

Pentecost 15, September 13, 2020

Greeting In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Call to Worship

Psalm 103:1-13 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—he forgives all your iniquity, he heals all your diseases, he redeems your life from the Pit, he crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, he satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s. The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel. *The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.* He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; *as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.* As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him. Amen!

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Let us pray: Merciful God, all hearts and desires are known to you, and we have no secrets before you. Turn us from our sin through the power of your Holy Spirit, so that we may be attentive to your word and your promise, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: With masked voices, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another:

C: Faithful God, have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P: God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ! Led by the Holy spirit, live now in freedom to do God’s work in the world. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn *Immortal, Invisible, God* (public domain) (vv. 1, 2) LBW 526, ELW 834

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible, hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!*

*Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.*

September 13, 2020, p. 2

The Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. 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. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. For all these things we pray: Lord, have mercy. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn of Praise ***Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*** (vv. 3-4)

*To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.*

*Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light; thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render; oh, help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!*

Prayer of the Day: O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

A reading from Genesis, the 50th chapter (50:15-21) Word of God, word of life!

A reading from Romans, the 14th chapter (14:7-12) Word of God, word of life!

Alleluia ***Alleluia! Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!***

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew, the 18th chapter (18:21-35)

Sermon (page 4)

Hymn of the Day ***Our Father, We Have Wandered*** (public domain) ELW 606

*Our Father, we have wandered and hidden from your face;
In foolishness have squandered your legacy of grace.
And now at length discerning the evil that we do,
Behold us, Lord, returning with hope and trust to you.*

*O Lord of all the living, both banished and restored,
Compassionate, forgiving, and ever-caring Lord,
Grant now that our transgressing, our faithlessness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in blessing, in pardon, and in peace.*

September 13, 2020, p. 3

The Apostle's Creed God has made us his people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

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.

Prayers

Sharing God's Peace (in any appropriate way)

Service of Holy Communion (at St. John, first and third week of the month)

The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

Sending Hymn

Amazing Grace (public domain)

LBW 448, ELW 779

*Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!*

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.*

Dismissal With joy and thanksgiving, go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

Note: An offering plate is at the end of the aisle if you wish to leave a gift. All donations are welcome!

If you wish to chat with family or friends after worship, please do so outside. Thanks!