

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Wrong Question . . . but the Right Answer

July 6, 9, 10, 2016

AS WE GATHER

A Good Samaritan. This phrase has become a cliché in our culture today that some use without much thought, but how many know the account from which this phrase comes? Today, we hear Jesus tell a parable involving the Good Samaritan in the Holy Gospel. Consider just who this “Good Samaritan” is. Perhaps the One who embodies this Good Samaritan best is our Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ. Jesus comes to us, beaten up by sin and the devil, as good as dead. Yet Jesus touches us with His Word and shelters us in His Church. Taking His love and service even further, Jesus lays down His life for us in His sacrificial death. Having been loved this way, we now “go and do likewise.”

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 #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.

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: Blessed be the LORD,

People: the God of Israel,

Pastor: from everlasting to everlasting!

People: Amen and Amen.

5:00 & 9:00 COMMISSIONING OF THOSE ATTENDING THE NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason
frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. You shall
not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own
people,

People: but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

Pastor: We have not always loved the Lord or loved our neighbor. Because we
are by nature sinful, we are too often eager to hate, take vengeance, or
bear a grudge. In repentance, let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of
God our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ.

**People: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to
everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: God has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to
the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the
forgiveness of 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 #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: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ,

People: you have come to us who are beaten up by sin and harassed by the devil to give us forgiveness and victory through your death and resurrection.

Pastor: Grant that, having been loved so richly by you, we would go and do likewise, loving our neighbor as ourselves;

People: for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Be seated)

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Leviticus 18:1–5; 19:9–18* ("You shall love your neighbor as yourself.") The LORD said to Moses, "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'I am the LORD your God. You must not do as they do in Egypt, where you used to live, and you must not do as they do in the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you. Do not follow their practices. You must obey my laws and be careful to follow my decrees. I am the LORD your God. Keep my decrees and laws, for the man who obeys them will live by them. I am the LORD. "'When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the alien. I am the LORD your God. "'Do not steal. "'Do not lie. "'Do not deceive one another. "'Do not swear falsely by my name and so profane the name of your God. I am the LORD. "'Do not defraud your neighbor or rob him. "'Do not hold back the wages of a hired man overnight. "'Do not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block in front of the blind, but fear your God. I am the LORD. "'Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favoritism to the great, but judge your neighbor fairly. "'Do not go about spreading slander among your people. "'Do not do anything

that endangers your neighbor's life. I am the LORD. "'Do not hate your brother in your heart. Rebuke your neighbor frankly so you will not share in his guilt. "'Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.

EPISTLE *Colossians 1:1–14* (Christ has delivered us from darkness.)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the holy and faithful brothers in Christ at Colosse: Grace and peace to you from God our Father. We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints--the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth, the gospel that has come to you. All over the world this gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth. You learned it from Epaphras, our dear fellow servant, who is a faithful minister of Christ on our behalf, and who also told us of your love in the Spirit. For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 10:25–37* (The Good Samaritan)

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" "What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?" He answered: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" "You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live." But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where

the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.' "Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?" The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON 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.

SERMON "The Heart of the Law" Luke 10:25-37

(Rise)

NICENE 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. Heavenly Father, as you have loved us in your Son, Jesus, grant us faith to love you with all our hearts, with all our souls, with all our minds, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

People: **Bless us that our lives might bring glory to your name and bring good into the world.**

Pastor: Almighty God, as you have delivered us from the domain of darkness into the kingdom of your Son, help us to walk in a manner worthy of Him. Bless our Synod in convention that decisions may be made in accord with your will.

People: **May all convention proceedings be guided by your Word and undertaken in prayer, that your good and gracious will may be done among us.**

Pastor: Father, as your Son has had compassion on us and bound up our wounds, pouring on them the oil and the wine of His grace and mercy, grant us compassion for the lost around us.

People: **Lead us by your Spirit that we might not pass them by but reach out to them with His love.**

Pastor: Lord of all, as you have granted us to live in a nation where your people may still gather without fear, bless our leaders with your wisdom and guard us from the rising ungodliness in our land.

People: **Bless the work of your servants, that your Gospel may be preached boldly and continue to bear fruit and grow.**

Pastor: Lord of the Church, as you grant the length of days to many in our families and communities, you bless us with their wisdom and grant us the opportunity to live out your love for them.

People: **Help us to treasure them, and as they grow in weakness and need, deepen their trust in your strength to bear and Your power to save.**

Pastor: Father in heaven, you give us so many blessings in our lives. Therefore, we rejoice with Barb and Phil as they celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary, with the Osell family as they celebrate Dmitry's birthday, and the Stefanic family as they celebrate Nancy's 80th birthday.

