

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

We Praise You O God

July 16-17, 2016

AS WE GATHER

Much like He did for Abraham and Sarah, announcing to them that they would have a son, and much like He did for Martha and Mary, teaching them what is ultimately necessary, the Lord enters into your midst today! Jesus is here! Your Savior is in this place, in this service of worship, in this house to feed you with the gifts of His mercy and to serve you with His forgiveness. As we gather together by His Word and Spirit, His service to us will change us as together we receive Him. His saving work will inspire us, once again, to depart in His peace and to serve others in His love.

WELCOME

What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching,
with faith and love in Christ Jesus.

Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—
guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.(2 Tim. 1:13-14)

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #798 “The God of Abraham Praise”
Stanzas 1-4, 8, 9 rise last stanza

The God of Abr’ham praise, Who reigns enthroned above;
Ancient of everlasting days And God of love.
Jehovah, great I AM! By earth and heav’n confessed;
I bow and bless the sacred name Forever blest.

The God of Abr’ham praise, At whose supreme command
From earth I rise and seek the joys At His right hand.
I all on earth forsake, Its wisdom, fame and pow’r,
And Him my only portion make, My shield and tow’r.

The God of Abr’ham praise, Whose all sufficient grace
Shall guide me all my pilgrim days In all my ways.
He deigns to call me friend; He calls Himself my God.
And He shall save me to the end Through Jesus’ blood.

1 continued

He by Himself has sworn; I on His oath depend.
I shall, on eagle wings upborne, To heav’n ascend.
I shall behold His face; I shall His pow’r adore
And sing the wonders of His grace Forevermore.

The God who reigns on high The great archangels sing,
And “Holy, holy, holy!” cry, “Almighty King!
Who was and is the same And evermore shall be;
Jehovah, Father, great I AM! We worship Thee!”

(Rise) The whole triumphant host Give thanks to God on high.
“Hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!” They ever cry.
Hail, Abr’ham’s God and mine! I join the heav’nly lays:
All might and majesty are Thine And endless praise!

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!

People: How beautiful is the good news of Christ’s salvation!

Pastor: The Lord’s voice is reaching out into all the earth!

People: Jesus’ words bring us life as we trust in Him!

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father, beginning with a time for silent prayer. With confidence in Christ, let us confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Merciful God, you never fail to come to us by your Word and Spirit. your Word alone gives life, but we are distracted from receiving and obeying your Word. In our thinking, speaking, and doing, we have done what your Word forbids, and we have failed to do what your Word commands. Thank you for being a wonderful Father and a merciful Savior! Bring us again to the foot of Jesus’ cross that we may receive the forgiveness we so desperately need. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God, in His great mercy, has given His Son to die for you and, for Jesus’ sake, He forgives you all your sins. Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Refrain: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me.

And nothing will I fear as long as you are near.

Please be near me to the end. **Refrain**

I will not forget your love for me, and yet my heart forever is wandering.

Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side;

and I will love you to the end. **Refrain**

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, knowing you is the one thing needful for life and salvation. Grant us willing hearts to receive what you have to give that we may serve others as you have first served 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 READING *Genesis 18:1–14* (The Lord appears to Abraham and Sarah and promises them a son.) 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* (The Lord reconciles us and powerfully works in us.)

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* (Jesus speaks His Word in Martha and Mary's home.)

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 #785**“We Praise You, O God”**

We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
 In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
 We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;
 We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship You, God of our father, we bless You;
 Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.
 When perils o’er take us, You will not forsake us,
 And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer
 And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
 With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
 To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

SERMON**“We Praise You, O God”**

Psalm 95:1-7

(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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

After each petition:

Pastor: Lord in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.*At the conclusion of the prayers:*

Pastor: . . . 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***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 #617 “O Lord, We Praise Thee”

O Lord we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,

In thanksgiving bow before Thee.

Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish

Our weak souls that they may flourish: O Lord, have mercy!

May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary, That our sins and sorrows did carry, And Thy blood for us plead In all trial, fear, and need: O Lord, have mercy!

Thy holy body into death was given, Life to win for us in heaven.

No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;

May this feast there-of remind us! O Lord, have mercy!

Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee

That Thy blood should bless and sustain me. All our debt Thou hast paid; Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mercy!

May God bestow on us His grace and favor That we follow Christ our Savior And live together here in love and union

Nor despise this blest Communion! O Lord, have mercy!

Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us; Grant that heav’nly-minded He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see Days of peace and unity: O Lord, have mercy!

HYMN #570 “Just as I Am, Without One Plea”

Just as I am, without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd’st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am; Thy love unknown Has broken every barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

HYMN #606 “I Lay My Sins on Jesus”

I lay my sins on Jesus, The spotless Lamb of God;
He bears them all and frees us From accursed load.
I bring my guilt to Jesus To wash my crimson stains
Clean in His blood most precious Till not a spot remains.
I lay my wants on Jesus; All fullness dwells in Him;
He heals all my diseases; My soul He does redeem.
I lay my griefs on Jesus, My burdens and my cares;
He from them all releases; He all my sorrows shares.
I rest my soul on Jesus, This weary soul of mine;
His right hand me embraces; I on His breast recline.
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;
Like fragrance on the breezes His name abroad is poured.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. O Jesus, Lord of grace, we thank you that in your body and blood we have tasted and seen that you are good. Having refreshed us with the assurance of your forgiveness, empower us to serve others as you have first served us; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!

People: How beautiful is the good news of Christ’s salvation!

Pastor: The Lord’s voice, which is reaching out into all the earth, has come among you today!

People: Jesus’ words have given us life! We are saved to serve Him by serving others.

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 #643 “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

Sent forth by God’s blessing, Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended. O now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all. His grace did invite us,
His love shall unite us To work for God’s kingdom and answer His call.

With praise and thanksgiving To God ever living,
The tasks of our ev'ry day life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living
With praise and thanksgiving Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

Preacher & Liturgist

Lectors

Acolyte

Organist

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Dalen Heinzen, Jim Laux

Aidyn Roska

Michelle Prince