

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Growing in Hope
June 6, & 9, 2018

AS WE GATHER

"Rejoice in hope." Paul's timeless directive to the Christians at Rome in the first century speaks to us today. We are in a season of hope—a season when seeds are planted and creation is being renewed. Even in times when situations in life have challenges for us, in Christ we are being renewed day by day. As we live in our baptismal grace, the Holy Spirit works in us and through us. The invitation of Joachim Neander, the seventeenth-century hymn writer, is for each of us: "Ponder anew What the Almighty can do As with His love He befriends you" (*LSB* 790:4).

WELCOME

"[Jesus said,] The Helper, the Holy Spirit,
whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things
and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."
(John 14:26)

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #790 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear Now to His temple draw near, Joining in glad adoration!
Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen All that is needful has been Sent by His gracious ordaining?
Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.
What need or grief Ever has failed of relief? Wings of His mercy did shade you.
Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew What the Almighty can do As with His love He befriends you.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen Sound from His people again; Gladly forever adore Him!

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame!

People: In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; be to me a rock of refuge.

Pastor: You have given the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

People: For you, O Lord, are my hope; my praise is continually of you.

Pastor: I will hope continually and will praise you yet more and more.

People: My lips will shout for joy, when I sing praises to you, my soul also, which you have redeemed. And my tongue will talk of your righteous help all the day long.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

People: Merciful Father, we confess our sinfulness. We are sinful from our birth and since that time have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. Our actions have brought injury to others. We have left undone those things we ought to have done; we have done those things we ought not to have done. We sincerely repent of our sins. Graciously hear this our confession, O Lord, and grant us your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit within us, lead us to amend our sinful lives, that each day we grow in righteousness and in hope to the glory of your holy name.

Pastor: Jesus, our Redeemer and God's greatest gift, promises forgiveness, life, and salvation. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE #818 “In Thee Is Gladness”

In Thee is gladness Amid all sadness, Jesus sunshine of my heart.
By Thee are given The gifts of heaven, Thou the true Redeemer art.
Our souls Thou wakest, Our bonds Thou breakest;
Who trust Thee surely Has built securely; He stands forever: Alleluia!
Our hearts are pining To see Thy shining,
Dying or living To Thee are cleaving; Naught can us sever: Alleluia!
Since He is ours, We fear no powers, Not of earth nor sin nor death.
He sees and blesses In worst distresses; He can change them with a breath.
Wherefore the story Tell of His glory With hearts and voices;
All heav’n rejoices In Him forever: Alleluia!
We shout for gladness, Triumph o’er sadness,
Love Him and praise Him And still shall raise Him
Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, your Son, Jesus, triumphed over the prince of demons and freed us from bondage to sin. Help us to stand firm against every assault of Satan, and enable us always to live in hope as we seek to do your will; through Jesus Christ, 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 3:8–15* (The fall into sin in the Garden of Eden) And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

EPISTLE *2 Corinthians 4:13–5:1* (We look with hope to the things that are unseen) Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, “I believed, and so I spoke,” we also believe, and so we also speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal. For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 3:20–35* (Jesus teaches about who truly is His family.)

Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, “He is out of his mind.” And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, “He is possessed by Beelzebul,” and “by the prince of demons he casts out the demons.” And he called them to him and said to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house. “Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— for they were saying, “He has an unclean spirit.” And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him. And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you.” And he answered them, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother.”

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (Saturday Only)

SERMON HYMN #342 "What Hope! An Eden Prophesied"

What hope! An Eden prophesied Where tame live with the wild;
The lamb and lion side by side, Led by a little child!

A shoot will sprout from Jesse's stem, A branch from David's line,
A Prince of Peace in Bethlehem: The fruit of God's design.

As banner of God's love unfurled, Christ came to suffer loss,
That by His death a dying world Would rally to the cross.

Come, Jesus, come, Messiah Lord, Lost Paradise restore;
Lead past the angel's flaming sword – Come, open heaven's door.

SERMON "Paradise Restored" 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

(Rise)

CREED *The First Article*

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

THEME CELEBRATION "Growing in Hope"

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, Creator and Preserver, bless the seeds that are sown in the ground in hope. Bless also the soil and graciously send us such weather as will nourish the growth of the seeds into a bountiful harvest. Grant that we ever be mindful of your goodness and be led to share your blessings with others. This we pray in the name of Jesus, our Lord.

