

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

"Living Wisely in a World of Sin"

September 22, 2024

10:30 AM

AS WE GATHER

The most important thing that God's people need in our day and age is God's wisdom. Of course, this is true in every age!! This is why King Solomon of old asked God for wisdom in order to lead God's people. We need wisdom from God in order to lead holy lives in a world of sin. In the epistle reading, James speaks of earthly, unspiritual, demonic "wisdom" and the true wisdom which comes down from above. We need to listen carefully, take to heart Christ's teachings, and follow the Holy Spirit to lead wise lives in these spiritually difficult days.

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

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. Hebrews 12:1-3

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✂ PREPARATION ✂

OPENING HYMN

"May the Peoples Praise You"

You have called us out of darkest night
Into Your glorious light
That we may sing the wonders of
The risen Christ

May our every breath retell the grace
That broke into our strife
With boundless love and deepest joy
With endless life

Chorus:

**May the peoples praise You
Let the nations be glad
All Your blessing comes
That we may praise
May praise the Name of Jesus**

All the earth is Yours and all within
Each harvest is Your own
And from Your hand we give to You
To make Christ known

May the seeds of mercy grow in us
For those who have not heard
May songs of praise build lives of grace
To spread Your Word

Chorus

This our holy priv'lege to declare
Your praises and Your name
To every nation tribe and tongue
Your church proclaims

Chorus

Bridge
Holy Holy is the Lord Almighty
Worthy worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Holy Holy is the Lord Almighty
All creation praise Your glorious Name

Chorus Twice

CCLI Song # 7063739 David Zimmer | Ed Cash | Keith Getty | Kristyn Getty | Stuart Townend © 2016 Alletrop Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Getty Music Publishing (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) Townend Songs (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](https://www.ccli.com/terms-of-use). All rights reserved. www.ccli.com

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: O God, save me, by your name,

People: and vindicate me by your might.

Pastor: O God, hear my prayer;

People: give ear to the words of my mouth.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to our heavenly Father.

People: Almighty God, I confess all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your temporal and eternal punishment. I have relied on my own strength to endure during temptation and persecution rather than your faithful protection. I am sorry for these my faults and ask your forgiveness and pardon that I may return your faithfulness with ongoing reliance of faith.

Pastor: In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. God grant deliverance from every trouble and set your feet to walk in His ways now and always.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Because of Your Love”

As we come into Your presence
We remember ev'ry blessing
That You've poured out so freely from above
Lifting gratitude and praises
For compassion so amazing
Lord we've come to give You thanks
For all You've done

Chorus: because of Your love...we're forgiven
because of Your love...our hearts are clean
We lift You up...with songs of freedom
Forever we're changed...because of Your love

Repeat entire song

Repeat Chorus final time

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness,

People: grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please you in both will and deed;

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)

BAPTISM SONG

“Father Welcomes”

**Refrain: Father welcomes all His children To His fam'ly through His Son.
Father giving His salvation, Life forever has been won.**

Little children, come to Me, For My kingdom is of these.
Life and love I have to give, Mercy for your sin. *Refrain*

In the water, in the Word, In His promise, be assured;
Those who are baptized and believe Shall be born again. *Refrain*

Let us daily die to sin; Let us daily rise with Him.

Walk in the love of Christ our Lord, Live in the peace of God. *Refrain*

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING *2 Chronicles 1:7-12*

⁷In that night God appeared to Solomon, and said to him, “Ask what I shall give you.” ⁸And Solomon said to God, “You have shown great and steadfast love to David my father, and have made me king in his place. ⁹O LORD God, let your word to David my father be now fulfilled, for you have made me king over a people as numerous as the dust of the earth. ¹⁰Give me now wisdom and knowledge to go out and come in before this people, for who can govern this people of yours, which is so great?” ¹¹God answered Solomon, “Because this was in your heart, and you have not asked for possessions, wealth, honor, or the life of those who hate you, and have not even asked for long life, but have asked for wisdom and knowledge for yourself that you may govern my people over whom I have made you king, ¹²wisdom and knowledge are granted to you. I will also give you riches, possessions, and honor, such as none of the kings had who were before you, and none after you shall have the like.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *James 3:13–4:10* (James teaches that submission to God means opposition to worldly ways.) ¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ²You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. ⁴You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to

5 continued

be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us”? ⁶But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 9:30–37* (Jesus tells the Twelve about His coming crucifixion and then uses a child to teach about true greatness.)

