

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Reformation Day – Observed

Shouts of Joy

October 24 & 25, 2015

5:00pm & 8:00am

AS WE GATHER

Sometimes we consider God's forgiving us for the sake of Jesus' sacrifice as only a theological statement. We might be tempted to do that when we read the Epistle, which proclaims that Jesus is our eternal Great High Priest. But God's Word will never let us do that, especially not today! The realization of God's grace affects us on every level. Jeremiah looks ahead to a joyful, musical response when the faithful remnant will be allowed to return to the Promised Land. When blind Bartimaeus receives his sight, his life is changed, and he follows Jesus where our Lord leads. The Psalm especially shows a great change in attitude, inwardly and outwardly: "Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!"

MINISTRY MOMENT

WELCOME

Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint. (Isaiah 40:31)

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #566

"By Grace I'm Saved"

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

(Rise)

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: We have allowed our sins to separate us from His grace and mercy. But because of our Lord's sacrifice, our heavenly Father's forgiveness is boundless. Let us confess our sins to Him and one another. Through Jeremiah, God promised His wayward people, "With weeping they shall come, and with pleas for mercy I will lead them back."

People: **We confess that our sinful condition separates us from our gracious God. We have sinned in thought, word, and deed. We have wandered from His will and forgotten His promises. Forgive us, Lord our God.**

Pastor: When blind Bartimaeus heard that Jesus was near, he cried out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" When Jesus had healed him, he "followed Him on the way."

People: **We confess that in the blindness of sin we have not always asked our Lord for mercy, nor have we tried to follow where He would lead. Forgive us, Lord our God.**

Pastor: The writer of the Book of Hebrews reminded the Early Church that Christ "always lives to make intercession."

People: We confess that we have sometimes doubted that our Lord was hearing our prayers. We based having His attention on our good intentions.

Pastor: God promised to bring His Old Testament people back. Jesus healed Bartimaeus because of His grace. Jesus, our eternal Great High Priest intercedes for us and has paid for all our sins with the sacrifice of His perfect life. The promise in the Psalm is sure: "Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy." 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.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, the helper of all who call on you,

People: have mercy on us and give us eyes of faith to see your Son that we may follow Him on the way that leads to eternal life;

Pastor: through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE #808

"O Sing to the Lord"

Stanzas 1,2,5

O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.
O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.
O sing to the Lord, O sing God a new song.
O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

For God is the Lord! And God has done wonders.
For God is the Lord! And God has done wonders.
For God is the Lord! And God has done wonders.
O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia! For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia! O sing to our God, O sing to our God.

(Be seated)

☩ WORD ☩

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Jeremiah 31:7-9*

This is what the LORD says: "Sing with joy for Jacob; shout for the foremost of the nations. Make your praises heard, and say, 'O LORD, save your people, the remnant of Israel.' See, I will bring them from the land of the north and gather them from the ends of the earth. Among them will be the blind and the lame, expectant mothers and women in labor; a great throng will return. They will come with weeping; they will pray as I bring them back. I will lead them beside streams of water on a level path where they will not stumble, because I am Israel's father, and Ephraim is my firstborn son.

EPISTLE *Hebrews 7:23–28* (God's Son is our eternal perfect High Priest.)

Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office; but because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them. Such a high priest meets our need--one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself. For the law appoints as high priests men who are weak; but the oath, which came after the law, appointed the Son, who has been made perfect forever.

5:00 CHOIR ANTHEM "All Depends on Our Possessing" *Middle School Choir*

8:00 CHOIR ANTHEM "United in Christ" Nancy Price & Don Besig *Choir*

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 10:46–52* (Jesus cures blind Bartimaeus.)

Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (that is, the son of Timaeus), was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called to the blind man, "Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you." Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus. "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked him. The blind man said, "Rabbi, I want to see." "Go," said Jesus, "your faith has healed you." Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #744

“Amazing Grace”

Amazing grace how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see!

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be, As long as life endures.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.

Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail In heaven’s joy and peace.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise Than when we’d first begun.

SERMON

“I was Blind, but Now I See”

Text: Mark 10:46-52

(Rise)

APOSTLES’ 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. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Gracious God, we give you thanks and praise for the gift of the eternal Gospel and the blessings it brings to each of us.

People: Help us all to treasure the good news of Jesus, that its glories may never fade in our midst and its living light shine forth in our church and our lives.

Pastor: Lord of the Church, we pray for Matthew, our Synodical president; John, our district president; Bud, our circuit visitor; and all pastors.

People: Keep them faithful to the Word of truth, inspire them to proclaim it boldly, and draw many to Christ through their preaching and teaching.

Pastor: Lord of all, we pray for the spread of the Gospel to every nation, tribe, language and people, and especially our Together in Mission partner, Pastor Chuck Ferry and family, as well as our Groundwork Guatemala team.

