

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Doing Our Duty as God's Servants

October 1 & 2, 2016

AS WE GATHER

At work, home, and even at times in the church, we often do the things we do seeking or expecting some kind of recognition or reward. As Christians, though, we are reminded that through our Spirit-given faith, the greatest reward we could ever desire has already been attained for us through the life, death, and rising of Jesus, who came into the flesh not to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many. With our hearts and minds on His sacrificial service for us, in response to His eternally rewarding grace, we can humbly go about our lives with these simple words: "We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty" (Luke 17:10).

WELCOME

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

I will meditate on your wonderful works, and I will proclaim your great deeds.

Psalm 145-3, 5b, 6

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #869 "With the Lord Begin Your Task"

With the Lord begin your task; Jesus will direct it.

For His aid and counsel ask; Jesus will perfect it.

Every morn with Jesus rise, And when day is ended,

In His name then close your eyes; Be to Him commended.

Let each day begin with prayer, Praise, and adoration.

On the Lord cast every care; He is your salvation.

Morning, evening, and at night Jesus will be near you,

Save you from the tempter's might, With His presence cheer you.

With your Savior at your side, Foes need not alarm you;

In His promises confide, And no ill can harm you.

All your trust and hope repose In the mighty Master,

Who in wisdom truly knows How to stem disaster.

If your task be thus begun With the Savior's blessing,
Safely then your course will run, Toward the promise pressing.

Good will follow everywhere While you here must wander;
You at last the joy will share In the mansions yonder.

Thus, Lord Jesus, every task Be to You commended;

May Your will be done, I ask, Until life is ended.

Jesus, in Your name begun Be the day's endeavor;

Grant that it may well be done To Your praise forever.

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: O LORD, how long shall I cry for help?

People: Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

Pastor: If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come. It will not delay. The righteous shall live by faith.

People: We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.

Pastor: I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God . . . for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

People: Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord.

Pastor: Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say,

People: We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Lord, we come to you as unworthy servants to confess our sin.

People: We are by nature sinful. We have not always done what was our faithful duty. We have not loved you with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Often our service to others has been rooted in selfishness and our motives have been impure. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name.

Pastor: We are unworthy servants, for we have sinned and deserve present and eternal punishment. For our sake, our Lord Jesus Christ came into this sinful and selfish world as the perfect Servant. He served us by His perfect life and by giving up His life on Calvary's cross as payment for our sin. At the command and promise of our Lord Jesus Christ and as a called and ordained servant of His Word, I forgive you all your sin in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Page 204

To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless you, Father; Your holy name, we sing –
Our thanks for your great glory, Lord God, our Heav'nly King.

To You, O solebegotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshipped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High.
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, your gift of faith is a blessing to us and gives us the confidence that you are continually by our side. Teach us to live our lives as a reflection of your love that we may serve you and humbly serve others in truth, that all may give honor to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

RECOGNITION OF FIRST RESPONDERS

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Habakkuk 1:1–4; 2:1–4* (Habakkuk's complaint and the Lord's answer) How long, O Lord, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save? Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds. Therefore the law is paralyzed, and justice never prevails. The wicked hem in the righteous, so that justice is perverted. I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what he will say to me, and what answer I am to give to this complaint. Then the Lord replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay. See, he is puffed up; his desires are not upright-but the righteous will live by his faith."

EPISTLE *2 Timothy 1:1–14* (Paul's encouragement to be faithful as a servant)

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God, who has saved us and called us to a holy life-not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day. 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.

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 17:1–10* (Temptations, repentance, forgiveness, and growing faith as Christ's servants) Jesus said to his disciples: "Things that cause people to sin are bound to come, but woe to that person through whom they come. It would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around his neck than for him to cause one of these little ones to sin. So watch yourselves. If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him. If he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times comes back to you and says, 'I repent,' forgive him." The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you. Suppose one of you had a servant plowing or looking after the sheep. Would he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat.'? Would he not rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink'? Would he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants: we have only done our duty.'"

