

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

“Christians Called to Care for *All*”

September 10 & 11, 2022

5:00pm & 8:00am

AS WE GATHER

The world in which we live is filled with all kinds of people. There are different cultures, different races, different worldviews, all kinds of differences! There are people who are nice, people who are hateful, people who are prideful, people who are lowly and downcast. This weekend we begin our series "**Living as a Christian in a Non-Christian World.**" The diversity of people and different points of view make this a very challenging thing to deal with. May our God bless us to remember for whom Jesus died and His Spirit inspire us to truly care for all.

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

MINISTRY MOMENT – Renew Women’s Conference

Do not be conformed to this world,
but be transformed by the renewal of your mind,
that by testing you may discern what is the will of God,
what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #609 “Jesus Sinners Doth Receive”

Jesus sinners doth receive; Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin’s delusions live And from God and heaven wander!
Here is hope for all who grieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.

We deserve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich grace revealing,
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim; Here our ills have perfect healing.
Firmly in these words believe: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shepherd e’er forsaketh;
Weary souls that lost their way Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh
In His arms that they may live: Jesus sinners doth receive.

I, a sinner, come to Thee With a penitent confession.
Savior, mercy show to me; Grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Oh, how blest it is to know: Were as scarlet my transgression.
It shall be as white as snow By Thy blood and bitter passion:
For these words I now believe: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Now my conscience is at peace; From the Law I stand acquitted.
Christ hath purchased my release And my ev’ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Jesus sinners doth receive; Also I have been forgiven:
And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to Him I cleave: Jesus sinners doth receive.

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: The LORD is my portion; I promise to keep your words.

People: I entreat your favor with all my heart; be gracious to me according to your promise.

Pastor: When I think on my ways, I turn my feet to your testimonies;

People: I hasten and do not delay to keep your commandments.

Pastor: I am a companion of all who fear you, of those who keep your precepts.

People: The earth, O LORD, is full of your steadfast love; teach me your statutes!

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

People: Gracious God, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We are by nature sinful and unclean. Daily we do things we ought not do and do not live up to our calling as the people of your pasture and the sheep of your hand. We justly deserve your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in your mercy, we come to you for forgiveness. Our trust is in the merits of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us remission of all our sins and lead us to renewed lives that reflect your goodness and love.

Pastor: God is gracious and merciful. He hears our supplications and joyfully restores us to His fold. By the command of our Lord and as His called and ordained servant, 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

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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.

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. Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd, without whom nothing is secure. Rescue and preserve us that we may not be lost forever but follow you, rejoicing in the way that leads to eternal life; and calling others into your care; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Ezekiel 34:11–24* (God will personally search for His sheep.) ¹¹“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. ¹⁷“As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. ¹⁸Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? ¹⁹And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet? ²⁰“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 Timothy 1:5–17* (Christ Jesus came to the world to save sinners.)

⁵The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.⁶Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion,⁷desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions. ⁸Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers,¹⁰the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine,¹¹in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted. ¹²I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service,¹³though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief,¹⁴and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life.¹⁷To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 15:1–10* (Jesus tells the parables of the lost sheep and lost coin.)

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

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him.²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”³So he told them this parable: ⁴“What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no

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repentance. ⁸“Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN’S SONG & CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

“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.

Refrain: 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. Refrain

SERMON HYMN #711 “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Savior, like a shepherd lead us; Much we need Your tender care.
In Your pleasant pastures feed us, For our use Your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.

We are Yours; in love befriend us, Be the guardian of our way;
Keep Your flock, from sin defend us, Seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.

You have promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be;
You have mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow’r to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to You.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to You.

Early let us seek Your favor, Early let us do Your will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, With Your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.

SERMON “Christians Called to Reach Out to All” **Luke 15:1-10**

(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: Our Lord, Jesus Christ, came down from heaven to seek after us lost sheep and to bring us home rejoicing. Let us call upon Him in thanksgiving and prayer for ourselves and all people.

