

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Justified

October 22 & 23, 2016

5:00pm & 8:00am

AS WE GATHER

“Look unto Him. . . . Look and be saved through faith alone, Be justified by grace” (*LSB* 528:5). The words of this well-loved hymn remind us that our justification—our being made right with God—comes as a gift from His storehouse of mercy. Even when sin is at its worst, the mercy of God is more powerful. Knowing that we are justified by His triumphant grace shapes our prayers and enlivens our praises. The song of our lives is one of triumphant joy in Jesus, the justifier.

WELCOME

MINISTRY MOMENT Groundwork Guatemala

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith –
and this not from yourselves, it is a gift of God –
not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #554 “O Jesus, King Most Wonderful”

O Jesus, King most wonderful! O Conqueror renowned!
O Source of peace ineffable, In whom all joys are found:

When once You visit darkened hearts, Then truth begins to shine,
Then earthly vanity departs, Then kindles love divine.

O Jesus, light of all below, The fount of life and fire,
Surpassing all the joys we know, All that we can desire:

May ev’ry heart confess Your name, Forever You adore,
And, seeking You, itself inflame To seek You more and more!

Oh, may our tongues forever bless, May we love You alone
And ever in our lives express The image of Your own!

(Rise)

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, He saved us,

People: not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to His own mercy,

Pastor: by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

People: so that being justified by His grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Pastor: For there is no distinction:

People: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Pastor: and are justified by His grace as a gift,

People: through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

People: To Thee, omniscient Lord of all, In grief and shame I humbly call; I see my sins against Thee, Lord, The sins of thought and deed and word. They press me sore; I cry to Thee: O God, be merciful to me!

Pastor: God loved the world so that He gave His only Son the lost to save, That all who would in Him believe Should everlasting life receive.

People: O Lord, my God, to Thee I pray: O cast me not in wrath away! Let Thy good Spirit ne’er depart, But let Him draw to Thee my heart That truly penitent I be: O God, be merciful to me!

Pastor: God would not have the sinner die; His Son with saving grace is nigh; His Spirit in the Word declares How we in Christ are heaven’s heirs.

People: O Jesus, let Thy precious blood Be to my soul a cleansing flood. Turn not, O Lord, Thy guest away, But grant that justified I may Go to my house at peace with Thee: O God, be merciful to me!

Pastor: Be of good cheer, for God’s own Son Forgives all sins which you have done; And, justified by Jesus’ blood, your Baptism grants the highest good.

People: Glory to God the Father, Son, And Holy Spirit, Three in One! To you, O blessed Trinity, Be praise now and eternally!

Pastor: As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, 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

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Pastor: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

People: (sung)

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength
and honor and blessing and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God,

for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia, alleluia.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray and always ready to give more than we either desire or deserve.

People: Pour down on us the abundance of your mercy, forgive us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and give us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask except by the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Be seated)

☩ WORD ☩

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Genesis 4:1–15* (Abel is killed by his brother, Cain.)

Adam lay with his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, "With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man." Later she gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel kept flocks, and Cain worked the soil. In the course of time Cain

brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast. Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it." Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him. Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's keeper?" The LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you work the ground, it will no longer yield its crops for you. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth." Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is more than I can bear. Today you are driving me from the land, and I will be hidden from your presence; I will be a restless wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." But the LORD said to him, "Not so; if anyone kills Cain, he will suffer vengeance seven times over." Then the LORD put a mark on Cain so that no one who found him would kill him.

EPISTLE *2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18* (Paul reflects on his life and ministry.)

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time has come for my departure. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing. At my first defense, no one came to my support, but everyone deserted me. May it not be held against them. But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. And I was delivered from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

5:00 ANTHEM

"Let's Sing About Grace"

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 18:9–17* (A teaching parable and a loving action of Jesus)

To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everybody else, Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God,

have mercy on me, a sinner.' "I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." People were also bringing babies to Jesus to have him touch them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #609 "Jesus Sinners Doth Receive" Stanzas 1-4

Jesus sinners doth receive; Oh, may all this saying ponder
Who in sin's delusions live And from God and heaven wander!
Here is hope for all who grieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.

We deserve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich grace revealing,
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim; Here our ills have perfect healing.
Firmly in these words believe: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shepherd e'er forsaketh;
Weary souls that lost their way Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh
In His arms that they may live: Jesus sinners doth receive.

