

## THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Choose well!

July 20 & 21, 2013

### AS WE GATHER

Welcome to worship today! The Holy Spirit calls, gathers, and enlightens God's people in worship. In response to His calling, you have chosen to do something today that many others have chosen not to do. You have chosen to hear the Word of God! That blessed Word gives abundant life beyond our imagination. You have chosen to do something that will see you through anything that comes your way in life, even death. You have chosen to hear the Holy One who gives genuine hope. You have chosen, with others, to gather together in the name of the Holy Trinity, to sit at the feet of Jesus to learn the one thing necessary, to receive a Meal that delivers the life for which you yearn---life now lived in the grace of God and life forever in eternal communion with all the company of heaven. With Mary you have chosen well!

### WELCOME

*“They devoted themselves to the Apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” Acts 2:42*

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

+ PREPARATION +

### OPENING HYMN #904 “Blessed Jesus, at Your Word”

*Rise for singing of last stanza*

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word We are gathered all to hear You.  
Let our hearts and souls be stirred Now to seek and love and fear You,  
By Your teachings, sweet and holy, Drawn from earth to love You solely.

All our knowledge, sense, and sight Lie in deepest darkness shrouded  
Till Your Spirit breaks our night With the beams of truth unclouded.  
You alone to God can win us; You must work all good within us.

Gracious Savior, good and kind, Light of Light, from God proceeding,  
Open now our heart and mind; Help us by Your Spirit’s pleading.  
Hear the cry Your Church now raises; Hear and bless our prayers and praises.

Father, Son, and Spirit, Lord, Praise to You and adoration!  
Grant that we may trust Your Word, Confident of our salvation,  
While we here below must wander, Till we sing Your praises yonder.

### INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: O Lord, you visited Abraham and Sarah when their hope was waning.

(1)

**People: We welcome you today with hope.**

Pastor: O Lord, your promise of an heir to Abraham and Sarah would be fulfilled in the Messiah---Jesus.

**People: We welcome you today with faith.**

Pastor: O Lord, your servant Paul rejoiced in his suffering.

**People: We welcome you today with perseverance.**

Pastor: O Lord, you visited Mary and Martha, and taught them your ways.

**People: We welcome you today with joy.**

### CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Lord God, we come into your presence this day with hearts and minds heavy---burdened with guilt. In repentance, we confess our sin to you and to one another, trusting in your promise to forgive us and to guide us by your Spirit to change our sinful ways. Our hesitancy to trust your promises,

**People: we confess to you, Lord.**

Pastor: Our growing weary in faithfulness,

**People: we confess to you, Lord.**

Pastor: Our being anxious and troubled about many things,

**People: we confess to you, Lord.**

Pastor: Our losing sight of the one thing needful,

**People: we confess to you, Lord.**

Pastor: As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Peace and mercy be upon you now and forever!

**People: Amen.**

### SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, you come to us through the Word. Keep us from all that distracts us from you, and by your Spirit, open our hearts and minds to pay attention to you, whom we need more than anything else in the world; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

(2)

**+ WORD +**

**OLD TESTAMENT** Genesis 18:1-14 (*Is anything too hard for the LORD?*)

The LORD appeared to Abraham near the great trees of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance to his tent in the heat of the day. Abraham looked up and saw three men standing nearby. When he saw them, he hurried from the entrance of his tent to meet them and bowed low to the ground. He said, "If I have found favor in your eyes, my lord, do not pass your servant by. Let a little water be brought, and then you may all wash your feet and rest under this tree. Let me get you something to eat, so you can be refreshed and then go on your way—now that you have come to your servant." "Very well," they answered, "do as you say." So Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. "Quick," he said, "get three seahs of fine flour and knead it and bake some bread." Then he ran to the herd and selected a choice, tender calf and gave it to a servant, who hurried to prepare it. He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree. "Where is your wife Sarah?" they asked him. "There, in the tent," he said. Then the LORD said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife will have a son." Now Sarah was listening at the entrance to the tent, which was behind him. Abraham and Sarah were already old and well advanced in years, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing. So Sarah laughed to herself as she thought, "After I am worn out and my master is old, will I now have this pleasure?" Then the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Will I really have a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too hard for the LORD? I will return to you at the appointed time next year and Sarah will have a son."

**EPISTLE** Colossians 1:21-29 (*Paul's ministry to the Church*)

Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant. Now I rejoice in what was suffered for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church. I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness— the mystery that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints. To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me.

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** Luke 10:38-42 (*Mary and Martha*)

As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried

and upset about many things, but only one thing is needed. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

(Be seated)

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON HYMN #583 "God Has Spoken by His Prophets"**

God has spoken by His prophets, Spoken His unchanging Word;  
Each from age to age proclaiming God, the one, the righteous Lord.  
In the world's despair and turmoil, One firm anchor holds us fast;  
God is king, His throne eternal; God the first, and God the last.

God has spoken by Christ Jesus, Christ, the everlasting Son,  
Brightness of the Father's glory, With the Father ever one;  
Spoken by the Word Incarnate, God of God, before time was;  
Light of Light, to earth descending, He reveals our God to us.