(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

"Following Jesus in Doing Our Duty"

Luke 17:1-10

(Rise)

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

(Be seated)

10:30 BELL ANTHEM

"In Christ Alone"

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 to the Lord, who is our rock, our salvation and our refuge. God, our Rock, your Son taught us that temptations will come. Prevent us from being the source of those temptations to others, and strengthen us so that we do not yield to those temptations in our lives.

People: **Fill us with the love that calls each other to repentance, and give us contrite hearts that plead for your forgiveness and grateful mouths that sing your praise.**

Pastor: God, our Rock, you have called us to fulfill many duties in our lives. Grant us to do our duty each day with thankfulness of heart, with our minds set on the task, and with humility of spirit.

People: **Help us to see our duties as a great privilege to serve our neighbor even as we serve our Lord.**

Pastor: God, our Rock, this day we give special thanks for those whose calling in life is to serve and protect us as first responders. Guard and protect them as they serve us and our community. Make them to be diligent in their duty and bless them to find fulfillment in their various acts of service.

People: **Fill us with thankfulness and move us to pray for them, support them, and encourage them in these perilous times.**

Pastor: God, our Rock, assure all of your baptized people that you give us a spirit not of fear but of power, love and self-control. Shield us from ever being ashamed to testify about our Lord.

People: **Make each of us ready to share in suffering for the Gospel, because Christ Jesus has abolished death overcome the world.**

Pastor: God, our Rock, teach us to cry out to you humbly but boldly for our broken world and for each other. Rescue us and our society from violence, hatred and racism.

People: Grant us patience and trust when we do not see your immediate intervention. Give us trust that waits for your rescue, confident that the righteous shall live by faith.

Pastor: God, our Rock, our culture has lost sight of your beautiful design for life, and we confess we're tempted either to despair or turn from your ways ourselves. Prompt us instead to believe that you can reach your life-changing hand into the world.

People: Bless our world so justice is not perverted, marriage is preserved according to your will, the lives of the unborn and aging are defended, and violence is restrained.

Pastor: God, our Rock, care for our families. Watch over parents and children. Grant patience, contentment and, if it is your will, children to husbands and wives who desire to be parents.

People: Open doors for adoption and provide homes for children who live without mothers and fathers. Enable all of us to be encouragers of each other.

Pastor: God, our Rock, turn the hearts of unbelievers to faith in our Lord Jesus. Bless mission efforts all around the world, especially our Together in Mission partner, Pastor Chuck Ferry.

People: Make missionaries and all of us zealous to take the message of Christ crucified into our communities and to the ends of the earth.

Pastor: God, our Rock, grant faith, perseverance and, healing to those who are suffering from the effects of sin in their bodies or minds. We pray especially for Wendy, Carol, Jerry, Arlene, Irene, Mae, David, Jerry, Ruth, Dorothy, John, Arlene, Richard, Rosalie, Marion, Roemelle, LuEva, Kathleen, Jean, Marion, Helen, Leonard, Linda, Gladys, Russ, Jack, Shirley, Lois and Sarah.

People: Be their refuge so they are not shaken even in times of trouble.

Pastor: God, our Rock, we give you thanks for all your blessings, thankful for the gift of life itself. We rejoice with Cindy as she celebrates her birthday as well as Irene who celebrates 100 years of life this coming week.

People: We join with Charles in giving thanks for Jesus and all the spiritual help and support we find in our Savior. Move us to live in the light of Christ each day.

Pastor: God, our Rock, increase our faith as you serve to your people your Son's sin-forgiving body and life-restoring blood.

People: As we receive Jesus, who abolished death and brought eternal life to us, enable us to do all that you command, trusting that we are unworthy but forgiven servants.

Pastor: God, our Rock, we joyfully praise you for the faith and lives of Lois and Eunice, Paul and Timothy, and all the saints whom who have gone before us. Bless Phil and Jean as they remember their loved ones, David and Dorothy.

People: Preserve us also in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus, even as we look forward to a glorious reunion in the life to come.

