

## THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Gospel in Philemon  
September 7 & 8, 2019  
5:00pm & 8:00am

---

### AS WE GATHER

Short yet powerful is a fitting description for the impact of Paul's Letter to Philemon, which is today's Epistle. Interwoven with the story of Paul's appeal to a slave owner, Philemon, on behalf of a repentant runaway, Onesimus, is the powerful display of Christ's work of redemption for all who seek restoration in broken relationships. As we gather before the throne of the Lord this day, we are restored in the presence of our Savior and through the fellowship of His Table. For we, like Onesimus, are all repentant runaways when we turn to our Master, Jesus, and confess our guilt before Him. And we, like Onesimus, are all restored brothers and sisters in Christ when we both receive from Him and share with others the good news of His forgiveness.

### WELCOME

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.  
Do not be anxious about anything,  
but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving,  
let your requests be made known to God.  
And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding  
will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4: 4, 6-7)

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

#### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

**OPENING HYMN #797 "Praise the Almighty"** *Rise last stanza*  
Praise the Almighty, my soul, adore Him! Yes, I will laud Him until death;  
With songs and anthems I come before Him As long as He allows me breath.  
From Him my life and all things came; Bless, O my soul, Hi holy name.  
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Trust not in rulers; they are but mortal; Earthborn they are and soon decay.  
Vain are their counsels at life's last portal, When the dark grave engulfs its  
prey. Since mortals can no help afford, Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessed, oh, blessed are they forever Whose help is from the Lord Most High,  
Whom from salvation can nothing sever, And who in hope to Christ draw  
nigh. To all who trust in Him, our Lord Will aid and counsel now afford.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

Penitent sinners, for mercy crying, Pardon and peace from Him obtain;  
Ever the wants of the poor supplying, Their faithful God He will remain.  
He helps His children in distress, The widows and the fatherless.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

(Rise) Praise, all you people, the name so holy Of Him who does such  
wondrous things! All that has being, to praise Him solely, With happy heart its  
amen sings. Children of God, with angel host Praise Father, Son, and Holy  
Ghost! Alleluia, alleluia!

### INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus  
Christ.

**People: By God's grace and peace, let us receive "the full knowledge of  
every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ."**

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Father in heaven, in your mercy you call us to turn from our sinful  
ways and live as your faithful people.

**People: We confess that we have run away from your presence. By what  
we do and what we fail to do, we have turned our backs on your  
will and your love. Forgive us, Father. Draw us again to the  
cross of your Son that we may be restored in our relationship  
with you.**

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are promised redemption and  
restoration in the presence of our Father, who hears your prayers,  
and for the sake of His Son, forgives you all your sins. Therefore as a  
called and ordained servant of Christ, 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 #854 “Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go”**

Forth in Thy name, O Lord, I go, My daily labor to pursue,  
Thee, only Thee, resolved to know In all I think or speak or do.

The task Thy wisdom has assigned, O let me cheerfully fulfill;  
In all my works Thy presence find, And prove Thy good and perfect will.

Thee may I set at my right hand, Whose eyes my inmost substance see,  
And labor on at Thy command, And offer all my works to Thee.

Give me to bear Thine easy yoke, and ev’ry moment watch and pray,  
And still to things eternal look, and hasten to Thy glorious day.

For Thee delightfully employ What e’er Thy bounteous grace has giv’n.  
And run my course with even joy, and closely walk with Thee to heav’n.

**SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Merciful Father, you gave up your Son to the sacrifice of the cross in order to restore those who have run away from your presence.

**People: Grant us to faithfully follow Him who offered His life for us all.**

Pastor: We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, 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 Deuteronomy 30:15–20** (The Lord is your life!)

“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may

live, loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE Philemon 1–21** (Paul appeals on behalf of a repentant runaway.)

Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved fellow worker and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you. Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother— especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 14:25–35* (We count the cost of being Jesus' disciples.)

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

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

Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple. "Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Be seated)

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

#### **SERMON HYMN #707 "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"**

Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep His statutes still!

Oh, that my God grant me grace To know and do His will!

Order my footsteps by Thy Word And make my heart sincere;

Let sin have no dominion, Lord, But keep my conscience clear.

Assist my soul, too apt to stray, A stricter watch to keep;

And should I e'er forget Thy way, Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.

Make me to walk in Thy commands 'Tis a delightful road-

Nor let my head of heart or hands Offend against my God.

### **SERMON**

***"You Have Been Called"***

(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.

(Be seated)

**OFFERING** As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** 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 book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

### **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord on behalf of His Church, our nation, the causes of peace and justice, the needs of the sick, and all people as they have need.

