

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Gospel Truth  
June 1 & 2, 2013

### AS WE GATHER

"What I'm telling you is the gospel truth!" Has someone ever tried to convince you of the trustworthiness of his or her words by using this phrase? Even with such strong words, what this person has to say, may or may not be true. Sadly, some among the Galatian Christians, to whom the apostle Paul writes today's Epistle reading, had fallen for a gospel that wasn't true. Paul shares a passionate word of warning for the Galatians, and us, when he writes, "I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel---not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ." As you worship today, rejoice that the one true Gospel---the good news of Jesus Christ crucified and risen---is at the center of worship, Word and Sacrament. Christ's true Gospel motivates us to sing and pray in the words of Martin Luther's hymn,

*Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word; Curb those who by deceit or sword  
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son And bring to naught all He has done. LSB 655:1*

### 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 #901 "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

Open now thy gates of beauty; Zion let me enter there,  
Where my soul in joyful duty Waits for Him who answers prayer.  
Oh, how blessed is this place, Filled with solace, light, and grace!

Gracious God, I come before Thee; Come Thou also unto me.  
Where we find Thee and adore Thee, There a heav'n on earth must be.  
To my heart, O enter Thou; Let it be Thy temple now!

Here Thy praise is gladly chanted; Here Thy seed is duly sown.  
Let my soul, where it is planted, Bring forth precious sheaves alone,  
So that all I hear may be Fruitful unto life in me.

Thou my faith increase and quicken; Let me keep Thy gift divine,  
How so-e'er temptations thicken; May Thy Word still o'er me shine  
As my guiding star through life, As my comfort in all strife.

Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be done indeed.  
May I undisturbed draw near Thee While Thou dost Thy people feed.  
Here of life the fountain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

(1)

(Rise)

### INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

### OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Sing to the LORD, bless His name;

People: **tell of His salvation from day to day.**

Pastor: Declare His glory among the nations,

People: **His marvelous works among all the peoples!** *Psalm 96:2-3*

### CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Like the elders of the Jews in today's Gospel reading, at times we come before our Lord trusting in our own merit. Forgive us, Lord, for this attitude of pride. Instead, grant us your grace so that like the Roman centurion, we, too, may admit that our sin has estranged us from God and that we deserve nothing but God's wrath and punishment. In humility and humble repentance, 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.

People: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: "Jesus Christ gave Himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father." *Galatians 1:4* Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I 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

**"This is the Feast"**

*Page 155*

**Refrain** *This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,

whose blood set us free to be people of God. **Refrain**

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

**Refrain**

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. **Refrain**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

(2)

## **SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Pastor: O God, by your almighty Word you set in order all things in heaven and on earth. Put away from us all things hurtful, and give us those things that are beneficial for us; 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)

### **+ WORD +**

**OLD TESTAMENT** 1 Kings 8:22-24, 27-29, 41-43 (*Solomon prays at the dedication of the temple.*) Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in front of the whole assembly of Israel, spread out his hands toward heaven and said: O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below—you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way. You have kept your promise to your servant David my father; with your mouth you have promised and with your hand you have fulfilled it—as it is today. “But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built! Yet give attention to your servant’s prayer and his plea for mercy, O LORD my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day. May your eyes be open toward this temple night and day, this place of which you said, ‘My Name shall be there,’ so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place. “As for the foreigner who does not belong to your people Israel but has come from a distant land because of your name— for men will hear of your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm—when he comes and prays toward this temple, then hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your own people Israel, and may know that this house I have built bears your Name.

**EPISTLE** Galatians 1:1-12 (*Paul speaks out against those perverting the Gospel of Christ.*)

Paul, an apostle—sent not from men nor by man, but by Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead— and all the brothers with me, To the churches in Galatia: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned! As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned! Am I now trying to win the approval of men, or of God? Or am I trying to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a servant of Christ. I want you to know, brothers, that the gospel I preached is not something that man made up. I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.

(3)

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** Luke 7:1-10 (*Jesus is amazed at the centurion's faith.*)

When Jesus had finished saying all this in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. There a centurion’s servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die. The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant. When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, “This man deserves to have you do this, because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue.” So Jesus went with them. He was not far from the house when the centurion sent friends to say to him: “Lord, don’t trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and that one, ‘Come,’ and he comes. I say to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, “I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel.” Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well.

(Be seated)

## **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SERMON HYMN #611 "Chief of Sinners Though I Be"**

Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,  
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die  
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.

Oh, the height of Jesus’ love, Higher than the heavens above,  
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity!

Love that found me wondrous thought!

Found me when I sought Him not.

Only Jesus can impart Balm to heal the wounded heart,  
Peace that flows from sin forgiven, Joy that lifts the soul to heaven,  
Faith and hope to walk with God In the way that Enoch trod.

Chief of sinners though I be, Christ is all in all to me;  
All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own.  
He sustains the hidden life Safe with Him from earthly strife.

O my Savior, help afford By Your Spirit and Your word!  
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply While I live and when I die.