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

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁰They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he did not want anyone to know, ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise.” ³²But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him. ³³And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you discussing on the way?” ³⁴But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. ³⁵And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN’S SONG & CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

“Jesus in the Morning”

AGPS #143

Jesus, Jesus, Jesus in the morning, Jesus at the noontime,
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus when the sun goes down.

Love Him, Love Him,
Love Him in the morning, Love Him at the noontime,
Love Him, Love Him, Love Him when the sun goes down.

Serve Him, Serve Him,
Serve Him in the morning, Serve Him at the noontime,
Serve Him, Serve Him, Serve Him when the sun goes down.

SERMON HYMN “Love the Lord Your God”

Love the Lord Your God with all your heart
With all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.
Love the Lord Your God with all your heart
With all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.

With all your heart, with all your soul,
With all your mind, with all your strength;
Love the Lord, your God with all your heart
With all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.

I will serve the Lord with all my heart,
with all my soul, with all my mind, and with all my strength.
I will serve the Lord with all my heart,
With all my soul, with all my mind, and with all my strength.

With all my heart, with all my soul,
With all my mind, with all my strength;
I will serve the Lord with all my heart,
with all my soul, with all my mind, and with all my strength.

(Musical interlude)

Bridge:

Praise Singers *Congregation (Echo)*
I will love You; (I will love You;)
I will praise You; (I will praise You;)

I will serve You; (I will serve You;)
I will trust You; Lord (I will trust You...)

With all my heart, with all my soul,
With all my mind, with all my strength;
With all my heart, with all my soul,
With all my mind, with all my strength;

I will love You, Lord, with all my heart,
With all my soul, with all my mind, and with all my strength:
I will love You, Lord, with all my heart,
With all my soul, with all my mind, and with all my strength:
I will love You, Lord, with all my heart,
With all my soul, with all my mind, and with all my strength.

SERMON “Living Wisely in an Unwise World”

(Rise)

OFFERTORY

LSB p. 192

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.

(Be seated)

OFFERING 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.

SONG DURING OFFERING “To You, O Lord”

(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.

Silence for time of personal prayers

Pastor: Heavenly Father, you have taken us from all nations and united us in the Body of your Son. Send your Holy Spirit to rid your children of all bitter jealousy, boasting and selfish ambition.

People: Fill your children with your wisdom, that we may shun the unwise ways of the world and lead godly, peaceable lives with sincerity and love.

Pastor: O Lord of hosts, give our Synod’s leaders and all pastors the wisdom that comes down from above, that they may be peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial, and sincere.

People: Bless them to sow your Word among us in peace, and bring forth a harvest of righteousness.

Pastor: Lord of the Church, we rejoice in the growth of the Kingdom of God, especially as Autumn Ewing is baptized into Christ this weekend.

People: Bless her to grow in faith, day by day, and walk closely with Jesus, her Lord, all her days.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, the Giver of every good and perfect gift, thank you for all your blessings, especially do we thank you for Al Weil as he celebrates his 69th birthday.

People: Make us truly grateful for all the goodness you bring us in our lives.

Pastor: Uphold this world by your grace. Preserve the Church and the preaching of your Word against all enemies. Endow the leaders of the world with wisdom from on high.

People: Bless our homes, that parents and children may serve one another faithfully and grow in faith until life’s end. Give health and wisdom to all who serve in public office, that their authority may be exercised for the benefit of our people.

