

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Promise: Blessed Rest

July 5 & 6, 2014

5:00 & 9:00

AS WE GATHER

The Christian life knows disappointments and may bring experiences of hopelessness and defeat. Burdens at times may seem impossible to bear. Our Lord Jesus Christ assures us that His burden is not burdensome and that His yoke is one that He shares with us. A yoke is used when a task needs to be accomplished and a goal is in sight. Bearing the yoke placed on us, we travel through life with confidence and with holy anticipation of what is yet to come.

WELCOME

“Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.” Colossians 3:17

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN #727

“On Eagles’ Wings”

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, Who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord: “My refuge, My rock in whom I trust!”

Refrain:

*And He will raise you up on eagles’ wings. Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of His hand.*

The snare of the fowler will never capture you, And famine will bring you no fear;
Under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield. *Refrain*

You need not fear the terror of the night, Nor the arrow that flies by day;
Though thousands fall about you, Near you it shall not come. *Refrain*

For to His angels He’s given a command To guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.

Refrain

(Rise)

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Jesus says, “Come unto Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

People: Alleluia. Alleluia.

Pastor: Thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, “In returning and rest you shall be saved;

People: in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.”

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Beloved of God, let us confess together that we have by our heedless thoughts, careless words, and loveless deeds sinned against our gracious God and deserve His punishment now and eternally.

People: Almighty God, we repent of our sins in thought and in word and in deed. Be merciful to us, and for the sake of Jesus grant us your forgiveness so that, as your redeemed people, we may find rest in you and with refreshed hearts serve you in time and in eternity.

Pastor: 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 #803 “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

Joyful, joyful we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow’rs before Thee, Praising Thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heav’n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow’ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Fountainhead of love divine:
Joyful, we Thy heav’n inherit! Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end grant us your promised rest and the full joy of your salvation; 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 *Zechariah 9:9–12* (The King is coming with righteousness.)

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit. Return to your fortress, O prisoners of hope; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you.

EPISTLE *Romans 7:14–25a* (Thanks to God through Jesus Christ.)

We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do - this I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. So I find this law at work: When I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God - through Jesus Christ our Lord!

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 11:25–30* (Jesus promises rest to those who are heavy laden.) At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure. "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #702 "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.

Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away:

O let me from this day Be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart; My zeal inspire!

As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee

Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my guide;

Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,

Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside!

When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll,

Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove;

O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!

SERMON

"Rest For Little Children"

Matthew 11:25-30

(Rise)

CATECHISM *Third Article*

All: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Pastor: What does this mean?

All: I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

(Be seated)

OFFERINGS 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 for names of those to greet after the worship service.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for all people according to God's will. Almighty Father, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to carry our burdens, forgive our sins, and lighten the weight on our souls.

People: Grant us all to turn to him each day, receive his promised rest, and walk daily as little children.

Pastor: Lord of the nations, we give you thanks and praise for the blessing of freedoms we have been granted in these United States of America. We acknowledge that all good gifts come from your hand and pray that our hearts would be filled with humble thanks.

People: Bless, lead, and guide all our leaders. As our nation also has many flaws and failings, especially in the realm of Christian morals, call all her people back to a repentant relationship with you.

Pastor: O Lord, through Holy Baptism you gave to each of us the gift of your Holy Spirit.

People: Fill us with wisdom that we may discern the leading of your Spirit and walk by the Spirit each and every day.

Pastor: Lord of the one Holy Christian and Apostolic Church, bless and guide pastors, missionaries, and all church workers. Grant them to proclaim and teach the truth of your holy word without compromise.

People: Be with and bless Pastor Chuck Ferry as he serves you in Indonesia. By the work of your Holy Spirit, lead many people around the world to saving faith in Christ.

Pastor: Father in heaven, you have ordained that through the womb of women life is conceived and born into this world. Bless the work of the Elizabeth ministry that the women of our congregation may be strengthened and supported in their calling as mothers.

People: Grant us all to pray for mothers, rejoice with them in the birth of their children, and support them as they seek to have and raise children in the faith.

Pastor: Lord of healing and hope, we pray for all those whose bodies are sick or injured and those who face any physical or emotional struggles, especially those who have requested our prayers: Nancy, Charles, Gilberte, Laura, Jack, Ashley, Mark, Richard, Carol, Susan, Virginia, Rosalie, Dorothy, Ruth, Warren, Dorothy, and Sarah.

People: Grant them healing and deliverance in accord with your will. Be their comfort and consolation in their time of difficulty and distress.

Pastor: Almighty God, source of all blessings, we give you thanks for all the gifts you bestow upon us. Bless Angie as she remembers her mom Lucille; fill the Osell family with joy as they celebrate Dmitry's birthday.

People: Grant each of us, your children, to count our blessings each and every day.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, you laid down your life on the cross, making the ultimate sacrifice that we might receive God's grace and live as His forgiven children.

People: As we partake of your holy supper, grant us repentant hearts, and move us to share your grace with others.

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

O Lamb of God, we pray: Take all our sins away— Our faith increase.

Have mercy on us all, Strengthen us when we fall,

Answer our fervent call And grant us peace.

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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.

“Blessed Assurance”

W & R #426

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a fore-taste of glory divine!

Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of the Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain: This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect sub-mission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;

Angels descending, bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest,

Watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

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HYMN #832

“Jesus Shall Reign”

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun Does its successive journeys run:

His kingdom stretch from shore to shore Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made, And endless praises crown His head;

His name like sweet perfume shall rise With ev'ry morning sacrifice.

People and realms of ev'ry tongue Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim Their early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns: The pris'ners leap, unloose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest, And all who suffer want are blest.

Let ev'ry creature rise and bring Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud amen.

HYMN #527 “O Savior, Precious Savior”

O Savior, precious Savior, Whom yet unseen we love;

O name of might and favor, All other names above,

We worship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;

We praise Thee and confess Thee, Our holy Lord and King.

O bringer of salvation, Who wondrously has wrought

Thyself the revelation Of love beyond our thought,

We worship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;

We praise Thee and confess Thee, Our gracious Lord and King.

In Thee all fullness dwelleth, All grace and pow'r divine;

The glory that excelleth, O Son of God, is Thine.

We worship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;

We praise Thee and confess Thee, Our glorious Lord and King.

O grant the consummation Of this our song above

In endless adoration And everlasting love;

Then shall we praise and bless Thee Where perfect praises ring,

And evermore confess Thee, Our Savior and our King!

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you have given us a foretaste of the feast to come at your gracious Table. Strengthen us through the blessed gift we have received, that we may bear faithfully the yoke lovingly placed upon us by our Savior, Jesus Christ. Keep us steadfast throughout

our pilgrimage on earth, and bring us at last to that heavenly banquet in your kingdom where joy knows no ending. This we ask through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

NATIONAL OBSERVANCE *Psalm 29:10–11; Psalm 46:10; Psalm 72:18–19*

Pastor: As people blessed to live in a nation that knows freedom of religion, we thank God for that blessing as we echo words from the Psalms.

People: May the LORD give strength to His people! May the LORD bless His people with peace!

Pastor: The Lord says: “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

People: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. Blessed be His glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with His glory! Amen and amen!

Pastor: Lord, keep this nation under your care. Bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to the other nations of the earth. Grant that we may choose trustworthy leaders, contribute to wise decisions for the general welfare, and serve you faithfully in our generation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

“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
Assisting Liturgist
Lectors
Acolytes
Organist
Music Coordinator

Pastor Harold Bender
Brad Akey
Jodi Drew, Marty Osell
Josh Elmer, Aidyn Roska, Claire Igielski
Roger Gottschalk
Kim Woller