

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Take Heart – It's Me!

July 28, 29, 2018

AS WE GATHER

God cares for us, but we aren't always aware of it. When Jesus stilled the storm that was hindering the disciples in the boat, all they saw was His power, and they were terrified. But when other people saw Him, they recognized a healer and brought the sick to Him. God always cares, of course; the rainbow is a reminder He won't flood the earth again—out of care for us. In today's Epistle, Paul prays that God's love in Christ would fill us. God will do that; He cares that much for us. We ask today that God would strengthen us to care for the people around us. May they see His love through our caring.

WELCOME

“For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.

Walk as children of light for the fruit of light is found
in all that is good and right and true.” (Ephesians 5:8-9)

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #871 “Greet the Rising Sun”

Greet the rising sun, Shining with bright force, Like an athlete strong,
Set to run the course; Birds soar high above, Wildflow'rs below;
With the day's new light, Glad to work I go.

Father, hear my prayer, Keep me safe today; Sanctify my thoughts,
All I do and say; As I teach the young And esteem the old,
May Your bounteous grace By my life be told.

Lord, I will today On Your love rely;
Let no evil thought Cloud the clear blue sky.
Joyful and content With life's simpler things,
Knowing all I need From Your kindness springs.

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the LORD,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

People: But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to our gracious God. Heavenly Father,

People: we confess that we often fail to recognize your power over all things in creation. When life seems out of control, instead of trusting that you can bring good out of bad circumstances, we sometimes become fearful and doubt your power at work for our good. Forgive us.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ,

People: we confess that we have failed to rely on your power to heal, strengthen, and protect. Forgive us.

Pastor: Holy Spirit, giver of all good gifts,

People: we confess that we do not always expect you to guide and direct us in trying times. We sometimes expect others to do the caring, consoling, and comforting rather than seek your renewal and strengthening. Forgive us.

Pastor: Triune God,

People: we are sinners from birth and sin daily in our thinking, speaking, and acting. Without your power and love, we cannot be people who reflect your loving care. Forgive us, and direct our feet into paths on which we serve you in joy.

Pastor: Give thanks to the God of heaven,

People: for His steadfast love endures forever.

Pastor: God's almighty power is shown chiefly in triumphing over sin, death, and the grave. Christ's sacrifice has turned away God's righteous anger, atoning for all our sins. 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 #849 “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”

Praise the One who breaks the darkness With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees’ the pris’ners, Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel, Healing ev’ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands With the very Bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water To the desert’s burning sand;
From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev’ry land.

Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place. Jesus died
and rose victorious That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and
gladness, Seeing what our God has done; Let us praise the true Redeemer,
Praise the One who makes us one.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, the protector of all
who trust in you,

**People: strengthen our faith and give us courage to believe that in your
love you will rescue us from all adversities;**

Pastor: 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 9:8–17* (God promises in a covenant never
again to destroy the earth with a flood.) Then God said to Noah and to his sons with
him, “Behold, I establish my covenant with you and your offspring after you, and
with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the livestock, and every beast
of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark; it is for every beast of the
earth. I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by
the waters of the flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”
And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and
every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in
the cloud, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I
bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my

covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh. And the
waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the
clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every
living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” God said to Noah, “This is the sign of
the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

EPISTLE *Ephesians 3:14–21* (Paul prays that God would empower his readers so
that they reflect God’s love in their daily living.) For this reason I bow my knees
before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that
according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power
through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts
through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to
comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,
and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled
with all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than
all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory
in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 6:45–56* (Jesus stills the storm and heals the sick.)

Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other
side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. And after he had taken leave of
them, he went up on the mountain to pray. And when evening came, the boat was
out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. And he saw that they were making
headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the
night he came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by them, but when they
saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, for they all
saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, “Take
heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.” And he got into the boat with them, and the wind
ceased. And they were utterly astounded, for they did not understand about the
loaves, but their hearts were hardened. When they had crossed over, they came to
land at Gennesaret and moored to the shore. And when they got out of the boat, the
people immediately recognized him and ran about the whole region and began to
bring the sick people on their beds to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he
came, in villages, cities, or countryside, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and
implored him that they might touch even the fringe of his garment. And as many as
touched it were made well.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #575 “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim But wholly lean on Jesus’ name.

Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev’ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil. *Refrain*

His oath, His covenant and blood Support me in the raging flood;
When ev’ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. *Refrain*

When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before His throne! *Refrain*

SERMON “Take Heart, It’s Me!” Mark 6:45-56

(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 the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

For the whole family of God in Christ Jesus, that all His children be strengthened with power through His Spirit in our inner being, that Christ may dwell in our hearts through faith, and that we may be rooted and grounded in love, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who serve in the Office of the Holy Ministry; for Matthew, our synodical president, for John, our district president, for our circuit visitor and our own pastors; and for all teachers and church workers, that in the midst of turbulent times, the presence and words of Christ would fill their hearts with courage and drive away

all fear, and that they would be filled with the conviction that God is able to do abundantly more than we could ever ask, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For an increase in full-time church workers; for those working in the mission field, especially our Together in Mission partners, Chuck Ferry and family and Rachel Meyer; and for the spread of the Gospel, that many may come to know the love of Christ and so be filled with all the fullness of God, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the leaders of our nation, for all public servants and for the men and women of our armed forces, that they be given grace to fulfill their varied callings with honor, courage, wisdom and integrity, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For God’s goodness, grace, and blessings, especially Henry and Eleanor as they celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary, that we all would be thankful for God’s gifts and treasure the people in our lives, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all in need: the sick, the sorrowing, the lonely, the injured and the dying, and for those we have been asked to remember at this altar: Anita, Scott, Mary, LuEva, Vern, Dorothy, Judy, Dick, Dorothy, Cindy, Carlene, Nancy, Sue, Jan, Dolores, Pat, Cliff, Shirley, Gladys, Herb, Matthew, Russ, Arlene, Dorothy, John, Arlene, Jack, Pat, Shirley, Jonathan, Helen, Leonard, and Sarah, that Christ Jesus would ever be their health in sickness, their peace in turmoil, their joy in sorrow and their life in death, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who draw near to the altar today to partake of Christ’s very body and blood, that we may receive the forgiveness of sins, strength in resisting temptations, and inspiration for service in Christ’s kingdom, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the faithful departed, let us give God all thanks and praise, and joining with Denton who remembers his beloved Linda, that we may look forward to joining them in the new heavens and the new

earth, that we may enjoy God's everlasting covenant of peace and have our hearts filled with unending joy, 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.

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 Christ, the Lamb of God, we pray, Take all our sin away.

O Christ, the Lamb of God, we pray, Grant us Your peace this day.

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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 #637 "Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"

Draw near and take the body of the Lord,
And drink the holy blood for you out-poured;
Offered was He for greatest and for least,
Himself the victim and himself the priest.

He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
To all believers life eternal yields;
With heav'nly bread He makes the hungry whole,
Gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere,
And take the pledges of salvation here.
O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

HYMN #620 "Jesus Comes Today With Healing"

Jesus comes today with healing, Knocking at my door, appealing,
Off'ring pardon, grace, and peace.

He Himself makes preparation, And I hear His invitation:
"Come and taste the blessed feast."

Christ Himself, the priest presiding, Yet in bread and wine abiding
In this holy sacrament, Gives the bread of life, once broken,
And the cup, the precious token Of His sacred covenant.

Under bread and wine, though lowly, I receive the Savior holy,
Blood and body, giv'n for me, Very Lamb of God from heaven,
Who to bitter death was given, Hung upon the cursed tree.

God descends with heav'nly power, Gives Himself to me this hour
In this ordinary sign. On my tongue His pledge receiving,
I accept His grace, believing That I taste His love divine.

Let me praise God's boundless favor, Whose own feast of love I savor,
Bidden by His gracious call. Wedding garments He provides me,
With a robe of white He hides me, Fits me for the royal hall.

Now have I found consolation, Comfort in my tribulation,
Balm to heal the troubled soul. God, my shield from ev'ry tremor,
Cleanses me from sin and error, Makes my wounded spirit whole.

HYMN #779 "Come, My soul, with Every Care"

Come, my soul, with ev-'ry care, Jesus loves to answer prayer;
He Himself has bid thee pray, Therefore will not turn away.

Thou art coming to a King, Large petitions with thee bring;
For His grace and pow'r are such None can ever ask too much.

With my burden I begin; Lord, remove this load of sin;
Let Thy blood, for sinners spilt, Set my conscience free from guilt.

Lord, Thy rest to me impart, Take possession of my heart;
There Thy blood-bought right maintain And without a rival reign.

While I am a pilgrim here, Let Thy love my spirit cheer;
As my guide, my guard, my friend, Lead me to my journey's end.

Show me what is mine to do; Ev'ry hour my strength renew.
Let me live a life of faith; Let me die Thy people's death.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank you that for His sake you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask you not to forsake your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve you; 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 #910 "Now the Silence"

Now the silence Now the peace Now the empty hands uplifted
Now the kneeling Now the plea Now the Father's arms in welcome
Now the hearing Now the pow'r Now the vessel brimmed for pouring
Now the body Now the blood Now the joyful celebration Now the wedding
Now the songs Now the heart forgiven leaping Now the Spirit's visitation
Now the Son's epiphany Now the Father's blessing Now Now Now

Preacher & Liturgist
Lectors
Acolytes
Organist

Pastor Gregg Stanton
Debbie Ulbing, Laurel Privatt
Emma Harper, Caden Gibbs
Michelle Prince

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