

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Treasure in Clay Jars
August 25 & 26, 2018
5:00pm & 8:00am

AS WE GATHER

Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 4:7 "But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God, and not to us." Later on, in chapter 12, he talks about his "thorn in the flesh", which God would not remove despite Paul's fervent prayers. God said to him, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." As I reflect on our ministry together, these words of Paul describe perfectly our role in the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It's all about Him! – Pastor Stanton

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 ✠

(Rise)

OPENING HYMN #656 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from every need That hath us now o'er taken.
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe; Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight; On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One, Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is, Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God; He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not over pow'r us.
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will, He can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done; One little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone, Our vict'ry has been won'
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

PSALM 14

Pastor: The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good.

People: **The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God.**

Pastor: They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one.

People: **Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up My people as they eat bread and do not call upon the LORD?**

Pastor: There they are in great terror, for God is with the generation of the righteous.

People: **You would shame the plans of the poor, but the LORD is his refuge.**

Pastor: Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion!

People: **When the LORD restores the fortunes of His people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Brothers and sisters, let us together acknowledge that we have turned away from our faithful God. None of us is good, not even one. We all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Therefore, let us come before our Father in heaven in repentance and faith, seeking His pardon and restoration for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. With humble hearts, let us pray.

People: **Faithful Father, have mercy upon us. We have failed to obey your commands. Loving Savior, have mercy upon us. Wash us clean in your saving blood. Comforting Spirit, have mercy upon us. Restore us to be your own. Amen.**

Pastor: Because of God's mercy and grace, salvation has come to you! You are forgiven in your Father's eyes, washed spotless by the washing of water with the Word. You are united to Christ, so rejoice and be glad! As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, 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"

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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.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and merciful God, defend your Holy Church, which you have made spotless with the blood of your Son, that we hold fast to your Word and rejoice in all of your goodness; 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 READING *Isaiah 29:11-19* (The Lord will again do wonderful things with His people.) And the vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." And when they give the book to one who cannot

read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read." And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men, therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden." Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?" You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me"; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"? Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest? In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see. The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

EPISTLE *Ephesians 5:22-33* (Christ, the Bridegroom, makes the Church His Bride and gives Himself up for her.) Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 7:1-13* (Jesus rebukes those who reject God's commands in order to establish their own traditions.) Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing

of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, “‘This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.” And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “‘Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban”’ (that is, given to God)—then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

(Be seated)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #578 “Thy Strong Word”

Thy strong word did cleave the darkness; At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee, While Thine ordered seasons run.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness, Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation, Breathed Thine own life breathing breath.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous; Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory, And our lives, our hopes confess.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

From the cross Thy wisdom shining Breaketh forth in conqu’ring might;
From the cross forever beameth All Thy bright redeeming light.

Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

Give us lips to sing Thy glory, Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!

God the Father, light-creator, To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, Praise be sung eternally.

Holy Spirit, light-revealer, Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever Praise the holy Trinity!

SERMON

“Treasure in Clay Jars”

2 Corinthians 4:7

(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: In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the Church, that all the baptized would be delivered from all hypocrisy and given grace to honor God not only with their lips, but in their heart and with their lives, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For our Synod President Matthew, our District President, John, our Circuit Visitor, our own pastors and all servants of the Church, especially our Together in Mission partners, Pastor Chuck Ferry and family and Rachel Meyer, that they may teach the Word of God honestly and clearly, and for the salvation of souls, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For an increase in pastors, teachers, deaconesses and other church workers, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For August James Gutowski and Kinley Jo Hoxie, as they are baptized into Christ this Sunday, that their parents would diligently raise them in the faith and that they would grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For Pastor Gregg Stanton, who retires after 15 years of service here at St. Paul's and 29 years of service in the pastoral ministry, that God would bless him abundantly in retirement and give him many years of rest and refreshment, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For each person entrusted with public responsibility or civic duty in our land and in all nations, that they be given wisdom to know what is right and true and courage to govern according to what serves the common good, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For every Christian marriage, that husbands and wives, by the power of the Holy Spirit, may relate to one another in such a way that they form a living picture of the communion of Christ and His Bride, the Church, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those taking treatments, for the ill or injured, for the lonely and the prisoners, and for all who have desired our prayers, including Larry, Grant, Marilyn, Cindy, Anita, Scott, Mary, LuEva, Dorothy, Dick, Nancy, Sue, Jan, Dolores, Shirley, Gladys, Russ, Arlene, Dorothy, John, Arlene, Jack, Shirley, Jonathan, Helen, Leonard and Sarah, that in meekness each hurting heart would obtain fresh joy in the Lord, healing from His hand, and be filled with thanks for His presence and promises, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who come to the table of Christ this day, that they would be wrapped in the robe of His righteousness and that He would delight to present them to Himself as His Bride, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, holy and blameless in His sight, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the faithful departed, let us offer our thanks and praise to Him who is the resurrection and the life, asking Him to give us our share with the saints in light, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

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

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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.

(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.

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.

8 continued

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 #802 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life Thou givest to both great and small-
In all life Thou livest, the true Life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree
And wither and perish but naught changes Thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight
All laud we would render; O help us to see
‘Tis only the splendor of light that hides Thee.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us in the sharing of Christ’s body and blood. Having received the assurance of our forgiveness, that we are made spotless in your eyes, help us to extend this grace wherever we go and to whomever we meet; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

8:00 CHOIR ANTHEM “May The Peace Of God Be With You”

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 #837 “Lift High the Cross”

***Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.***

Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*

Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu’ring ranks combine. *Refrain*

All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. *Refrain*

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. *Refrain*

Let ev’ry race and ev’ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. *Refrain*

So shall our song of triumph ever be; Praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

Preacher
Liturgist
Lectors
Acolytes
Organist Saturday
Organist Sunday
Choir Director

Pastor Gregg Stanton
Pastor Harold Bender
Marc Stefanic
Logan Rauter, Ashton Poritz
Jo Bender
Michelle Prince
Nancy Hoelke