

# TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## School Opening Service

August 18 & 19, 2012

### AS WE GATHER

*"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." (Proverbs 9:10)* Today as we gather another school year is upon us. During our worship services our teachers will be rededicated in their calling to instruct the young. The fear and knowledge of God is central to that instruction. Yet, Christian education is not only for the young. Young adults, parents, and grandparents are also to continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of God. We grow together in The Faith toward the end of living as "children of light" (Eph. 5:8) and sharing the knowledge of the Holy One with one another and others.

### WELCOME

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

#### + PREPARATION +

### OPENING HYMN #707 "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep His statutes still!

Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!

Order my footsteps by Thy Word And make my heart sincere;

Let sin have no dominion, Lord, But keep my conscience clear.

Assist my soul, too apt to stray, A stricter watch to keep;

And should I e'er forget Thy way, Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.

Make me to walk in Thy commands 'Tis a delightful road

Nor let my head or heart or hands Offend against my God.

(Please rise)

### INVOCATION

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

**People: Amen.**

### EXHORTATION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

### CONFESSION OF SINS

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

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

### ABSOLUTION

Pastor: 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.

**People: Amen.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE #790 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" Stanzas 1 & 5

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!

O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!

Let all who hear Now to His temple draw near, Joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!

All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!

Let the Amen Sound from His people again; Gladly forever adore Him!

### SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

### COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow His steps in the way that leads to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Please be seated)

## DEDICATION OF TEACHERS

### + SERVICE OF THE WORD +

**OLD TESTAMENT** Proverbs 9:1-10 (*The Way of Wisdom*) Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn out its seven pillars. She has prepared her meat and mixed her wine; she has also set her table. She has sent out her maids, and she calls from the highest point of the city. "Let all who are simple come in here!" she says to those who lack judgment. "Come, eat my food and drink the wine I have mixed. Leave your simple ways and you will live; walk in the way of understanding. "Whoever corrects a mocker invites insult; whoever rebukes a wicked man incurs abuse. Do not rebuke a mocker or he will hate you; rebuke a wise man and he will love you. Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still; teach a righteous man and he will add to his learning. "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

**EPISTLE** Ephesians 5:6-21 (*Walk as children of light.*) Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. Therefore do not be partners with them. For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: "Wake up, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." Be very careful, then, how you live —not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

## ANTHEM

*"Teach Me, O Lord"*

*School Faculty*

(Please rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** John 6:51-69 I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your forefathers ate manna and died, but he who feeds on this bread will live forever." He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum. On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?" Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you? What if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. Yet there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. He went on to say, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled him." From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

(Please be seated)

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### HYMN OF THE DAY #867 "Let Children Hear the Mighty Deeds"

Let children hear the mighty deeds Which God performed of old;  
Which in our younger days we saw, And which our parents told.

So make to them His glories known, His works of pow'r and grace;  
And we'll convey His wonders down Through ev'ry rising race.

Our sons and daughters we shall tell And they again to theirs  
That generations yet unborn May teach them to their heirs.

O teach them with all diligence The truths of God's own Word,  
To place in Him their confidence, To fear and trust their Lord.

To learn that in our God alone Their hope securely stands,  
That they may never doubt His love But walk in His commands.

## SERMON

*"The Fear and Knowledge of the Lord"*

Proverbs 9:1-10

(Please rise)

**NICENE CREED** (*found on the back cover of hymnal*)

(Please be seated)

**OFFERING** As your offering is collected, please sign our attendance book located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle.

(Please rise)

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**Pastor:** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs. For the Holy Christian Church, that she follow only Christ, listening to His words of eternal life, and learning of His will and ways, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

**Pastor:** For wisdom and a right knowledge of God, that we might rightly fear the Lord and grow to know Him through the love and grace of Christ, so that we would not be led astray by empty words and false teaching, but rather our lives and families be formed and fashioned by His Word of Truth, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For St. Paul's Lutheran School, that our teachers may be blessed in their calling to teach our children, that students may learn from them with humble respect, and that all may grow together in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For all believers, that they love and submit to one another, avoid works that are unfruitful and shameful, and build one another up in reverence for Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For future church workers, that the Holy Spirit lead them to the study of their vocations, and equip them to serve according to His will and their calling; for pastors, deaconesses, missionaries, and other church workers, that they may speak the truth in love, and God's people hear it in repentance and faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For Barack, our President, Scott, our Governor, and all those who hold offices of public trust in our land, that they serve according to the will of God and for the good of all people; for all in law enforcement, and those who judge in our courts, that they not act for selfish gain, but for the benefit of the people, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the sick and dying, those who suffer from depression, and those in any affliction, including Lois, Arlene, Ron, Gerald, Irma and Joe that they rely on God's promise of grace and comfort in the knowledge that He will never leave them nor forsake them, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For all who come to the Lord's Supper today, that they receive with thanksgiving the very flesh and blood of Jesus, given and shed for them for the forgiveness of sins, and for eternal life, let us pray to the Lord:

