

September 13, 2020

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lafayette, Indiana

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Preacher Pastor Eggold
Organist Cindy Gribble
Musicians Justin Meunier & Sarah Kavanagh
Technicians Tanner Ayers & Caleb Ply
Elder Marvin Wiederhold
Reader Karlie Potempa

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

“Immortal, Invisible, God only Wise” by *John Carter*

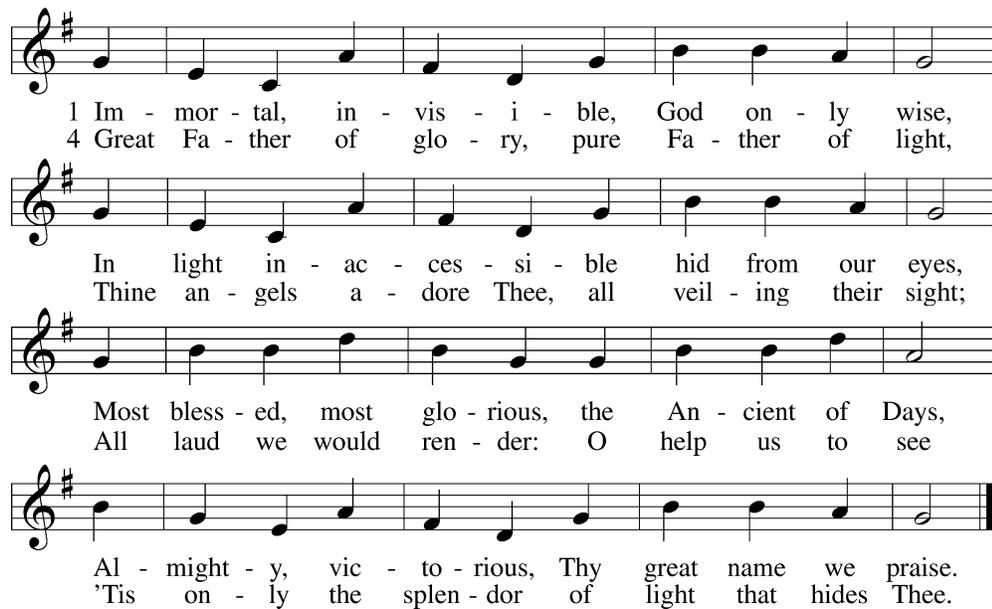
WELCOME TO WORSHIP

In today’s second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus’ challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God’s boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

HYMN

LSB 802 (vv. 1, 4)

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
4 Great Fa - ther of glo - ry, pure Fa - ther of light,
In light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
Thine an - gels a - dore Thee, all veil - ing their sight;
Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
All laud we would ren - der: O help us to see
Al - might - y, vic - to - rious, Thy great name we praise.
'Tis on - ly the splen - dor of light that hides Thee.

Text and tune: Public domain

¶ *Stand*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- L** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

L Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.

L If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

L Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

¶ Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

L Almighty God,
C have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

L Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW 167

"Now the Feast and Celebration"

Congregation sings refrain:

Refrain

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free - dom;
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

Cantor sings verses:

- 1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us
to be one great people of God. **Refrain**
- 2 Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ forever. **Refrain**
- 3 For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God;
to make all things new. **Refrain**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

- L** Let us pray. 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.
- C** **Amen.**
¶ Sit

FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15-21

After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Romans 14:1-12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us..

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand. ⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. ¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." ¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

¶ Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 205

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Repeat optional

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

L The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?”²² Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.”²³ “Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants.”²⁴ When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.²⁵ And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made.²⁶ So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’²⁷ And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.²⁸ But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’²⁹ So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’³⁰ He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt.³¹ When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place.³² Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.’³³ And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’³⁴ And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt.³⁵ So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

L This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

¶ Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY

LSB 845

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”



1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail There
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear His
3 For - give we now each oth - er's faults As
4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; Let



God is ev - er found; Brought here to - geth - er
char - i - ty we learn; Let us with heart and
we our faults con - fess, And let us love each
all con - ten - tion cease; Be God's the glo - ry



by Christ's love By love are we thus bound.
mind and soul Now love Him in re - turn.
oth - er well In Chris - tian ho - li - ness.
that we seek; Be ours His ho - ly peace.

**5 Let us recall that in our midst
Dwells Christ, His only Son;
As members of His body joined
We are in Him made one.**

**6 For love excludes no race or clan
That names the Savior's name;
His family embraces all
Whose Father is the same.**

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SERMON

¶ Stand

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.**

¶ Sit

OFFERTORY

“Thy Word is a Lamp Unto my feet” solo by *Sarah Kavanagh*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

please stand after the parish concerns have been announced

- L** Confident of God’s care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Prayers are included for the whole Church, the nations, those in need, the parish, special concerns. The minister gives thanks for the faithful departed, especially for those who recently have died.

After each portion of the prayers:

- L** Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

Prayers conclude:

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

LORD’S PRAYER

- L** Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:
C **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.**

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

- L** Merciful God, we humbly implore You to cast the bright beams of Your light upon Your Church that we, being instructed by the doctrine of the blessed apostles, may walk in the light of Your truth and finally attain to the light of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.
- L** 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.
- C** Amen.

¶ Sit

HYMN

LSB 553 (vv. 1, 5-6)

“O Christ, Our Hope, Our Hearts’ Desire”

1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, Cre -
5 Christ Je - sus, be our pres - ent joy, Our
△ 6 All praise to You, as - cend - ed Lord; All
a - tion's might - y Lord, Re - deem - er of the
fu - ture great re - ward; Our on - ly glo - ry,
glo - ry ev - er be To Fa - ther, Son, and
fall - en world, By ho - ly love out - poured:
may it be To glo - ry in the Lord!
Ho - ly Ghost Through all e - ter - ni - ty!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING

L Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C Thanks be to God.

POST-SERVICE MUSIC

“O Christ, Our Hope” by *Donald Rotermund*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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