of all He has provided, to "render . . . to God the things that are God's." Moved by His Spirit out of gratefulness for the salvation earned for us by Christ Jesus, we then give God our willing obedience, dedicated service, and the glory due His name as we in confession and conviction live by faith in and through Him.

### WELCOME

### MINISTRY MOMENT: Crystal Barry, Inspire Director

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart,  
and do not lean on your own understanding.

In all your ways acknowledge Him,  
and He will make straight your paths."

Proverbs 3:5-6

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

### OPENING HYMN #801 "How Great Thou Art"

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hands hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

**Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!**

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; **Refrain**

But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in-  
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin; **Refrain**

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!" **Refrain**

(Rise)

### INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!

**People: Sing to the LORD, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day.**

Pastor: Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples!

**People: For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods. Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.**

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

**People: according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

Pastor: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

**People: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.**

Pastor: As we come and bow before the Lord to confess our sins, we admit that we have bowed down to other gods of this world and gods of our own choosing.

**People: We confess we have trusted in ourselves and others rather than in you.**

Pastor: We have failed to rely on you in all times. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, and against others in what we have done and left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart

**People: and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We confess we have trusted in ourselves and others rather than in you.**

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, God is a merciful and loving Father, of whom “there is no other, besides Him there is no God.” He has chosen you in the Gospel, which has come not only in word but with full conviction in power and in the Holy Spirit. Jesus died on the cross to redeem you. Through Him, in His stead, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I 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 #940 “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”**

Holy God, we praise Thy name; Lord of all, we bow before Thee.  
All on earth Thy scepter claim, All in heav’n above adore Thee.  
Infinite Thy vast domain, Everlasting is Thy reign.

Hark! The glad celestial hymn Angel choirs above are raising;  
Cherubim and seraphim, In unceasing chorus praising,  
Fill the heavn’s with sweet accord: Holy, holy, holy Lord!

Lo, the apostles’ holy train Join Thy sacred name to hallow;  
Prophets swell the glad refrain, And the white robed martyrs follow,  
And from morn to set of sun Through the Church the song goes on.

Thou art King of Glory, Christ; Son of God, yet born of Mary.  
For us sinners sacrificed, As to death a Tributary,  
First to break the bars of death, Thou hast opened heav’n to faith.

Holy Father, holy Son, Holy Spirit, three we name Thee;  
Though in essence only one, Undivided God we claim Thee  
And, adoring, bend the knee While we own the mystery.

### **SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, as there is no other like you, help us to give to you the things that are yours, that we serve only you. Govern all things in this world so your Church will serve you with conviction in confidence and peace, and that faith, hope, and love be known and shown in our earthly journeys as your kingdom comes; 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** *Isaiah 45:1–7* (The Lord uses Cyrus as an instrument of deliverance.) Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: <sup>2</sup>“I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron,<sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. <sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me. <sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me, <sup>6</sup>that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. <sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness; I make well-being and create calamity; I am the LORD, who does all these things.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *1 Thessalonians 1:1–10* (The Thessalonians’ faith and example)

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. <sup>2</sup>We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers,<sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among

you for your sake. <sup>6</sup> And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup> so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup> For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. <sup>9</sup> For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,<sup>10</sup> and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### CHILDREN'S PRAYER

#### CHILDREN'S SONG #588 "Jesus Loves Me"

Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me! He who died Heaven's gates to open wide.  
He has washed away my sin, Lets His little child come in.  
Yes Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 22:15-22* (Jesus tested by the Pharisees about paying taxes to Caesar)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

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

<sup>15</sup> Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle him in his words. <sup>16</sup> And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. <sup>17</sup> Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" <sup>18</sup> But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup> Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup> And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" <sup>21</sup> They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup> When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Be seated)

#### SERMON HYMN #857 "Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way"

Lord, help us walk Your servant way  
Wherever love may lead  
And, bending low, forgetting self,  
Each serve the other's need.

You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord,  
But pow'r You laid aside.  
You lived Your years in servant-hood;  
In lowliness You died.

No golden scepter but a towel  
You place within the hands  
Of those who seek to follow  
You and live by Your commands.

You bid us bend our human pride  
Nor count ourselves above  
The lowest place, the meanest task  
That waits the gift of love.

Lord, help us walk Your servant way  
Wherever love may lead  
And bending low, forgetting self,  
Each serve the other's need.

