

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

I Will Follow You, But . . .

June 29 & 30, 2013

AS WE GATHER Typically, during the season of Lent, we sing moving words that poetically express a truth spoken by Jesus in today's Gospel reading. *In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have; In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave. What may I say? Heav'n was His home But mine the tomb Wherein He lay.* *LSB 430:6*In Luke 9, a would-be disciple pledges to follow Jesus wherever He goes. Our Savior, however, reminds him that "the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." For our sake, Jesus' life was marked by suffering and sacrifice. Why should followers of Jesus expect a life of discipleship to be easy? Yet, whatever challenges we face for the sake of the Gospel, the Holy Spirit gives us, forgiven through our crucified and risen Savior, the courage to answer our Savior's call to follow Him as His disciples today.

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 #682 "God of the Prophets, Bless the Prophets' Sons"

God of the prophets, bless the prophet's sons; Elijah's mantle o'er Elisha cast.

Each age its solemn task may claim but once;

Make each one nobler, stronger than the last.

Anoint them prophets, men who are intent

To be Your witnesses in word and deed,

Their hearts aflame, their lips make eloquent,

Their eyes awake to ev'ry human need.

Anoint them priests, strong intercessors they,

For pardon and for love and hope and peace,

That, through their pleading, guilty sinners may

Find Jesus' mercy and from sin release.

Anoint them kings, yes, kingly kings, O Lord.

Anoint them with the Spirit of Your Son.

Theirs not a jeweled crown, a blood-stained sword;

Theirs, by sweet love, for Christ a kingdom won.

Make them apostles, heralds, of Your cross;

Forth let them go to tell the world of grace.

Inspired by You, may they count all but loss

And stand at last with joy before Your face.

(Rise)

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Preserve me, O God,

People: for in you I take refuge.

Pastor: I say to the LORD, "you are my Lord;

People: I have no good apart from you."

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

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

People: O Lord, our God, at times we think, speak, and act as if we deserve your love and favor. We dare to trust in our own good works as if they are the source of our confidence for blessings and forgiveness. We are slow to listen to you speak your Word of Law, which shows us both the reality of our sin as well as our need for a Savior. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: "I say to the LORD, 'You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.'"

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 the Word, I 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

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Pastor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

People: (sung)

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.

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

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

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

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

This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Lord of all power and might, author and giver of all good things, graft into our hearts the love of your name, and nourish us with all goodness that we may love and serve our neighbor; 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 I Kings 19:9-21 (*Elisha becomes Elijah's attendant.*) There he went into a cave and spent the night. And the word of the Lord came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He replied, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too." The Lord said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He replied, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too." The Lord said to him, "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and all whose mouths have not kissed him." So Elijah went from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat. He was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen, and he himself was driving the twelfth pair. Elijah went up to him and threw his cloak around him. Elisha then left his oxen and ran after Elijah. "Let me kiss my father and mother good-by," he said, "and then I will come with you." "Go back," Elijah replied. "What have I done to you?" So Elisha left him and went back. He took his yoke of oxen and slaughtered them. He burned the plowing equipment to cook the meat and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out to follow Elijah and became his attendant.

EPISTLE Galatians 5:1, 13-25 (*Serve one another in love.*) It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law. The acts of the sinful nature are obvious; sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord,

jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desire. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 9:51-62 (*Some reject Jesus; others follow Him.*) As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?" But Jesus turned and rebuked them, and they went to another village. As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." Jesus replied, "Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head." He said to another man, "Follow me." But the man replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God." Still another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say good-bye to my family." Jesus replied, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #430 "My Song Is Love Unknown"

My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me,
Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be.
Oh, who am I That for my sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?

He came from His blest throne Salvation to bestow;
But men made strange, and non The longed for Christ would know.
But, oh, my friend, My friend indeed, Who at my need His life did spend!

Sometimes they strew His way And His sweet praises sing;
Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!" Is all their breath, And for His death They thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these Themselves displease And 'gainst Him rise.

They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save, The Prince of Life They slay.
Yet cheerful He To suff'ring goes That He His foes From thence might free.

In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was His home But mine the tomb Wherein He lay. (Cont.)

Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend, In whose sweet praise I all my days Could gladly spend!

SERMON WHAT ARE YOU FACING? Luke 9:51-62

(Rise)
APOSTLES' CREED (*inside back cover of hymnal*)

(Be seated)

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED TO A CANDIDATE FOR ORDINATION

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)
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Great is your faithfulness, O Lord. Hear us for we are few, but your mercy and power are great. Keep us from falling victim to our fears and guide us to know the confidence of your Word and grace.

People: **Grant us to clearly hear you in the still, small voice of your mercy.**

Pastor: Great is your faithfulness, O Lord. Hear us for the sake of those enslaved to desire, held captive by depression and wounded in spirit.

People: **Give them your grace to relieve their burden and restore to them the joy of your salvation.**

Pastor: Great is your faithfulness, O Lord. Hear us for the sake of your Church and the ministers of your Church. Lead us to confess boldly and live faithfully the new life imparted to us in our baptism.

