

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Living the New Life with Gladness

August 11, 12, 2018

AS WE GATHER

As we live out each day, we reflect on our faith in our words and actions. Each of us is an example of the Christian life as we struggle to live in forgiving love toward one another, and also as we continue to trust in the forgiveness Christ won for us. In today's Old Testament Reading, Elijah almost gives up, but he is strengthened with miraculous food. Then in the Epistle, Paul provides a list of what our life in Christ should look like because of our new birth in Baptism. In the Gospel, Jesus spells out the connection between receiving His body and blood in the Lord's Supper and living in hope each day. He is the bread of life from heaven, who enables each of us to discard our old ways, live in the new life of God's forgiving love, and adorn ourselves with gladness.

WELCOME

"Be still, and know that I am God.

I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

(Psalm 46:10, ESV)

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #915 "Today Your Mercy Calls Us"

Today your mercy calls us To wash away our sin.
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been.
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.

Today your gate is open, And all who enter in
Shall find a Father's welcome And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv'n,
A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav'n.

Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits;
His blessed angels gather Around the heav'nly gates.
No question will be asked us How often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father's home.

O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,
What should we do without you When heart and eye run o'er?
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: I sought the LORD, and He answered me

People: and delivered me from all my fears.

Pastor: Those who look to Him are radiant,

People: and their faces shall never be ashamed.

Pastor: Let us then go to God, confessing our sins, confident of His grace and mercy.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Lord God Almighty,

People: we confess that there are times when we have forgotten the hope that is within us. As Elijah feared and fled the forces of Jezebel, so we fear the evil around us. Although incapable of saving ourselves, we attempt to find peace and protection through our own efforts. Assure us of the new life you have given us, made certain in our Baptism into the death and resurrection of Christ.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ,

People: we confess that in our daily struggles we often lose awareness of your presence. We neglect to be faithful in our worship; we fail to recognize the forgiveness, life, and salvation that your body and blood provide. Renew in us a desire to hear and take to heart your promise of eternal life.

Pastor: O Holy Spirit,

People: we confess that we fail to exhibit the new life, too often falling back into the old ways we thought we had put behind us. Strengthen us through the Word to see clearly the opportunities you provide to pass on the forgiveness we ourselves have received.

Pastor: Our gracious heavenly Father sent His Son to give His life as the sacrifice for our sins. Our Lord Jesus is the bread of life from heaven, coming in the Lord's Supper to assure us of salvation until we join Him in eternity. The Holy Spirit uses Word and Sacrament to nurture our faith as we live out the new life God provides. 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 #700 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n to earth come down!
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation, Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in Thee inherit; Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing, Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation, Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation Perfectly restored in Thee,
Changed from glory into glory, Till in heav'n we take our place
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious Father, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world.

People: Grant that Christ, the bread of life, may live in us and we in Him,

Pastor: who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen. (Be seated)

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING 1 *Kings 19:1–8* (Elijah, fleeing for his life, is given miraculous food so that he may get to Horeb, the mount of God.) Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by this time tomorrow." Then he was afraid, and he arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he asked that he might die, saying, "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers." And he lay down and slept under a broom tree. And behold, an angel touched him and said to him, "Arise and eat." And he looked, and behold, there was at his head a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. And he ate and drank and lay down again. And the angel of the LORD came again a second time and touched him and said, "Arise and eat, for the journey is too great for you." And he arose and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mount of God.

EPISTLE *Ephesians 4:17–5:2* (Because Christ gave Himself as a sacrifice for us and has given us new life, our lives can reflect Him and His forgiving love.) Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. But that is not the way you learned Christ! — assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil. Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all

bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *John 6:35–51* (Whoever believes in Jesus, the bread from heaven, has eternal life and will live forever.) Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.” So the Jews grumbled about him, because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” They said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven?’” Jesus answered them, “Do not grumble among yourselves. No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the Prophets, ‘And they will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me— not that anyone has seen the Father except he who is from God; he has seen the Father. Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #636 “Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness” Stanzas 5-6
Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, Truest friend, and dearest treasure,
Peace beyond all understanding, Joy into all life expanding:
Humbly now, I bow before You; Love incarnate, I adore You
Worthily let me receive You And, so forward, never leave You.

Jesus, sun of life, my splendor, Jesus, friend of friends, most tender,
Jesus, joy of my desiring, Fount of life, my soul inspiring:
At Your feet I cry, my maker, Let me be a fit partaker
Of this blessed food from heaven, For our good, Your glory, given.

SERMON *“Pointless to Purpose”* **1 Kings 19:1-8**

HYMN #636 **“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”** Stanzas 7-8

Lord, by love and mercy driven, You once left Your throne in heaven
On the cross for me to languish And to die in bitter anguish,
To forego all joy and gladness And to shed Your blood in sadness.
By this blood redeemed and living, Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.

Jesus, bread of life, I pray You, Let me gladly here obey You.
By Your love I am invited, Be Your love with love required;
By this Supper let me measure, Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
Through the gift of grace You give me As Your guest in heav'n receive me.

(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. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for our church family, for the one holy, Christian Church, and for all people in their time of need:
Our Father and our God, we pray for St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School, asking that you would bless our ministries to share the love of Christ and extend His eternal kingdom.