**SERMON "Dead Stones or Living Stones?"** 1 Kings 8:22-24, 27-29, 41-43

(Rise)

**NICENE CREED** (*inside back cover of hymnal*)

(Be seated)

(4)

**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.

### **GROUNDWORK GUATEMALA MISSION TEAM COMMISSIONING**

(Rise)

#### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, as Solomon once acknowledged your greatness, O Lord, so may we honor you as Lord and God.

**People: We give you thanks for your presence among us, and that you speak your Word to your people and give ear to our prayers.**

Pastor: Keep us faithful to the voice of your Word, O Lord, that we may not depart from the way of Christ. Give courage to all those who proclaim your Gospel that their witness and teaching may be faithful and bold.

**People: Bless Matthew, our Synod president; John, our district president, Hal and Gregg, our pastors, and all pastors, missionaries and church workers who serve the Lord.**

Pastor: Bless also our Groundwork Guatemala mission team as they travel to a foreign nation to share the gospel of Jesus Christ in both word and deed.

**People: Keep them safe and secure, grant them joy as they share the love of Jesus, and bless them with the unity of Your Holy Spirit.**

Pastor: You have given authority to those who lead the nations, O Lord. Guide them in the pursuit of peace, justice and freedom for all. Bless our Congress, our justices and our president, our governor and all elected and appointed civil servants.

**People: Bless those who protect and defend us in every place and guide us that we may be responsible and good citizens.**

Pastor: Compassionate Lord, you are attentive to all the needs of your people. Visit the homes of the sick with healing, the troubled with peace, the sorrowful with comfort and the dying with hope. We remember before you Gerald, Janine, Laura, Ashley, Andrew, Dolores, Matthew, Bill, Jon, Dorothy, Eleanor, Diane, Carol, Jean, Sarah, and Joe. Comfort also those who grieve, especially the family and friends of Orval Gerndt as well as Dolores as she remembers her departed son, Gary.

**People: Help us to trust in your good and gracious will for all things needful for this body and this life and even for eternal life.**

Pastor: Almighty God, you bless us with life and love, family and friends. Thank you for all your goodness. We especially rejoice with John and Judy

(5)

Brunner as they celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**People: Bless their marriage and all marriages by the love and grace of Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: You do not change your saving will and you keep your promise, O Lord. Give to us such fidelity and steadfastness, that in temptation our trust may not waver and in trouble we may be without fear.

**People: Grant us to come to your Holy Table with faith to receive for our benefit the gift of your Son's body and blood in the bread and wine.**

Pastor: You are generous and giving, O Lord. Teach our hearts that we may give sacrificially without fear and rejoice in the opportunity to extend the work of your Kingdom.

**People: Help us all to realize that our giving supports the spreading of the gospel, as you speak your Word of rescue to those in darkness, and give aid and comfort to the poor.**

Pastor: Since you know always what is good and best for us, O Lord, give us the courage and confidence to trust in your will and taste how your grace is sufficient for every day; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom be glory and honor with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**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"*

*Page 163*

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

**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 #589 "Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens"**

Speak, O Lord, Your servant listens, Let Your Word to me come near;  
Newborn life and spirit give me, Let each promise still my fear.  
Death's dread pow'r, its inward strife, Wars against Your Word of life;  
Fill me, Lord, with love's strong fervor That I cling to You forever!

Oh, what blessing to be near You And to listen to Your voice;  
Let me ever love and hear You, Let Your Word be now my choice!  
Many hardened sinners, Lord, Flee in terror at Your Word;  
But to all who feel sin's burden You give words of peace and pardon.

Lord, Your words are waters living When my thirsting spirit pleads.  
Lord, Your words are bread life-giving; On Your words my spirit feeds.  
Lord, Your words will be my light Through death's cold and dreary night;  
Yes, they are my sword prevailing And my cup of joy unailing!

As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me; Let Your words in me take root.  
May Your Spirit e'er be near me That I bear abundant fruit.  
May I daily sing Your praise, From my heart glad anthems raise,  
Till my highest praise is given In the endless joy of heaven.

**HYMN #728 "How Firm a Foundation, O Saints of the Lord"**

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
What more can He say than to you He has said  
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

"Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,  
For I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose  
I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never, forsake!

"When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,  
My grace, all sufficient, will be your supply.  
The flames will not hurt you; I only design  
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

"Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove  
My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,  
Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne."

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

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 in 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: O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you,

**People: in heaven above or on earth beneath.**

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.**

**CLOSING HYMN #832**

**"Jesus Shall Reign"**

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun Does its successive journeys run:  
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made, And endless praises crown His head; His name like sweet perfume shall rise With ev'ry morning sacrifice.

People and realms of ev'ry tongue Dwell on His love with sweetest song; And infant voices shall proclaim Their early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns: The pris'ners leap, unloose their chains, The weary find eternal rest, And all who suffer want are blest.

Let ev'ry creature rise and bring Honors peculiar to our King;  
Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud amen.

Preacher & Liturgist

Lectors

Acolytes

Organist

Music Coordinator

Pastor Harold Bender

Manley Hurst, Bob Woller, Pam Akey

Kelly Sarff, Jacob Sentkowski, Kacey Wozniak

Roger Gottschalk

Kim Woller