Pastor: O Father in heaven, we pray to you for all people in our world, those you call us to care for, to love, and with whom to share our faith. Make us bold by your Holy Spirit, that we would be your instruments to extend the kingdom of Christ, ambassadors of love, forgiveness, and peace. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, you call pastors and set them to the task of Shepherding your people. Bless them in their work of preaching, teaching, and sharing your Word in Spirit and Truth. Bless them and us all as we seek to restore those who have wandered away. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Gracious Lord, look with favor on the households of this congregation, blessing husbands and wives to live in holy love, fathers and mothers to raise their children in the faith, and granting all to live in harmony and peace through a good conscience and a sincere faith. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, our King, you appoint princes and all governing authorities. Remember those you have placed in authority over us, and grant that they might fulfill their responsibilities according to your Word and for the good of your people. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord of life, you heal and deliver. Hear our cries for all who are in need of strength, healing and rescue especially Paulette, Shirley, Gloria, Janet, Brian, Steve, Norma, Vern, Amy, Brian, Cathy, Vern, Elaine, Dorothy, Cindy, Don, Jim, Shirley, Richard, Helga, Carol, Sarah, Debbie, Steve, Mary, June, Jerry, Shirley and Sarah. Bless them by your Spirit with patience, peace, and hope in Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Father in heaven, your Son, who drew near to eat with sinners, now feeds His people with His own body and blood. Gather your people as a shepherd gathers lost sheep. Remove from them whatever is contrary to your Word of truth and give them repentant hearts, that they might rejoice with the angels in heaven. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Father in heaven, you are the comfort and consolation of all those who grieve the passing of loved ones. Comfort and grant strength to Jan, Wendy and the Spitzer family, as they mourn the passing of Jim. Bless and be with Nancy, Debbie, and Neil as they remember their beloved husband and father who passed on one year ago. Comfort Marilyn and her family as they remember Trish. Bless us all to look forward to the resurrection and a joyful reunion in the life of the world to come. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Most merciful God, we rejoice with the Allen and Folger families as Saylor Rae Allen is baptized into Christ this weekend. Grant all her loved ones to raise her in the Christian faith. Remember also your baptized children who have wandered from the household of faith. Pursue them as a shepherd who seeks lost sheep. Strengthen their families to persist in prayer and confidence in your faithfulness. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, all things are yours, and you have promised to supply us with all that we need. Give us courage and faith, that we may give a confident “amen” to these prayers, certain that you will give us all that is good and beneficial to our salvation and preserve us from all things harmful, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, through whom, with whom and in whom be all honor and glory, both 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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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 #915 “Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

Today your mercy calls us To wash away our sin.
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been.
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.

Today your gate is open, And all who enter in
Shall find a Father's welcome And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv'n,
A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav'n.

Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits;
His blessed angels gather Around the heav'nly gates.
No question will be asked us How often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father's home.

O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,
What should we do without you When heart and eye run o'er?
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.

HYMN #829 “Christ the Eternal Lord”

Christ the eternal Lord, Whose promise here we claim,
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured On all who name Your name;
With thankfulness and praise We stand before Your throne,
Intent to serve You all our days And make Your glory known.

Christ the unchanging Word To ev’ry passing age,
Whose timeless teachings still are heard Set forth on Scripture’s page;
Transform our thought and mind, Enlighten all who read,
Within Your Word by faith to find The bread of life indeed.

Christ the redeeming Son, Who shares our human birth,
And by His death salvation won For ev’ry child of earth;
Inspire our hearts, we pray, To tell Your love abroad,
That all may honor Christ today And follow Him as Lord.

Christ the unfading Light Of everlasting day,
Our Morning Star in splendor bright, The Life, the Truth, the Way;
That light of truth You give To servants as to friends,
Your way to walk, Your life to live, Till earth’s brief journey ends.

Christ the ascended King Exalted high above,
Whose praise unending ages sing, Whom yet unseen we love;
When mortal life is past Your voice from heaven’s throne
Shall call Your children home at last To know as we are known.

HYMN #740 “I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb”

I am Jesus’ little lamb, Ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me. Knows my need and well provides me,
Loves me ev’ry day the same, Even calls me by my name.

Day by day, at home, away. Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me, Into pleasant pastures leads me:
When I thirst, He bids me go Where the quiet waters flow.

Who so happy as I am, Even now the Shepherd’s lamb?
And when my short life is ended, By His angel host attended,
He shall fold me to His breast, There within His arms to rest.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. Grant, O Lord, that what we have received with our lips
we may keep with pure hearts and that through the gift imparted to
us in this present life we may hereafter receive life everlasting;
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with
you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

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 #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.

Preacher & Liturgist

Lectors

Organist

Pastor Harold Bender

Russell Hurst, Bob Reynolds

Jo Bender