I, a sinner, come to Thee With a penitent confession.
Savior, mercy show to me; Grant for all my sins remission.
Let these words my soul relieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.

SERMON "Following Jesus Who is Our Righteousness" Luke 16:19-31

HYMN #609 "Jesus Sinners Doth Receive" Stanzas 5-7

Oh, how blest it is to know: Were as scarlet my transgression.
It shall be as white as snow By Thy blood and bitter passion:
For these words I now believe: Jesus sinners doth receive.

Now my conscience is at peace; From the Law I stand acquitted.
Christ hath purchased my release And my ev'ry sin remitted.
Naught remains my soul to grieve: Jesus sinners doth receive.

5 continued

Jesus sinners doth receive; Also I have been forgiven:
And when I this earth must leave, I shall find an open heaven.
Dying, still to Him I cleave: Jesus sinners doth receive.

(Rise)

APOSTLES' 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.

ANTHEM DURING OFFERING "*Rejoice, Rejoice, All Be Glad*"

(Rise)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray to the God who is merciful to sinners, pleading that He come to the rescue of us and all people. God of mercy, fill us with humility that realizes we really are like other men, that we are sinners whose most generous tithes remain a far-less-than-adequate response to your loving kindness.

People: Give us hearts that constantly cry out for your mercy and lives that are generous and sacrificial.

Pastor: God of mercy, as your Son welcomed infants, give us a deep care for the children entrusted to us so that we guard and protect their lives even before birth. Instill in parents a desire and commitment to bring little children to Jesus.

People: Use our Sunday school, Bible classes and confirmation instruction to preserve them in faith. Teach all of us in humility to receive the kingdom of God like a little child.

Pastor: God of mercy, as you did for Paul and all the saints before us, make us ready to be poured out as a drink offering. Even in times of persecution, keep us trusting our crucified and risen Lord as we fight the good fight of faith.

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People: Bless us by your Spirit, that we may finish the race, keep the faith, and look forward to the crown of righteousness that will be placed upon all the faithful.

Pastor: God of mercy, you bless us with freedom in this land. Defend those liberties, especially our freedoms of religion and conscience that are threatened.

People: Teach us to use those freedoms wisely according to your will. Guard the men and women of our armed forces whose labors help to preserve our liberty.

Pastor: God of mercy, Paul's friends deserted him when he stood trial. Give us eyes to see the needs of our fellow Christians who are suffering for you. Move us to support and care for them.

People: Even when we fail to help, assure them that you stand by them, strengthen them and will bring them safely into your heavenly kingdom.

Pastor: God of mercy, you know that evil, hatred and murder are as rampant today as they were when Cain killed Abel. Remove jealousy and hatred from our hearts. Heal our divisions, bring an end to violence, and overcome prejudice, racism and misunderstandings.

People: In these perilous days, fill us with your compassion, care and courage.

Pastor: God of mercy, we praise you that you deliver our souls from death and our feet from falling. Care for those who are near death and point them to the resurrection promises of our risen Lord. Come to the aid of everyone in need including Henry, Eleanor, Arlene, Mae, Jerry, David, Wendy, Carol, Jerry, Dorothy, John, Arlene, Richard, Roemelle, LuEva, Kathleen, Jean, Russ, Helen, Leonard, Linda, Gladys, Jack, Shirley and Sarah.

People: Grant them faith, perseverance and relief from their afflictions.

Pastor: God of mercy, you placed your mark on Cain to defend Him. Because you have sealed us in Holy Baptism, give to us penitent hearts that confess our sinfulness and faithful hearts that trust Jesus for forgiveness.

People: Deliver us from evil, strengthen us in faith and instill in us a never-ending desire to live according to your commandments.

Pastor: God of mercy, we give you thanks for all your gifts and blessings. We join with the Murray family as they celebrate Sean's 21st birthday. We give you great thanks and praise for claiming Cassidy Quinn Clancy through the waters of Holy Baptism, cleansing her of sin.

People: Lead us by your Spirit to grow in grace, walk daily with Jesus, and to give thanks for both earthly and spiritual blessings.

Pastor: God of mercy, prepare us to receive Christ's body and blood. Nourish our lives as your children so that we are ready, like Abel, to offer you the best of what you have given to us.

People: Prompt us to live as our brother's keeper, because our Lord Jesus lives as our keeper.

