

EIGHTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST

July 26, 2020



AS WE GATHER

Treasures are hard to find and even harder to hold on to. Jesus describes the kingdom of God as a great treasure hidden in a field, a pearl of great price, and a net full of fish. But this treasure is one of God's own making. He esteems us His treasured possession and delivers up His own Son that we might be His own and live under Him in His kingdom without end. On earth that treasure is hidden in the dirt, found side by side among cheap trinkets, and in nets that hold good and bad fish. But one day, it will all be clear. They will be set apart and the false treasures exposed. For now, it is enough to believe His Word and trust in His promise and hold steadfast to His Son.

+ PREPARATION +

HYMN OF INVOCATION ~ LSB 743 *Jesus, Priceless Treasure*

- 1 Jesus, priceless treasure, / Fount of purest pleasure, / Truest friend to me,
Ah, how long in anguish / Shall my spirit languish, / Yearning, Lord, for Thee?
Thou art mine, / O Lamb divine!
I will suffer naught to hide Thee; / Naught I ask beside Thee.
- 2 In Thine arms I rest me; / Foes who would molest me / Cannot reach me here.
Though the earth be shaking, / Ev'ry heart be quaking, / Jesus calms my fear.
Lightnings flash / And thunders crash;
Yet, though sin and hell assail me, / Jesus will not fail me.
- 3 Satan, I defy thee; / Death, I now decry thee; / Fear, I bid thee cease.
World, thou shalt not harm me / Nor thy threats alarm me / While I sing of peace.
God's great pow'r / Guards ev'ry hour;
Earth and all its depths adore Him, / Silent bow before Him.
- 4 Hence, all earthly treasure! / Jesus is my pleasure, / Jesus is my choice.
Hence, all empty glory! / Naught to me thy story / Told with tempting voice.
Pain or loss, / Or shame or cross,
Shall not from my Savior move me / Since He deigns to love me.
- 5 Evil world, I leave thee; / Thou canst not deceive me, / Thine appeal is vain.
Sin that once did blind me, / Get thee far behind me, / Come not forth again.

Past thy hour, / O pride and pow'r;
Sinful life, thy bonds I sever, / Leave thee now forever.

- 6 Hence, all fear and sadness! / For the Lord of gladness, / Jesus, enters in.
Those who love the Father, / Though the storms may gather, / Still have peace within.
Yea, whate'er / I here must bear,
Thou art still my purest pleasure, / Jesus, priceless treasure!

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INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Do good, O Lord, to those who hold fast to Your name

People: and to those upright in heart.

Pastor: But those who turn aside to their crooked ways,

People: the Lord will lead away with evildoers.

Silence for self-examination

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.

People: O Lord, have mercy upon us poor, miserable sinners. We have offended You in thought, word, and deed. We have sinned against our neighbor. Spare us, O God, who confess our sins to You and who hide not our faults from Your eyes. Restore the penitent and forgive us all our sins according to the promise of Your mercy revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. As He suffered and died to cover our sins, cover us with His righteousness, and grant us grace that today and every day we live upright, sober, and godly lives to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Through the mercy of God in Christ Jesus, our Savior, you have been made children of God in Baptism and live because of His mercy. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

+ WORD +

INTROIT *Psalm 105:2-6; antiphon: v.1*

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!

Sing to him, sing praises to him;
tell of all his wondrous works!

Glory in his holy name;
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

Seek the LORD and his strength;
seek his presence continually!

Remember the wondrous works that he has done,
his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

O offspring of Abraham, his servant,
children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;
make known his deeds among the peoples!

KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE ~ *You Are My All in All*

You are my strength when I am weak. You are the treasure that I seek.

You are my all in all_

Seeking you as a precious jewel, Lord to give up I'd be a fool

You are my all in all_

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name. / Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.

Taking my sin, my cross, my shame; Rising again I bless your name.

You are my all in all_

When I fall down you pick me up. When I am dry You fill my cup.

You are my all in all_

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name. / Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.

Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name. / Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name.

"You Are My All in All" CCLI Song Number 825356 Words and music by Dennis Jernigan @1991 Shepherd's Heart Music, Inc. (admin by Dayspring Music, LLC) Used by permission CCLI License #ZZZZZZZ

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING ~ *Deuteronomy 7:6-9*

After the reading:

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalms 125; antiphon: v.2*

¹Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

²As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so the LORD surrounds his people,
from this time forth and forevermore.

³For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest
on the land allotted to the righteous,
lest the righteous stretch out
their hands to do wrong.

⁴Do good, O LORD, to those who are good,
and to those who are upright in their hearts!

⁵But those who turn aside to their crooked ways

the LORD will lead away with evildoers!
Peace be upon Israel!

²As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so the LORD surrounds his people,
from this time forth and forevermore.