Pastor: Lord, in your lovingkindness you do not abandon your children to suffer alone but promise to care for all who call upon your name. Comfort Bev and Keith Baumgart as they mourn the passing of Bev’s brother, Roger. Bless the homebound, the lonely, the depressed and anxious, those preparing for surgery, and the ill, especially those who desire our prayers: Charlotte, Ralph, Carole, Wendy, June, Audrey, Janice, David, Helga, Ruth, Dick, Michael, Margie, Anna, Charlene, Danielle, Marlene, RoseMarie, Dorothy, Marga, Ardis, Noah, Guy, Mike, Jill, Janet, Vern, Cathy, Shirley and Sarah.

People: Comfort them in their distress, heal all their ills of body and soul, and grant them your peace in Christ.

Pastor: O Lord of hosts, your Son was cut off from the land of the living on the tree of the cross, that we might eat and drink the fruit of His body and blood and live forever.

People: Grant that we may worthily receive His Supper in remembrance of Him.

Pastor: Father, grant that what we ask from you may be for our good and the good of others.

People: Move us to ask of you spiritual blessings in faith, that we may receive them and put them into service for you and our neighbors.

Pastor: Into your hands, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB p. 208

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

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

People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

LSB p. 210

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 #619 "Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior"

The body, giv'n for me, O Savior, Thy blood which Thou for me didst shed,
These are my life and strength forever, By them my hungry soul is fed.

Refrain: Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!

With Thee, Lord, I am now united; I live in Thee and Thou in me.

No sorrow fills my soul, delighted It finds its only joy in Thee. *Refrain*

11 continued

Who can condemn me now? For surely The Lord is nigh, who justifies.

No hell I fear, and thus securely With Jesus I to heaven rise. *Refrain*

Though death may threaten with disaster, It cannot rob me of my cheer;

For He who is of death the master With aid and comfort e'er is near. *Refrain*

My heart has now become Thy dwelling, O blessed, holy Trinity.

With angels I, Thy praises telling, Shall live in joy eternally. *Refrain*

"My Life Is in You"

Chorus: My life is in You, Lord,
My strength is in You, Lord,
My hope is in You, Lord, in You, it's in You;
(Repeat Chorus)

Verse: I will praise You with all of my life,
I will praise You with all of my strength;
With all of my life, with all of my strength.
All of my hope is in You.

Repeat Chorus and Verse

Ending: My life is in You, Lord,
My strength is in You, Lord
My hope is in You, Lord, in You, it's in You;
My life is in You, Lord,
My strength is in You, Lord
My hope is in You, Lord, in You, it's in You.

"Breathe"

This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe: Your Holy presence living in me.

This is my daily bread, This is my daily bread: Your very Word spoken to me.

And I, I'm desp'rate for You. And I, I'm lost without You.

(Repeat Song)

And I, I'm desp'rate for You. And I, I'm lost without You.

Ending: I'm lost without You. I'm lost without You.

This is the air I breathe, this is the air I breathe.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this gift, which strengthens us to eternal life.

People: We ask that in your mercy you would rule our hearts and minds so that we know Christ's forgiveness, seek ways to show love to all we meet, and serve you in willing obedience;

Pastor: through your Son, Jesus Christ, 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!

CLOSING HYMN

“Days of Elijah”

These are the days of Elijah, declaring the Word of the Lord
And these are the days of Your servant, Moses, righteousness being restored
And though these are days of great trials, of famine and darkness and sword
Still we are the voice in the desert crying, “Prepare ye the way of the Lord.”

Chorus: Behold He comes, riding on the clouds,
Shining like the sun, at the trumpet call;
Lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee,
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.'

And these are the days of Ezekiel, the dry bones becoming as flesh;
And these are the days of Your servant, David, rebuilding a temple of praise;
And these are the days of the harvest, the fields are as white in the world;
And we are the laborers in Your vineyard, declaring the Word of the Lord.

13 continued

Repeat Chorus

Bridge: There is no God like the Father, there is no God like the Son,
There is no God like the Spirit, He is the Three in One.

(Repeat twice)

Repeat Chorus twice

Preacher

Liturgist

Lector

Music

Pastor Harold Bender

Pastor Joshua Grotelueschen

Debbie Nier

Praise Team