God is speaking by His Spirit, Speaking to our heart's again,  
In the ageless Word declaring His own message, now as then.  
Through the rise and fall of nations One sure faith yet standing fast;  
God abides, His Word unchanging; God the first, and God the last.

**SERMON**

***"Just One Thing"***

**Luke 10:38-42**

(Rise)

**APOSTLES' CREED** (*found on the inside back cover of the hymnal*)

(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.

(Rise)

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Jesus Christ, and for all people according to their needs.

*Silent prayer*

Pastor: Heavenly Father, Abraham extended hospitality to his visitors, and Martha served your Son. Make us eager also to show hospitality to those we encounter.

**People: Grant us a willing spirit to open our homes, our hearts and to share our goods in order to welcome all You send our way.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, your Son praised Mary's choosing the good things of hearing His word and taking it to heart. Grant to this congregation and to our Synod as it meets this week in convention a zeal for your Word.

**People: May nothing prevent us from hearing that Word and welcoming your Son in His Word and His Sacrament each Lord's Day.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, you made Paul a minister for your Church to make your Word fully known. Abide with all pastors and those studying to be pastors, with all deacons and deaconesses, with missionaries and translators, teachers and all who work to bring your Word to your people.

**People: Bless their labors to be fruitful and their hearts to be faithful.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, you have committed the authority to govern our public servants. Send your angels to watch over their work.

**People: Bless their labors to be pleasing in your sight and guided by your hand.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, your Son promised that those who die in Him are blessed with a life that never ends. We give you thanks for your saints who have fallen asleep in Christ and who now rest from their labors, who continued in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the Gospel they heard.

**People: Bless those who continue to grieve their loss, especially Jan and Richard. Give us all steadfastness of faith to die the same holy death, retaining your gift of faith until the end.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, though we are anxious and troubled about many things, set our hearts at ease. Give comfort to those who suffer: the sick, the injured, the distressed and the hospitalized. In mercy, remember those who have requested our intercessions, including, Louise, Lorina, Anna, Laura, Bill, Eleanor, Jean, Sarah and Joe.

**People: Grant them relief from their pains and, according to your will, healing and restoration of strength.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, you are the source of everything good and all the blessings we enjoy in this life. Bless Matthew and Ashley, as they have entered into holy marriage, to live in holy love all their days. We give you thanks for blessings received by Ralph and Judy Conrad.

**People: Bless us all to live in love and count our blessings each and every day.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, you desire both young and old alike to continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus. Bless the youth and adults attending the 8<sup>th</sup> grade welcome trip.

**People: Grant them safe travels, joy in their journey, and spiritual growth.**

(5)

Pastor: Heavenly Father, prepare us to receive the one thing needful, even your Son Jesus, as He comes to us in His true body and blood in the Holy Eucharist for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith.

**People: Grant that we receive these gifts with genuine repentance that we might not receive them to our harm, but in living faith and for our spiritual benefit.**

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

#### THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

**People: Amen.**

#### AGNUS DEI

"Lamb of God"

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O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
grant us Thy peace. Amen.

(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 #575

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
No merit of my own I claim But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

**Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.**

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

His oath, His covenant and blood Support me in the raging flood;  
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
Clothed in His righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before His throne! *Refrain*

**HYMN #738 "Lord of All Hopefulness"**

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,  
Whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy:  
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,  
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,  
Your hands swift to welcome, Your arms to embrace:  
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,  
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm:  
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

**HYMN #722 "Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"**

Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life's way:  
Direct, protect, and feed my From day to day.  
Without Your grace and favor I go astray;  
so take my hand , O Savior, And lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear,  
For You, the Rock of Ages, Are always near.  
Close by Your side abiding, I fear no foe,  
For when Your hand is guiding, In peace I go.

Lord, when the shadows lengthen And night has come,  
I know that You will strengthen My steps toward home.  
Then nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend;  
So take my hand and lead me Unto the end.

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Blessed Lord, you have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord, who kept His promise to Abraham and Sarah, bless you. The Lord, who has now reconciled you to Himself by Jesus' death, keep you. The Lord, who dispels anxiety and trouble, give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN "Lord, Grant Us Grace to Know the Time"**

*(Tune: LSB #733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past)*

Lord, grant us grace to know the time Of action or of prayer,  
Which hour to crowd with waiting work And which with You to share.

We seek Your Word, as Mary sought; We wait in quietness,  
And yet we ask for strength to serve With Martha's faithfulness.

Your Word alone gives needed pow'r To strengthen weary hands  
And helps us see in each new day The way of Your commands.

We that You, Lord, for quiet time To cast on You our care,  
And for Your Word that follows us When work becomes our prayer.

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Tune: ST. ANNE, attr. William Croft, 1678-1727.

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Lectors  
Acolytes  
Organist  
Music Coordinator

Pastor Harold Bender  
Pat Mundstock, John Ficken  
Zander Maxwell, Abbie Moravec, Bree Novotny  
Roger Gottschalk  
Kim Woller