People: **Bless each one of us to bear witness to our Lord Jesus in both word and deed. Bless our new members who join our fellowship.**

Pastor: Lord of the Church, we pray for the whole Christian Church on earth, that by the Spirit's power all the baptized may become imitators of God as beloved children and walk in love.

People: Bless all pastors, teachers, and servants of Christ, especially our Together in Mission partners, Pastor Chuck Ferry and family and Rachel Meyer, that many more may be saved by grace through faith in Christ.

Pastor: Lord of love and compassion we pray for all pastors and church workers who face discouraging times in their ministries, that they might find in your Word and your supper the strength they need to go on and fulfill the tasks God has given them.

People: Bless them with encouragement, support from fellow Christians, and joy in serving the Lord of love and life.

Pastor: Lord of the harvest, we ask you to raise up many more servants of the Word, that they might share the Word of life and salvation with others, bringing many to faith.

People: Bless our universities and seminaries to diligently teach, form, and fashion servants of the church after the heart and truth of Christ.

Pastor: Lord of the nations, we pray for our president, Congress and justices; for our governor and legislature and judges; and for all entrusted with positions of leadership in the civic realm.

People: Bless them to serve with integrity and prosper them in every good deed that our common life as citizens would be blessed by peace and prosperity.

Pastor: God of healing and hope, we pray for those who walk through difficult and dark times, the sick, the lonely, the injured, the persecuted, and especially all we have been asked to remember: Henry, Marilyn, Cindy, Elenor, Anita, Scott, Mary, LuEva, Dick, Nancy, Sue, Jan, Dorothy, Dolores, Shirley, Gladys, Russ, Arlene, Dorothy, John, Arlene, Jack, Shirley, Jonathan, Helen, Leonard and Sarah.

People: Give them patience in their time of affliction. Grant them all to know the peace of Christ's promise that whoever comes to Him will never be cast out, and that all who look to Him and believe will have eternal life and be raised up at the Last Day.

Pastor: Lord of our salvation, we pray for all those who grieve the passing of loved ones, that they would find comfort in your loving arms. We pray especially for the family and friends of Dorothy Ruthenberg as well as the Raatz family as they mourn the passing of Carlene Kroh.

People: Lift their spirits, dry their tears, and give them hope and peace through the promises and salvation found only in Christ.

Pastor: God of grace and mercy, we pray for all those who come to partake of the flesh and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for the forgiveness of all our sins, bringing us the gift of salvation.

People: Grant us all to eat and drink in repentant faith and be filled with the joy and peace of salvation.

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through 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

"O Lamb of God, You Take Away"

O Lamb of God, You take away The sin of this world; thus we pray,
Grant us Your mercy and Your peace Until all days and years shall cease.

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(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 #808 "O Sing to the Lord"

O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.
O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.
O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.
O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

8 continued

For God is the Lord! And God has done wonders.
For God is the Lord! And God has done wonders.
For God is the Lord! And God has done wonders.
O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

So dance for our God And blow all the trumpets.
So dance for our God And blow all the trumpets.
So dance for our God, And blow all the trumpets.
And sing to our God, And sing to our God.

O shout to our God, Who gave us the Spirit.
O shout to our God, Who gave us the Spirit.
O shout to our God, Who gave us the Spirit.
O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!
O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

HYMN #801 “How Great Thou Art”

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hands hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed;

**Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!**

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; *Refrain*

But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in-
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; *Refrain*

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: “My God, how great Thou art!” *Refrain*

HYMN #642 “O Living Bread From Heaven”

O living Bread from heaven, How well you feed your guest!
The gifts that you have given Have filled my heart with rest.
Oh, wondrous food of blessing, Oh, cup that heals our woes!
My heart, this gift possessing, With praises overflows.

My Lord, you here have led me To this most holy place
And with yourself have fed me The treasures of your grace;
For you have freely given What earth could never buy,
The bread of life from heaven, That now I shall not die.

You gave me all I wanted; This food can death destroy.
And you have freely granted The cup of endless joy.
My Lord, I do not merit The favor you have shown,
And all my soul and spirit Bow down before your throne.

Lord, grant me then, thus strengthened With heav’nly food,
while here My course on earth is lengthened, To serve with holy fear.
And when you call my spirit To leave this world below,
I enter, through your merit, Where joys unmingled flow.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, in this Sacrament your Holy Spirit has again assured us of the forgiveness of sins and strengthened our faith for the road ahead. Accompany us, we pray, that we walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us, until that day when faith gives way to sight and the new life you have given extends into all eternity; 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 upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #685 “Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus”

Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading, Pilgrims here, our home above,
full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father’s bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where you guide.

Let us suffer here with Jesus And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness; Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter, We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share your woe; Help me there your joy to know.

Let us gladly die with Jesus. Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction, Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here with you I die, There to live with you on high.

Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken. Jesus, you are now our head.
We are your own living members; Where you live, there we shall be
In your presence constantly, Living there with you forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be, Life eternal grant to me.

Preacher
Liturgist Saturday
Liturgist Sunday
Children’s Message
Lectors
Acolytes
Organist

Pastor Noah Kegley
Pastor Gregg Stanton
Pastor Harold Bender
Laurel Privatt
Jodi Drew, Jane Adams
Brooklyn Hoffman, Cameron Skenandore
Michelle Prince

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