Pastor: God of mercy, we give you thanks for leading your children home to the joys of eternal life with you. Comfort those who grieve, especially the family and friends of Rosalie Kwiecinski. Bless those as they remember loved ones who have passed on, especially Sharon as she remembers Renee and Richard, as well as Phil and Jean, as they remember Brenda.

People: Bless us to always look forward to the resurrection of the body and the life that is eternal.

Pastor: God of mercy, into your hands we poor sinners humbly place our lives, confident of your care because of your Son, Jesus Christ, 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, 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 #563 “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”

Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.

Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;
Fully absolved through these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

Lord, I believe Thy precious blood, Which at the mercy seat of God
Pleads for the captives’ liberty, Was also shed in love for me.

Lord, I believe, were sinners more Than sands upon the ocean shore,
Thou hast for all a ransom paid, For all a full atonement made.

When from the dust of death I rise To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea: Jesus hath lived and died for me.

Jesus, be endless praise to Thee, Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

HYMN #626 “Come, Let Us Eat” Men sing “Leader” part : Women sing “All” part

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

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

Men - Our Lord’s body let us take together,

Women - Our Lord’s body let us take together.

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

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

Men - Jesus’ blood poured let us drink together,

Women - Jesus’ blood poured let us drink together.

Men - In His presence now we meet and rest,

Women - In His presence now we meet and rest.

Men - In the presence of our Lord we gather,

Women - In the presence of our Lord we gather.

Men - Rise, then, to spread abroad God’s mighty Word.

Women - Rise, then, to spread abroad God’s mighty Word.

Men - Jesus risen will bring in the Kingdom.

Women - Jesus risen will bring in the Kingdom.

HYMN #555 “Salvation Unto Us Has Come”

Salvation unto us has come By God’s free grace and favor;
Good works cannot avert our doom, They help and save us never.
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone, Who did for all the world atone;
He is our one Redeemer.

What God did in His Law demand And none to Him could render
Caused wrath and woe on ev’ry hand For man, the vile offender.
Our flesh has not those pure desires The spirit of the Law requires,
And lost is our condition.

It was a false, misleading dream That God His Law had given
That sinners could themselves redeem And by their works gain heaven.
Our flesh has not those pure desires The spirit of the Law requires,
And lost is our condition.

From sin our flesh could not abstain, Sin held its sway unceasing;
The task was useless and in vain, Our guilt was e’er increasing.
None can remove sin’s poisoned dart Or purify our guileful heart-
So deep is our corruption.

Yet as the Law must be fulfilled Or we must die despairing,
Christ came and has God’s anger stilled, Our human nature sharing.
He has for us the Law obeyed And thus the Father’s vengeance stayed
Which over us impended.

Since Christ has full atonement made And brought to us salvation,
Each Christian therefore may be glad And build on this foundation.
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead, Your death is now my life indeed,
For You have paid my ransom.

Let me not doubt, but truly see Your Word cannot be broken;
Your call rings out, “Come unto Me!” No falsehood have You spoken.
Baptized into Your precious name, My faith cannot be put to shame,
And I shall never perish.

The Law reveals the guilt of sin And makes us conscience-stricken;
But then the Gospel enters in The sinful soul to quicken.
Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live; The Law no peace can ever give,
No comfort and no blessing.

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Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone And rests in Him unceasing;
And by its fruits true faith is known, With love and hope increasing.
For faith alone can justify; Works serve our neighbor and supply
The proof that faith is living.

All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise To Father, Son, and Spirit,
The God who saved us by His grace; All glory to His merit.
O triune God in heav'n above, You have revealed Your saving love;
Your blessed name we hallow.

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God, we thank and praise you for having fed us
with the life-giving body and blood of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ.
Keep us in your faith and favor that all we do may be to your glory. As
you live in us, may we also live in you. By your grace, may your body and
blood preserve us in the true faith unto everlasting life. This we ask in
the name of Jesus, our loving Savior.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you as His own. The Lord make His face to
shine upon you with love and compassion. The Lord grant you His
abiding presence and indwelling peace today and forever.

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

Organist & Grades 2-4 Director

Pastor Harold Bender

Pastor Gregg Stanton

Debbie Ulbing, Grant Gundersen

Emma Harper, Jennifer Moyle

Laurel Privatt

Michelle Prince

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