Pastor: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and 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

Page 210

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(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.

5:00 & 8:00 HYMN #626 "Come, Let Us Eat"

(Leader will sing Leader part/ Congregation will sing "All", as printed in the hymnal)

L- Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,

C- Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

L- Our Lord's body let us take together,

C- Our Lord's body let us take together.

L- Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,

C- Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.

L- Jesus' blood poured let us drink together,

C- Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.

L- In His presence now we meet and rest,

C- In His presence now we meet and rest.

L- In the presence of our Lord we gather,

C- In the presence of our Lord we gather.

L- Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty Word.

C- Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty Word.

L- Jesus risen will bring in the Kingdom.

C- Jesus risen will bring in the Kingdom.

10:30 BELL ANTHEM

"Come Let Us Eat"

HYMN #566 "By Grace I'm Saved"

By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless; My soul, believe and doubt it not.

Why stagger at this word of promise? Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?

No! Then this word must true remain: By grace you too will life obtain.

By grace! None dare lay claim to merit; Our works and conduct have no worth. God

in His love sent our Redeemer, Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;

His death did for our sins atone, And we are saved by grace alone.

By grace God's Son, our only Savior, Came down to earth to bear our sin.

Was it because of your own merit That Jesus died your soul to win?

No, it was grace, and grace alone, That brought Him from His heav'nly throne.

By grace! This ground of faith is certain; As long as God is true, it stands.

What saints have penned by inspiration, What in His Word our God commands, Our faith in what our God has done Depends on grace-grace through His Son.

By grace to timid hearts that tremble, In tribulation's furnace tried, By grace, in spite of fear and trouble, The Father's heart is open wide.

Where could I help and strength secure If grace were not my anchor sure?

By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; In Jesus' promise I rejoice;

For though I know my heart's condition, I also know my Savior's voice.

My heart is glad, all grief has flown Since I am saved by grace alone.

HYMN #701 "Draw Us to Thee"

Draw us to Thee, For then shall we Walk in thy steps forever and hasten on Where Thou art gone To be with Thee, dear Savior.

Draw us to Thee, Lord, lovingly; Let us depart with gladness That we may be Forever free From sorrow, grief, and sadness.

Draw us to Thee; O grant that we May walk the road to heaven! Direct our way Lest we should stray And from Thy paths be driven.

Draw us to Thee That also we Thy heav'nly bliss inherit And ever dwell Where sin and hell No more can vex our spirit.

Draw us Thee Unceasingly, Into Thy kingdom take us; Let us fore'er Thy glory share, Thy saints and joint heirs make us.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this gift of yourself and your forgiveness. We ask that because of your great mercy, you would strengthen us in faith toward you and in our love toward one another. Through His body and blood shed for us, having received the forgiveness of sins and nourishment of faith, may we be moved to bear good fruit and fulfill the words of Jesus in our lives, and say,

People: We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.

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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us that which is pleasing to Him through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. 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 #830 “Spread the Reign of God the Lord”

Spread the reign of God the Lord, Spoken, written, mighty Word;
Ev’rywhere His creatures call To His heav’nly banquet hall.

Tell how God the Father’s will Made the world, upholds it still,
How His own dear Son He gave Us from sin and death to save.

Tell of our Redeemer’s grace, Who, to save our human race
And to pay rebellion’s price, Gave Himself as sacrifice.

Tell of God the Spirit giv’n Now to guide us on to heav’n,
Strong and holy, just and true, Working both to will and do.

Enter, mighty Word, the field; Ripe the promise of its yield.
But the reapers, oh, how few For the work there is to do!

Lord of harvest, great and kind, Rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gath’ring nations all See You light and heed Your call.

Preacher	Pastor Harold Bender
Liturgist	Pastor Gregg Stanton
Lectors	Jane Adams, Jim Laux, Pam Akey
Acolytes	Kaden Hutchins, Michael Matusewic, Dante Militello
Organist & Bell Choir Director	Michelle Prince