People: Amen. (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: With the Lord there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption, so let us pray to the God who sent His Son to bind Satan and plunder his house to save us. For all the baptized, that delivered from blaming others for our sins, God would give us grace to confess our iniquity, seek God's mercy, and trust His plentiful redemption, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For thankful lives, that the Holy Spirit would fill our hearts with gratitude and our mouths with praise that our heavenly Father has kept His promise to deliver us through Christ and His cross, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who cry out of the depths for comfort, healing or relief, that our heavenly Father would hear their voice and care for Dick, Dorothy, Carol, Anita, Cindy, Pastor Bender, Junie, Carlene, RoseMarie, Tony, Nancy, Sue, Jan, Dolores, Pat, Cliff, Shirley, Gladys, Herb, Matthew, Russ, Arlene, Dorothy, John, Arlene, Jack, Pat, Shirley, Jonathan, Helen, Leonard, Sarah and for all who are in need, that they would be given relief and healing, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who do not believe and live without the comfort of faith in Christ, that they would turn from their rebellion; that God's grace would extend to more people; that the Holy Spirit would give each of us zeal to proclaim His promises; and that missionaries and their families would be kept under God's protecting care, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who suffer for confessing Christ, that they would not lose heart but rejoice that though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day; and that they would be upheld and emboldened by God's Spirit, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all marriages, especially Pete and Felicia as they celebrate their 25th anniversary, that husbands and wives would be preserved in faithfulness and freely share the love and forgiveness in Christ with one another, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who struggle because of mental illness, that our Father would care for their needs, provide relief and give them grace to hope for the restoration that He promises to all His children at the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those preparing to work in God's kingdom, that our heavenly Father would nurture the faith of every future pastor, teacher, deaconess and church worker; that He would equip them with everything they will need to serve; and that the Lord of the harvest would continue to raise up workers for His harvest fields, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who receive Christ's Holy Supper, that we would receive the Savior's body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins, for strength in resisting temptation, for service in His Kingdom, looking forward to the life that has no end, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who have fallen asleep in the saving faith, let us give God our thanks and praise, that Amy would be blessed in remembering her dad, and that one day we all are brought to the joy of the feast that has no end, 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 your Son, 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 #720 "We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight"

We walk by faith and not by sight, No gracious words we hear
From Him who spoke as none e'er spoke, but we believe Him near.

We may not touch His hands and side, Nor follow where He trod;
But in His promise we rejoice And cry "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; And may our faith abound
To call on you when you are near And seek where you are found.

For You, O resurrected Lord, Are found in means divine:
Beneath the water and the Word, Beneath the bread and wine.

Lord, when our life of faith is done, In realms of clearer light
We may behold you as you are, With full and endless sight.

HYMN #633 "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King.
Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from His pierced side. Alleluia!

Praise we Him, whose love divine Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His body for the feast-Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!

Where the paschal blood is poured, Death's dread angel sheathes the sword:
Israel's hosts triumphant go Through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!

Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas'chal victim, paschal bread; with
sincerity and love Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!

Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!

Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days; Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!

HYMN #850 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

God of grace and God of glory, On Your people pour Your pow'r;
Crown Your ancient Church's story; Bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

Lo, the hosts of evil round us Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

Cure Your children's waring madness; Bend our pride to Your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Your salvation Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, Serving You whom we adore,
Serving You whom we adore.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: O Lord God, heavenly Father, you have given us a foretaste of the
feast to come through this blessed Meal. Send your Holy Spirit that,
having now received this Holy Sacrament, we rejoice in the good gift
of life and its restoration in Christ. We eagerly look forward to that
time when we are gathered around the Table in your heavenly
kingdom to share in your blessings for all eternity. This we ask
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 #722 "Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"

Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life's way:
Direct, protect, and feed me From day to day.
Without Your grace and favor I go astray;
so take my hand, O Savior, And lead the way.

Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear,
For You, the Rock of Ages, Are always near.
Close by Your side abiding, I fear no foe,
For when Your hand is guiding, In peace I go.

Lord, when the shadows lengthen And night has come,
I know that You will strengthen My steps toward home.
Then nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend;
So take my hand and lead me Unto the end.

Preacher & Liturgist

Lectors

Acolytes

Children's Message (Saturday)

Organist

Pastor Harold Bender

Dan Vaclav, Debbie Ulbing

Riley Zacharias, Eric Brofka

Laurel Privatt

Michelle Prince

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