

## **Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

**August 7, 2022**

Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part in today's assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

**PRELUDE** Brass Ensemble *Regina Coeli* LOTTI

## **CONFESSION**

*Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. Amen.*

*Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.*

Silence is kept for reflection.

***Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.***

*Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves. Amen.*

**HYMN** #771 *God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens* HOLY MANNA

## **GREETING**

*Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all. And also with you.*

**HYMN OF PRAISE** #847 *Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs* NUN DANKET ALL



1 Come, let us join our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne;  
2 "Wor- thy the Lamb that died," they cry, "to be ex- alt- ed thus!"  
3 Je- sus is wor- thy to re-ceive hon- or and pow'r di- vine;  
4 Let all cre- a- tion join in one to bless the sa- cred name



ten thou- sand thou- sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.  
"Wor- thy the Lamb," our lips re- ply, "for he was slain for us!"  
and bless- ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for- ev- er thine.  
of God who sits up- on the throne, and to a- dore the Lamb.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Let us prayer together. Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

## **FIRST READING: Genesis 15: 1-6**

*God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.*

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup>But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup>He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

**The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: Psalm 33: 12-22 [read responsively]**

"What is the nature of ultimate reality? And the answer: God. And more explicitly, God is love. That is an extraordinary thought . . . this great mystery—that love is the basic reality." In a real sense, this is also what Psalm 33 is all about—the affirmation "that love is the basic reality," along with praise for the God whose steadfast love fills the earth (Psalm 33:5b), as well as an invitation to trust this God.

<sup>12</sup>*Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!*

<sup>13</sup>**The LORD looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.**

<sup>14</sup>*God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.*

<sup>15</sup>**God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.**

<sup>16</sup>*A king is not saved by the size of the army, nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.*

<sup>17</sup>**The horse gives vain hope for victory; despite its great strength it cannot save.**

<sup>18</sup>*Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD, upon those who wait for your steadfast love,*

<sup>19</sup>**to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine.**

<sup>20</sup>*Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD, our helper and our shield.*

<sup>21</sup>**Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.**

<sup>22</sup>*Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### GOSPEL **Luke 12: 32-40**

*Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>32</sup>“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup>“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup>be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup>Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup>If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup>“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** *Rev. Christian Dittmar*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

#638

***Blessed Assurance***

ASSURANCE

## APOSTLES' CREED

*With voices united, let us confess our faith*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS

*Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer. (A brief silence.)*

*... Merciful God, receive our prayer.*

*Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom. Amen.*

**OFFERING Assurance CARLSON**

**OFFERTORY W&P 41 Give Thanks GIVE THANKS**

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,  
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.  
Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,  
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich," be-cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Last time

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

*Let us pray. God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.*

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*It is indeed right.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY #525**    *You Are Holy*    DU ÄR HELIG



*Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer*  
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



*än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.*  
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



*Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,*  
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



*väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.*  
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



*Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,*  
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



*du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!*  
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



*Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,*  
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



*ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.*  
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

*In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

*Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:*

**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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

*In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.*

## **LAMB OF GOD** [from *Now the Feast and Celebration* – Haugen]

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the hymn 'Lamb of God'. The first staff is in 4/4 time and contains the lyrics 'Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the'. The second staff is in 4/4 time and contains the lyrics 'world: have mer-cy on us. mer-cy on us,'. The third staff is in 2/4 time and contains the lyrics 'mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you'. The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb).

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
 take a-way the sin of the world: grant us peace,  
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

*The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen*

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Let us pray. Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen*

**BLESSING**

*The God of peace, Father,  $\div$  Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always. Amen.*

**SENDING HYMN** #774 *What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine* SHOWALTER

**DISMISSAL**

*Go in peace. Love your neighbor. Thanks be to God.*

**POSTLUDE** *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart* RITTER

**worship has ended \* the service begins**

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