

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

GATHERING AND MEDITATION TIME

Pre-Service Music, Welcome, and Announcements

CONFSSIONAL PRAYER

In this Pentecost Season, we confess to You, O Lord - our division, for we are not gathered together as Your people in one place; our fear of the rush of your Spirit in our lives and what it might call us to do or to be; our desire for a monolingual society, even when you allowed the early church to transcend all language, not favoring one over another; our actions that can be like the crowds that taunt and torment, mocking those who are filled with your Spirit that burns like fire and rushes like wind. For the times we have done this, we know we need to offer our confession to Almighty God:

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by the things we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: In this Pentecost season, Lord - help us to let down our barriers to your Spirit; guide us over to live lives filled with joy, abandon, and faithfulness; and create in us new hearts to be new people who worship only You. As a result of the love of God, the work of Jesus, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Go and sin no more, that the rest of your life might be pure and holy and modeled after our Lord Jesus in all we say and all we do, we pray and celebrate this Easter joy in His Holy Name, **Amen.**

HYMN 237 This is My Father's World (1, 2, 3)

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison): **Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

Alleluia. Many will come from east and west and will eat in the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.

FIRST LESSON: Psalm 119:129-136

New Living Translation (NLT)

Your laws are wonderful. No wonder I obey them! The teaching of your word gives light, so even the simple can understand. I pant with expectation, longing for your commands. Come and show me your mercy, as you do for all who love your name. Guide my steps by your word, so I will not be overcome by evil. Ransom me from the oppression of evil people; then I can obey your commandments. Look upon me with love; teach me your decrees. Rivers of tears gush from my eyes because people disobey your instructions.

THE SECOND LESSON: Romans 8:26-39

New Living Translation (NLT)

And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will. And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory.

What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us? Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else? Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one—for God himself has given us right standing with himself. Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.

Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? (As the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.") No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.

And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 New Living Translation (NLT)

Here is another illustration Jesus used: “The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed planted in a field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of garden plants; it grows into a tree, and birds come and make nests in its branches.”

Jesus also used this illustration: “The Kingdom of Heaven is like the yeast a woman used in making bread. Even though she put only a little yeast in three measures of flour, it permeated every part of the dough.”

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. In his excitement, he hid it again and sold everything he owned to get enough money to buy the field.

“Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant on the lookout for choice pearls. When he discovered a pearl of great value, he sold everything he owned and bought it!

“Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like a fishing net that was thrown into the water and caught fish of every kind. When the net was full, they dragged it up onto the shore, sat down, and sorted the good fish into crates, but threw the bad ones away. That is the way it will be at the end of the world. The angels will come and separate the wicked people from the righteous, throwing the wicked into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Do you understand all these things?”

“Yes,” they said, “we do.”

Then he added, “Every teacher of religious law who becomes a disciple in the Kingdom of Heaven is like a homeowner who brings from his storeroom new gems of truth as well as old.”

The Gospel of our Lord.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.

SERMON “ _____ ”

Pastor Larry Yerger

SERMON HYMN: 316 The Church’s One Foundation (1, 3, 5)

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed (C)

"I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the 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 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 on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

"And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father [and the Son]; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped 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."

THE OFFERING:

After the consecration of the Offering, we will sing the Doxology.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise him, all creatures here below, Praise him above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

-PRAYERS OF PRAISE, WORDS OF INSTITUTION, THE LORD'S PRAYER

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

THE DISTRIBUTION

THE COMMUNION BLESSING

HYMN 348 Shine, Jesus, Shine (1, 3)

THE BENEDICTION & THE DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. Thanks be to God

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WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN! Thank you for joining us as we worship our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! As a kindness to one another, ***please place your cell phones on muted*** for the time we are together in worship. If you are a visitor, let us know you are here!

SUMMER NEWSLETTER COMING SOON! If you have items you'd like included in the next newsletter, by all means please forward them to Jeanne Keyser, who is our newsletter editor. We are thinking it would be published later in July but now would be a good time to get those articles started!

PASTOR STEVE DYGERT: Will be joining our Congregation on August 20th.

PASTOR LARRY YERGER: Will be preaching next week (August 6th).

PASTOR TONY ALONZO: Will be preaching August 13th.

IN OUR PRAYERS: Please use a prayer request card if you have a specific prayer request this morning. It is our joy and our privilege to share in these petitions to Almighty God. If you have them ready before the service, hand them to Pastor when you have them completed, otherwise give them to the ushers at the time the offering is collected.

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