**People: Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: O God, our faithful God, hear our prayers, deliver us from all evil, and help us to walk in love, for to you alone we give all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Pastor: Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

**WORDS OF OUR LORD**

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**THE PEACE OF THE LORD**

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

**People: Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI** (*Tune #571: "God Loved the World So That He Gave"*)

O Christ, the precious Lamb of God, By grace You take our sins away.

Grant us Your mercy, Lord, we pray, And send Your peace to us this day.

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(Please be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

**HYMN #698 "May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill"**

May we Thy precepts, Lord, fulfill And do on earth our Father's will  
As angels do above; Still walk in Christ, the living way,  
With all Thy children and obey The law of Christian love.

So may we join Thy name to bless, Thy grace adore, Thy pow'r confess,  
From sin and strife to flee. One is our calling, one our name,  
The end of all our hopes the same, A crown of life with Thee.

Spirit of life, of love and peace, Unite our hearts, our joy increase,  
Thy gracious help supply. To each of us the blessing give  
In Christian fellowship to live, In joyful hope to die.

**HYMN #696 "O God, My Faithful God"**

O God, my faithful God, True fountain ever flowing,  
Without whom nothing is, All perfect gifts bestowing:  
Give me a healthy frame, And may I have within A conscience free from blame,  
A soul unstained by sin.

Grant me the strength to do With ready heart and willing  
Whatever you command, My calling here fulfilling;  
That I do what I should While trusting you to bless  
The outcome for my good, For you must give success.

Keep me from saying words That later need recalling;  
Guard me lest idle speech May from my lips be falling;  
But when within my place I must and ought to speak,  
Then to my words give grace Lest I offend the weak.

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Lord, let me win my foes With kindly words and actions,  
And let me find good friends For counsel and correction.  
Help me, as you have taught, To love both great and small  
And by your Spirit's might To live in peace with all.

Let me depart this life Confiding in my Savior;  
By grace receive my soul That it may live forever;  
And let my body have A quiet resting place Within a Christina grave;  
And let it sleep in peace.

And on that final day When all the dead are waking,  
Stretch out your mighty hand, My deathly slumber breaking.  
Then let me hear your voice, Redeem this earthly frame,  
And bid me to rejoice With those who love your name.

**HYMN #617 "O Lord, We Praise Thee"**

O Lord we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,  
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.  
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish  
Our weak souls that they may flourish: O Lord, have mercy!  
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary, That our sins and sorrows did carry,  
And Thy blood for us plead In all trial, fear, and need: O Lord, have mercy!

Thy holy body into death was given, Life to win for us in heaven.  
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;  
May this feast there-of remind us! O Lord, have mercy!  
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee  
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me. All our debt Thou hast paid;  
Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mercy!

May God bestow on us His grace and favor That we follow Christ our Savior  
And live together here in love and union  
Nor despise this blest Communion! O Lord, have mercy!  
Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us; Grant that heav'nly-minded  
He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see Days of peace and unity:  
O Lord, have mercy!

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Please rise)

**POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore you that of your mercy you would strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD look on you in favor and + give you peace. *Numbers 6:24-26*

**People: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN #829 "Christ the Eternal Lord" Stanzas 1-3**

Christ the eternal Lord, Whose promise here we claim,  
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured On all who name Your name;  
With thankfulness and praise We stand before Your throne,  
Intent to serve You all our days And make Your glory known.

Christ the unchanging Word To ev'ry passing age,  
Whose timeless teachings still are heard Set forth on Scripture's page;  
Transform our thought and mind, Enlighten all who read,  
Within Your Word by faith to find The bread of life indeed.

Christ the redeeming Son, Who shares our human birth,  
And by His death salvation won For ev'ry child of earth;  
Inspire our hearts, we pray, To tell Your love abroad,  
That all may honor Christ today And follow Him as Lord.

Preacher/Liturgist  
Lectors  
Acolytes  
Organist  
Music Coordinator

Pastor Harold Bender, Jr.  
Jim Laux, Marc Stefanic  
Erynn Biedenbender, Jonathan Burkee  
Roger Gottschalk  
Kim Woller

**ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH**

Be sure to come to the **National Youth Gathering Meeting**

**Next Sunday August 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall**

Information will be available about our trip to San Antonio and how **YOU** can sign up to join us.