



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

There's Still More to Come!

November 9 & 10, 2013

Veterans, please gather prior to the service in the Narthex

AS WE GATHER

This is the final week of our Best is Yet to Come series yet we are not really done. There is still more to come. Growing in Christ is something that Christians do their whole life long (2 Peter 3:18). We are to grow evermore in our trust of the Lord (Psalm 37:3-4). We are to grow in living out our faith in our daily lives fulfilling the various callings we have (vocation) in a Christian manner, that we may be strengthened in every good word and deed (2 Thess. 2:17). There is also still more to come, for God will fulfill His gracious promise on the grand day of resurrection, when we will be raised and live forever in a new heaven and earth, the home of righteousness.

WELCOME

“But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.

But do this with gentleness and respect.” 1 Peter 3:15

FELLOWSHIP GREETING

+ PREPARATION +

Please rise & face the cross at the entrance to the sanctuary.

PROCESSIONALHYMN #829 “Christ the Eternal Lord” Stanzas 1-4

Christ the eternal Lord, Whose promise here we claim,
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured On all who name Your name;
With thankfulness and praise We stand before Your throne,
Intent to serve You all our days And make Your glory known.

Christ the unchanging Word To ev’ry passing age,
Whose timeless teachings still are heard Set forth on Scripture’s page;
Transform our thought and mind, Enlighten all who read,
Within Your Word by faith to find The bread of life indeed.

Christ the redeeming Son, Who shares our human birth,
And by His death salvation won For ev’ry child of earth;
Inspire our hearts, we pray, To tell Your love abroad,
That all may honor Christ today And follow Him as Lord.

Christ the unfading Light Of everlasting day,
Our Morning Star in splendor bright, The Life, the Truth, the Way;
That light of truth You give To servants as to friends,
Your way to walk, Your life to live, Till earth’s brief journey ends.

VETERAN RECOGNITION

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations;

People: Before the mountains were brought forth,

Pastor: or ever you had formed the earth and the world,

People: from everlasting to everlasting you are God!

Pastor: Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us;

People: yes, establish the work of our hands!

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Pastor: God is truly a God of life! It was only because of humanity's sin that death entered the world. Today, as God's redeemed children, let us confess our sins, so that we would once again turn away from those things that lead to death and turn towards God who alone grants eternal life for us through Christ. We confess our sins together . . .

People: Heavenly Father, we humbly confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbors in thought, word, and deed. In sin, we embrace our own standards and live by them. Instead, we ought to live by your gracious commands. We allow sin to rule in our lives, rather than heeding Christ's command and obeying His rule alone. Forgive our sins; restore us in the image of Christ; grant us life through Him and according to His Word. Amen.

Pastor: Christ says: "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through Me". Through Christ, God has shown us the meaning of life---because of Christ's sacrifice, the sin of the world is taken away! All who believe this are given eternal life. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, at His command and by His authority, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE #829 “Christ the Eternal Lord” Stanza 5

Christ the ascended King exalted high above,
Whose praise unending ages sing, whom yet unseen we love;
When mortal life is past your voice from heaven’s throne
Shall call your children home at last to know as we are known.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God, come to us now with your words of life, for without you we can never truly live. In accordance with that holy Word, may the members of your Church know some sense of purpose in their lives and vocations. By faith, may we witness Christ at work among us. Make your Church to be a fountain of life, infusing grace, mercy, and truth unto a parched, dry, and wearied world; 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 Psalm 37:1-9

Do not fret because of evil men or be envious of those who do wrong; for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away. Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this: He will make your righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of your cause like the noonday sun. Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes. Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil. For evil men will be cut off, but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.

EPISTLE 2 Thessalonians 2:1-8, 13-17 (*The Man of Lawlessness*) Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you brothers, not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come. Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction. He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God. Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things? And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time. For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the splendor of his coming. But we ought always to thank God for you, brothers loved by the Lord, because from the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter.

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 20:27-40 (*Sadducees ask about the Resurrection.*) Some of the Sadducees, who say there is no resurrection, came to Jesus with a question. "Teacher," they said, "Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies and leaves a wife but no children, the man must marry the widow and have children for his brother. Now there were seven brothers. The first one married a woman and died childless. The second and then the third married her, and in the same way the seven died, leaving no children. Finally, the woman died too. Now then, at the resurrection whose wife will she be, since the seven were married to her?" Jesus replied, "The people of this age marry and are given in marriage. But those who are considered worthy of taking part in that age and in the resurrection from the dead will neither marry nor be given in marriage, and they can no longer die; for they are like the angels. They are God's children, since they are children of the resurrection. But in the account of the bush, even Moses showed that the dead rise, for he calls the Lord 'the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' He is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive." Some of the teachers of the law responded, "Well said, teacher!" And no one dared to ask him any more questions.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON 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.

SERMON

“Committed to Grow”

Psalm 37:1-9

(Rise)

NICENE CREED *(found on the inside back cover of the hymnal)*

(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.

(Rise)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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 +

WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: Amen.

HYMN #611

“Chief of Sinners Though I Be”

Stanzas 1 & 5

Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.

O my Savior, help afford by Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray, Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply while I live and when I die.

(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 #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 #857 “Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way”

Lord, help us walk Your servant way Wherever love may lead
And, bending low, forgetting self, Each serve the other’s need.

You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord, But pow’r You laid aside.
You lived Your years in servant-hood; In lowliness You died.

No golden scepter but a towel You place within the hands
Of those who seek to follow You and live by Your commands.

You bid us bend our human pride Nor count ourselves above
The lowest place, the meanest task That waits the gift of love.

Lord, help us walk Your servant way Wherever love may lead
And bending low, forgetting self, Each serve the other’s need.

HYMN #722 “Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”

Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life’s way:
Direct, protect, and feed my 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.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you for the life of your Son,
Christ Jesus, given to us in the Holy Meal of Communion. May His Spirit
bring to fruition in our lives the blessings of forgiveness, life, and
salvation, that we would live unto you and love as Christ has loved us.
We pray this 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: Receive the blessing of our God: The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you;
the LORD look upon you with His favor, and grant you His + peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #861 “Christ Be My Leader”

Christ be my Leader by night as by day;
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.

Gladly I follow, my future His care, Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.

Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth, Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.

Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife; Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
Can touch my salvation; with Jesus I reign.

Preacher

Liturgist

Lectors

Acolytes

Organist (Sunday)

Music Coordinator & Organist Saturday

Pastor Harold Bender

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Virginia Sell, Jim Adams

Ryan Murray, Sydney Kadolph, Abbey Hoffman

Roger Gottschalk

Kim Woller

POBLO

People of the Book Lutheran Outreach

POBLO is a mission society of the LCMS, whose task is to evangelize Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs and others and establish indigenous Christ worshipping communities with them.

Next weekend, **November 16 & 17**, we are blessed to have Rev. Farrukh Khan from POBLO Ministries preaching at each of our worship services.

He will also lead us in our Sunday Bible Study Hour
9:15 – 10:15 in the Fellowship Hall.

We will be taking a door collection to help support this wonderful outreach.

There are pamphlets in the narthex & by the elevator if you'd like more information about POBLO.