*Brief silence*

Pastor: You have granted us a great privilege and your blessed mercy, O Lord, that we should be called your people. Work in us by your Spirit, that we may love what is good and obey your commands cheerfully. Keep us from complacency, and preserve us that we may be the salt of the earth and light in the darkness of the world. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lead us, O Lord, to share the gospel in love and to speak to the nations in witness of the love of Christ. Bring people to faith, restore the erring to truth, move sinners to repentance and sustain the persecuted in their trials. Bless your Church with wise and

caring pastors who will preach faithfully your Word. Raise up still others to serve you and your Church in the places where you lead. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Give your aid, O Lord, to all elected and appointed public officials, especially Donald, our president; the Congress of these United States; Tony, our governor; the legislature of this state; and all who serve us in government. Grant peace to the nations, and prosper to the benefit of all people the cause of justice. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Keep us, O Lord, from growing weary of doing good, and give us loving hearts to show kindness to all people. Be with those who suffer any need, the poor, unemployed and homeless. Grant your mercy to them and to all your people. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Grant to all the sick, O Lord, the riches of your mercy to sustain them in their afflictions, deliver them according to your will, comfort them with your presence. Be especially with John, Pam, Shirley, Jim, Mary, Cindy, Bill, Sarah, Katie, Marge, Dolores, Herb, Russ, Gladys, Arlene, Shirley, Jonathan, Sarah and those we name in our hearts. Build them up in faith, give them a cheerful countenance and a grateful heart for all your mercies to them in their time of need. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Almighty God, we rejoice in all your good gifts, and especially join with Roger and Lonna as they celebrate the first anniversary of their daughter and son-in-law. We also ask your blessing upon our celebration of new and old, as we gather together for fellowship. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Blessed Lord, grant that all who come to your table to receive the blessed meal of your Son's body and blood may come in true repentance, confessing our Lord and discerning His presence in this Communion. Bring us at last to that day when all the faithful will be perfectly united in eternity. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: You know, Lord, the secrets of our hearts and what would entice us to fall away. Guard us against the love of things, and equip us by your grace to love you above all. Accept the tithes and offerings we bring in thanksgiving as our duty and delight. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Bring to our remembrance, O Lord, those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors, that we may be encouraged by their witness, follow their example as they followed Christ, and be kept holy and blameless until we stand with them on that day when Christ shall return in His glory as judge and king of all. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Preserve us, O Lord, from all temptation, and grant us strong faith, that we may rest all our prayers and concerns in your merciful arms, 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

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.

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** 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 #626 “Come, Let Us Eat”**

Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,  
Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
Our Lord’s body let us take together, Our Lord’s body let us take together.

Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,  
Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
Jesus’ blood poured let us drink together,  
Jesus’ blood poured let us drink together.

In His presence now we meet and rest, In His presence now we meet and rest.  
In the presence of our Lord we gather, In the presence of our Lord we gather.

Rise, then, to spread abroad God’s mighty Word.  
Rise, then, to spread abroad God’s mighty Word.  
Jesus risen will bring in the Kingdom. Jesus risen will bring in the Kingdom.

**HYMN #425 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”**

When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss And pour contempt on all my pride.  
Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the death of Christ, my God;  
all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.  
See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e’er such love and sorrow meet Or thorns compose so rich a crown?  
Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a tribute far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all!

**HYMN #623 “Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”**

Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray That we may feast on You today;  
Beneath these forms of bread and wine Enrich us with Your grace divine.  
Give us, who share this wondrous food, Your body broken and Your blood,  
The grateful peace of sins forgiv’n, The certain joys of heirs of heav’n.  
By faith Your Word has made us bold To seize the gift of love retold;  
All that You are we here receive, And all we are to You we give.  
One bread, one cup, one body, we, Rejoicing in our unity,  
Proclaim Your love until You come To bring Your scattered loved ones home.  
Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray: O keep us steadfast till that day  
When each will be Your welcomed guest In heaven’s high and holy feast.

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have restored, renewed, and refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore you that of your mercy you would strengthen us as we turn to you in faith and turn to others in love and forgiveness; 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: Grace go with you and peace flow through you, for they are gifts from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**People: By God’s grace and peace, we have been blessed with “the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ.”**

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 #789 “Praise and Thanksgiving”**

Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer  
For all things living, Created good:  
Harvest of sown fields, Fruits of the orchard,  
Hay from the mown fields, Blossom and wood.

Bless, Lord, the labor We bring to serve You  
That with our neighbor We may be fed.  
Sowing or tilling, We would work with You,  
Harvesting, milling For daily bread.

Father, providing Food for Your children,  
By Your wise guiding Teach us to share  
One with another, So that, rejoicing  
With us, all others May know Your care.

Preacher  
Liturgist  
Children’s Message  
Lectors  
Acolytes  
Director of Parish Music

Pastor Noah Kegley  
Pastor Harold Bender  
Laurel Privatt  
Jodi Drew, Laurel Privatt  
Logan Rauter, Brooklyn Hoffman, Cooper Nier  
Michelle Prince

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 3. Copyright © 2019 Concordia Publishing House.  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.