People: **Grant us all to walk in the paths of righteousness for the sake of Jesus Christ.**

Pastor: Great is your faithfulness, O Lord. Hear us on behalf of our nation and all the nations and leaders of nations. Give them the Light of your Word that many may find hope and peace in Christ.

People: **Bless them also to work for freedom of all oppressed, for justice and for the protection of the weak.**

Pastor: Great is your faithfulness, O Lord. Hear us for the sake of parents and children, the married and single, that each in our estates may honor you and find contentment in godliness.

People: **Bless the youth and their counselors in their journey to the National Youth Gathering and strengthen their faith by the faithful teaching and fellowship of that event.**

Pastor: Great is your faithfulness, O Lord. Hear us for the sake of those wounded, afflicted and hurting in body or spirit especially, Arlene, Elenor, Scott, Lorina, Anna, Laura, Ashley, Bill, Jon, Eleanor, Diane, Carol, Jean, Sarah, and Joe.

People: **By your Holy Spirit, may they know the comfort of your grace, healing according to your will and peace in their time of trouble.**

Pastor: Great is your faithfulness, O Lord. Hear us for the sake of those who rejoice in these days, especially Maryanne who celebrates her 85th birthday, the Orth family who rejoices in the prayers, support, and well wishes of your people, and with the Stefanic family.

People: **Grant us all to rejoice daily in your abundant goodness.**

Pastor: Great is your faithfulness, O Lord. Keep us from the works of the flesh and guide us to show forth in our lives the fruits of the Spirit.

People: **Help us to walk in the way of Christ without fear and never to look back with regret upon the paths and places where you have led us.**

Pastor: Great is your faithfulness, O Lord. You have set your table before us and bid us come in faith.

People: **Grant that we may eat and drink Christ's body and blood in sincere repentance and faith.**

Pastor: Great is your faithfulness, O Lord. You keep your promises to your departed servants and do not allow anyone to snatch them from your hand.

People: **We ask you to bring us with them into the fullness of your resurrection joy.**

Pastor: Lead us, guide us and sustain us, that what you began in our Baptism, you may bring to completion when Christ returns in His glory. For this and all things needful to us and profitable for our salvation, we pray to You in the name of Him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI*Page 180*

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, grant us peace.
(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 #680 “Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”

Thine the amen Thine the praise Alleluias angels raise

Thine the everlasting head Thine the breaking of the bread

Thine the glory Thine the story Thine the harvest then the cup

Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.

Thine the life eternally Thine the promise let there be

Thine the vision Thine the tree All the earth on bended knee

Gone the nailing gone the railing Gone the pleading gone the cry

Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.

Thine the truly Thine the yes Thine the table we the guest

Thine the mercy all from Thee Thine the glory yet to be

Then the ringing and the singing Then the end of all the war

Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.

Thine the kingdom Thine the prize Thine the wonder full surprise

Thine the banquet then the praise Then the justice of Thy ways

Thine the glory Thine the story Then the welcome to the least

Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.

Thine the glory in the night No more dying only light

Thine the river Thine the tree Then the Lamb eternally

Then the holy holy holy Celebration jubilee

Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only Thee.

HYMN #731 “O God, Forsake Me Not”

O God, forsake me not! Your gracious presence lend me;

Lord, lead Your helpless child; Your Holy Spirit send me

That I my course may run. O be my light, my lot,

My staff, my rock, my shield – O God, forsake me not!

O God, forsake me not! Take not Your Spirit from me;

Do not permit the might Of sin to overcome me.

Increase my feeble faith, Which You alone have wrought.

O be my strength and pow’r – O God, forsake me not!

O God, forsake me not! Lord, hear my supplication!

In ev’ry evil hour Help me resist temptation;

And when the prince of hell My conscience seeks to blot,

Be then not far from me – O God, forsake me not!

O God, forsake me not! Lord, I am Yours forever.

O keep me strong in faith That I may leave You never.

Grant me a blessed end When my good fight is fought;

Help me in life and death – O God, forsake me not!

HYMN #631 “Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face”

Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;

Here would I touch and handle things unseen;

Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace, And all my weariness upon Thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God,

Here drink with Thee the royal wine of heav’n;

Here would I lay aside each earthly load, Here taste a-fresh the calm of sin for-giv’n.

This is the hour of banquet and of song; This is the heav’n-ly table spread for me;

Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong

The brief bright hour of fellowship with Thee.

I have no help but Thine; nor do I need

Another arm but Thine to lean upon. It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;

My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.

Mine is the sin, but thine the righteousness;

Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;

Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:

Thy blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God.

Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear; The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;

The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;

Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.

Feast after feast thus comes and passes by, Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,

Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,

The Lamb’s great marriage feast of bliss and love.

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: For freedom Christ has set us free;

People: stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

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

“America the Beautiful”

W & R 727

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet, whose stern, impassioned stress
a thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw,
confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law!

O Beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life!
America! America! May God thy gold refine,
till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

Preacher

Liturgist

Lector

Acolytes

Organist

Music Coordinator

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Pastoral Candidate J.J. Stefanic

Bob Reynolds, Pam Akey

Sydney Kadolph, Emma Kallas, Josh Klement

Jo Bender

Kim Woller