EPISTLE ~ *Romans 8:28-39*

After the reading:

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL ~ *Matthew 13:44-52*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

After the reading:

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY ~ LSB 732 *All Depends on Our Possessing*

- 1 All depends on our possessing / God's abundant grace and blessing,
Though all earthly wealth depart. / They who trust with faith unshaken
By their God are not forsaken / And will keep a dauntless heart.
- 2 He who to this day has fed me / And to many joys has led me
Is and ever shall be mine. / He who ever gently schools me,
He who daily guides and rules me / Will remain my help divine.
- 3 Many spend their lives in fretting / Over trifles and in getting
Things that have no solid ground. / I shall strive to win a treasure
That will bring me lasting pleasure / And that now is seldom found.
- 4 When with sorrow I am stricken, / Hope anew my heart will quicken;
All my longing shall be stilled. / To His loving-kindness tender
Soul and body I surrender, / For on God alone I build.
- 5 Well He knows what best to grant me; / All the longing hopes that haunt me,
Joy and sorrow, have their day. / I shall doubt His wisdom never;
As God wills, so be it ever; / I commit to Him my way.
- 6 If my days on earth He lengthen, / God my weary soul will strengthen;
All my trust in Him I place. / Earthly wealth is not abiding,
Like a stream away is gliding; / Safe I anchor in His grace.

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SERMON ~ *"Our Greatest Treasure"* Matthew 13:44-52

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition:

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

OFFERING *Online giving is available at www.faithlutheranstephenville.com*

HYMN ~ LSB 955 *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

- 1 Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, / And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, / That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; / Unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with Your presence, and give us / A foretaste of the feast to come.

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+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

[Colossians 3:1]

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

[Psalm 136]

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:

HYMN ~ LSB 949 *Heavenly Hosts in Ceaseless Worship*

- 1 Heav'nly hosts in ceaseless worship / "Holy, holy, holy" cry;
"He who is, who was and will be, / God Almighty, Lord Most High."
Praise and honor, pow'r and glory, / Be to Him who reigns alone!
We, with all His hands have fashioned, / Fall before the Father's throne.

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Holy Lord, mighty God, You have loved us from of old and prepared us for the day when the hope of salvation would be fulfilled. You kept this hope alive by the prophets, and on the day You appointed, You delivered up Your own Son in our flesh to be our Savior and Redeemer. By His suffering He paid the price of sin, and by His death He destroyed death. At His resurrection, He showed forth His victory, and in His ascension to Your right hand He pleads for us still. On the day that You have set, He will come again in glory to bring us to Himself for all eternity. Until that day, guard us as the people of Your own possession and nourish us with the holy body and precious blood of our Savior, according to His own testament:

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. *1 Corinthians 11:26*

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. *Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: Remembering Your mercy and rejoicing in Your grace and favor, we pray You, heavenly Father, to sustain Your people in hope until that day when Your kingdom will no more be divided by time and space. When at last the eternal day dawns, grant that reunited with the saints who went before us with the sign of faith, we dwell in Your eternal presence forevermore. According to our Savior's Word and example, hear us as we pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

LSB 163

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

People: Amen.

HYMN ~ LSB 949 *Heavenly Hosts in Ceaseless Worship*

- 2 All creation, all redemption, / Join to sing the Savior's worth;
Lamb of God, whose blood has bought us, / Kings and priests, to reign on earth.
Wealth and wisdom, pow'r and glory, / Honor, might, dominion, praise,
Now be His from all His creatures / And to everlasting days!

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DISTRIBUTION (*Sanctuary*)

HYMN ~ LSB 651 *I Love Your Kingdom, Lord*

- 1 I love Your kingdom, Lord, / The place of Your abode,
The Church our blest Redeemer saved / With His own precious blood.
- 2 Beyond my highest joy / I prize its heav'nly ways,
Its sweet communion, solemn vows, / Its hymns of love and praise.
- 5 Sure as Your truth shall last, / To Zion shall be giv'n
The brightest glories earth can yield / And brighter bliss of heav'n.

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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord, You have richly fed us the holy gifts of Christ's body and blood in this bread and wine. Keep us by Your Spirit's power that we not depart from Christ but be brought into the eternal joy of Your kingdom and into the blest reunion of the saints before Your glorious presence; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION ~ *Numbers 6:24-26*

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.

HYMN TO DEPART ~ LSB 922 *Go, My Children, with my Blessing*

- 1 Go, My children, with My blessing, / Never alone. / Waking, sleeping, I am with you; / You are My own.
In My love's baptismal river / I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing—You are My own.
- 2 Go, My children, sins forgiven, / At peace and pure. / Here you learned how much I love you, / What I can cure.
Here you heard My dear Son's story; / Here you touched Him, saw His glory.
Go, My children, sins forgiven, / At peace and pure.
- 3 Go, My children, fed and nourished, / Closer to Me; / Grow in love and love by serving, / Joyful and free.
Here My Spirit's power filled you; / Here His tender comfort stilled you.
Go, My children, fed and nourished, / Joyful and free.
- 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you / And give you peace; / I the Lord will smile upon you / And give you peace:
I the Lord will be your Father, / Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My children; I will keep you / And give you peace.

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