#### SERMON "The Conviction of Faith" 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

(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.*

#### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: We offer to you, Lord, the sacrifice of our prayer and praise. You have blessed us with the gift of life in your Son, Jesus Christ. You provide for all our needs, even when we are unaware. Accept our humble thanksgiving, and empower us to demonstrate our thanks in words, actions, and dedicated service to you. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We acknowledge that you are the Lord, and there is no other. Strengthen us to resist temptations to serve other gods, whether things of this world, others, or ourselves. Open our eyes to see your presence in all of our lives. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Our Savior Jesus Christ, has reminded us to render to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to you what is yours. As you have established all authority over us, we pray for our leaders in this world, nation, state, and community. Give them wisdom and courage to act with justice and mercy for all lives, including the unborn and aged, the vulnerable and needful. Bless also those who serve our Church as elected and called officials, and the leaders within our own congregation, that all actions bring glory to you. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Father we thank you for the special blessing of marriage. Be with Steve and LeAnne Rolefson as they celebrate their 23<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We lift up all those in need, the hungry and homeless, the mourning and grieving, and all who seek healing, especially Arlene, Nancy, Rolland, Margie, Don, Jan, Louis, Dawn, Charles, Carol, Debbie, Mary, Dennis, Diane, June, Jerry, Cindy, Shirley, Sarah, Gladys, Shirley and Sarah. Give peace, hope, and healing according to your will. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Bless all who commune at this altar today, that through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus, they be strengthened in your forgiveness, enabled to withstand temptations of the devil, and empowered to lovingly serve neighbors in your name.

Lord, you are the giver of every good gift. Continue to send your Spirit down on our hearts to prepare us for service in West Allis. Bless our Ministry Expansion Campaign: Generation United in Mission. That your Word takes root now and in the years to come. Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## 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.

## ✠ 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

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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, grant us peace.

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** *Wait for the ushers to direct you to come forward. Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.*

#### HYMN #628 "Your Table I Approach"

Your table I approach; Dear Savior, hear my prayer.

Let not an unrepentant heart Prove hurtful to me there.

Lord, I confess my sins And mourn their wretched bands;  
a contrite heart is sure to find Forgiveness at Your hands.

Your body and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,  
Are taken at Your table, Lord, In blest reality.

Search not how this takes place, This wondrous mystery;  
God can accomplish vastly more Than what we think could be.

O grant, most blessed Lord, That earth and hell combined  
May not about this sacrament Raise doubt within my mind.

Oh, may I never fail To thank you day and night  
For Your true body and true blood, O God, my peace and light.

**HYMN #802      “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”**

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.  
  
Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.  
  
To all life Thou givest to both great and small-  
In all life Thou livest, the true Life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree  
And wither and perish but naught changes Thee.  
  
Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight  
All laud we would render; O help us to see  
‘Tis only the splendor of light that hides Thee.

**HYMN #554      “O Jesus, King Most Wonderful”**

O Jesus, King most wonderful! O Conqueror renowned!  
O Source of peace ineffable, In whom all joys are found:  
  
When once You visit darkened hearts, Then truth begins to shine,  
Then earthly vanity departs, Then kindles love divine.  
  
O Jesus, light of all below, The fount of life and fire,  
Surpassing all the joys we know, All that we can desire:  
  
May ev’ry heart confess Your name, Forever You adore,  
And, seeking You, itself inflame To seek You more and more!  
  
Oh, may our tongues forever bless, May we love You alone  
And ever in our lives express The image of Your own!

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us in, with, and under bread and wine with the body and blood of your dear Son. Strengthen our faith in you, and in our love for others in your kingdom and throughout our community, country, and world; 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.**

**CLOSING HYMN #849 “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”**

Praise the One who breaks the darkness With a liberating light;  
Praise the One who frees’ the pris’ners, Turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the One who preached the Gospel, Healing ev’ry dread disease,  
Calming storms, and feeding thousands With the very Bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word;  
Praise the One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the One who brings cool water To the desert’s burning sand;  
From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev’ry land.

Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place.  
Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;  
Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One who makes us one.

Preacher

Liturgist

Lectors

Director of Parish Music

Pastor Noah Kegley

Pastor Harold Bender

Dalen Heinzen, Bob Reynolds

Michelle Prince

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