Look to the Lord to lift you up. Let him be your source of strength, your rock!

Prince of Peace

Sunday August 23, 2020 12th Sunday after Pentecost Guest Musician Carol Graves Welcome and Concerns of the Church

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin. *(Silence is kept for reflection)*

Reconciling God,

We confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through +Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Children's Moment

First Reading: Isaiah 51.1-6

¹ Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. ² Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. ³ For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. ⁴ Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. ⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Psalm 138

¹ I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

² I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness;

for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.

³ On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

⁴ All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord,

for they have heard the words of your mouth.

 $^{\rm 5}$ They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,

for great is the glory of the Lord.

⁶ For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly;

but the haughty he perceives from far away.

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble,

you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies

you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

⁸ The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.

Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Gospel Matthew 16.13-20

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the

gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Message

Song: "Rock of Ages" ELW 623

1.Rock of Ages cleft for me, Let me hide myself for thee Let the water and the blood, From thy riven side which flowed, Be of sin the double cure; Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

3. Nothing in my hand I bring;
Simply to thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to thee for dress;
Helpless, look to thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

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2. Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands; could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow, all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

4. While I draw this fleeting breath, When my eyelids close in death, when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne, Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 Peace Announcements

Prayers of Intercession

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence

Lord our rock, you are our foundation in Jesus Christ, your Son, whom we confess as the living God. Prepare your church for its mission in bearing witness to Christ, both here at home and throughout the world. Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

All the kings of the earth praise you, O Lord. Direct the leaders of counties, legislators and magistrates, mayors and councils to walk in your ways. Help leaders regard those in need with mercy and fulfill your loving purposes in the governance of peoples. Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Though we walk n the midst of trouble, you preserve us, deliver us, and fulfill your purpose for us. According to your steadfast love, grant healing and wholeness to those who are bereaved. N trouble or adversity, or sick and in need of care (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered

(You are the everlasting Rock from which we were hewn, and you restore your people to joy and gladness. In blessed memory and hope, we thank you for the lives of our beloved dead (*especially*). Bring us with them to our heavenly home. Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Blessing:

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, +Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, Bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn: "Faith of Our Fathers" ELW 812 St. Catherine 888888

 Faith of our fathers, living still In spite of dungeon, fire, and sword.
 Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy when-e'er we hear that glorious word. *Ref.* 2. The martyrs, chained in prisons dark were still in heart and conscience free; and blest would be their children's fate if they, like them, should die for thee. *Ref.*

3. Faith of our fathers! We will love both friend and foe in all our strife; Proclaim thee too, as love knows how, by saving word and faithful life. *Ref.*

Refrain: Faith of our fathers, holy faith, we will be true to you till death.

Dismissal Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God!**

Thanks for joining us!

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