People: **Grant us to give thanks for all your blessings every day of our lives.**

Pastor: Lord, as you pour out your Spirit upon us to fill us with the knowledge of your will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, bless our youth who gather together this week in New Orleans.

People: Grant them safe travel, joy in their journey, and growth in faith and life, that they might bear fruit in every good work and ever increase in the knowledge of our Lord.

Pastor: Compassionate God, as you have revealed the depths of your heart in the compassion-filled life of your Son, You embolden us to bring before you the sick, the dying, the grieving and all those who suffer amongst us. Today we especially remember before you Roemelle, Riley, Arlene, Ruth, Kathleen, Doris, Barb, Jean, Mae, Bob, Marion, Helen, Leonard, LuEva, Linda, Gladys, Russ, Jack, Shirley, Lois and Sarah.

People: In accord with your good and gracious will, sustain, help and heal them.

Pastor: Lord God, as your Son has carried us through Baptism into His Church and provided for our continued care with the gifts of His body and blood, grant us to receive His supper in faith.

People: Help us all to abide in this place of refuge and to rightly rejoice in His gracious care.

Pastor: Eternal Lord, as you have qualified us in Christ to share in the inheritance of the saints in light, keep us in fellowship as we journey through this life.

People: Grant us to be faithful to the end, that we may one day share with all your saints in the fullness of Christ's eternal kingdom.

Pastor: Into your hands, dear Father, 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 +

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

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 #842 "Son of God, Eternal Savior"

Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race,
You our Head, who, throned in glory, For Your own will ever plead;
Fill us with Your love and pity, Heal our wrongs and help our need.

As You, Lord, have lived for others, So may we for others love.
Freely have Your gifts been granted; Freely may Your servants give.
Yours the gold and Yours the silver, Yours the wealth of land and sea;
We but stewards of Our bounty Held in solemn trust will be.

Come, O Christ, and reign among us, King of love and Prince of Peace;
Hush the storm of strife and passion, Bid its cruel discords cease.
By Your patient years of toiling, By Your silent hours of pain,
Quench our fevered thirst of pleasure, Stem our selfish greed of gain.

Son of God, eternal Savior, Source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us Hallows all our human race;
By Your praying, by Your willing That Your people should be one,
Grant, O grant our hope's fruition: Here on earth Your will be done.

HYMN #618 "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"

I come, O Savior, to Thy table, For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able To satisfy and make me whole:

Refrain:

Lord, May Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!

Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning That sinners may salvation see Who,
Lord, to Thee in faith are turning; So I, a sinner, come to Thee. *Refrain*

Unworthy though I am, O Savior, Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never, For Thou my faithful shepherd art: *Refrain*

Weary am I and heavy laden; With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously and gladden my heart, for I am now Thy guest. *Refrain*

What higher gift can we inherit? It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and Spirit, The covenant of hope and grace. *Refrain*

HYMN #623 "Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray"

Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray That we may feast on You today;
Beneath these forms of bread and wine Enrich us with Your grace divine.

Give us, who share this wondrous food, Your body broken and Your blood,
The grateful peace of sins forgiv'n, The certain joys of heirs of heav'n.

By faith Your Word has made us bold To seize the gift of love retold;
All that You are we here receive, And all we are to You we give.

One bread, one cup, one body, we, Rejoicing in our unity,
Proclaim Your love until You come To bring Your scattered loved ones home.

Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray: O keep us steadfast till that day
When each will be Your welcomed guest In heaven's high and holy feast.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you shelter us in
your Church and feed us with your Holy Supper. Keep us firm in the faith
until the day of your Son's return, 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: Blessed be the LORD,

People: the God of Israel,

Pastor: from everlasting to everlasting!

People: Amen and Amen.

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 #526 "You Are the Way; through You Alone"

You are the way; through You alone Can we the Father find;
In You, O Christ, has God revealed His heart and will and mind.

You are the truth; Your Word alone True wisdom can impart;
You only can inform the mind And purify the heart.

You are the life; the empty tomb Proclaims Your conqu'ring arm,
And those who put their trust in You Not death nor hell shall harm.

You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win Whose joys eternal flow.

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Preacher & Liturgist

Lectors

Acolytes

Children's Message

Organist

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Laurel Privatt, Dan Vaclav, Jim Adams

Thomas Kadolph, Jeffery Moravec, Ryan Scheuer

Laurel Privatt

Michelle Prince