People: Through the mission work of Christ’s church, grant that many who dwell on earth may come to know and live in the freedom of the forgiveness of sins and the joy of walking with Jesus each day.

Pastor: Almighty God, we ask your blessing upon our Renewed in Christ emphasis, that your Holy Spirit would open hearts and minds to hear, see, and support in greater ways the ministries of St. Paul’s.

People: Bless us all to ponder your plans for us, and prayerfully consider your will for us as we are renewed in our hopes, strengthened in faith, and soar together as we serve Jesus.

Pastor: Lord of the nations, we pray for the leaders of these United States of America, our president, governor, mayor, and all who serve the citizens of our nation and communities.

People: Bless them by God’s wisdom to rule us justly and, like the faithful princes of old, serve the Lord as defenders of His truth.

Pastor: Lord of love, grant us all greater faith to use our freedom in Christ to serve our neighbor in our daily callings.

People: Bless us to bear fruit in keeping with our new lives as God’s children, living daily to the glory of our Father.

Pastor: Lord of healing and compassion, we pray for all who are burdened in body or mind remembering this day God’s servants Helen, Leonard, Jerry, Mae, Shirley, Mary Anne, June, Wendy, LuEva, Eleanor, Linda, Gladys, Russ, Kathleen, Jack, Shirley, Marion, Gretchen, Lois and Sarah.

People: Father in heaven, mercifully sustain them in their trials and grant them health and healing in accord with your will.

Pastor: God of all comfort, we pray for those whose hearts grieve for departed loved ones. We pray for Sara Bollmann and family at the passing of her father, Roland. Comfort also Sharon as she remembers Richard and Renee, the DeBona’s as they remember Dorothy, and Phil and Jean as they remember Brenda Jean.

People: Comfort all who grieve by the truth that those whom the Son sets free remain in the Father’s house forever and that one day we will live forever with them in the life to come.

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, we pray for faith in the promises you give us through partaking of Holy Communion.

People: Grant that through faith we may hold fast to its eternal benefits, that we may rejoice to receive it and, in receiving it, live for the One who died for us all.

Pastor: God of the prophets, we give you praise for your faithful servants of old who faithfully spoke your truth, remembering especially this day your servant Martin.

People: Continue to preserve in our day the truth of your Holy Word.

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 ✠

WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Thou are giving and forgiving, Lamb of God for sinners slain.

Ever for us interceding with the Father where You reign.

O Lord, save us, O Lord, have mercy. Hear us from Your throne above.

You have done such great things for us; grant us joyful peace and love.

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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.

(Please remain seated for the last stanzas)

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 #703 "How Can I Thank You, Lord"

How can I thank You, Lord, For all Your loving kindness,
That You have patiently Borne with me in my blindness!
When dead in many sins And trespasses I lay,
I kindled, holy God, Your anger every day.

It is Your work alone That I am now converted;
O'er Satan's work in me You have Your pow'r asserted.
Your mercy and Your grace That rise a fresh each morn
Have turned my stony heart Into a heart newborn.

Lord, You have raised me up To joy and exultation
And clearly shown the way That leads me to salvation.
My sins are washed away; For this I thank You, Lord.
Now with my heart and soul All evil I abhor.

Grant that Your Spirit's help To me be always given
Lest I should fall again And lose the way to heaven.
Grant that He give me strength In my infirmity;
May He renew my heart To serve You willingly.

O Father, God of love, Now hear my supplication;
O Savior, Son of God, Accept my adoration;
O Holy Spirit, be My ever faithful guide
That I may serve You here And there with You abide.

HYMN #632 "O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee"

O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee My heartfelt thanks forever be,
Who hast so lovingly bestowed On me Thy body and Thy blood.

Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is come to me this day!
My Savior dwells within my heart: How blessed am I! How good Thou art!

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. Our gracious heavenly Father, we give you heartfelt thanks that what mortal eyes cannot see, we have nevertheless received in the mystery of this Sacrament. May our Lord's body and blood nourish us in body and soul so that we may serve you in joy, bearing the eye-opening news of your gracious forgiveness to those to whom you send us; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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 #656 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

A mighty fortress is our God, A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from every need That hath us now o'er taken.
The old evil foe Now means deadly woe; Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight; On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done, Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One, Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is, Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God; He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill, All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill; They shall not over pow'r us.
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce as he will, He can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done; One little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life, Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone, Our vict'ry has been won' The Kingdom ours remaineth.

Preacher
Liturgist
Lectors
Acolytes
Children's Ministry
Organist
Middle School Choir Director
Choir Director
Music Coordinator

Pastor Harold Bender
Pastor Gregg Stanton
Debbie Ulbing, Dan Vaclav
Macky Wessler, Sabrina Lutz
Laurel Privatt
Roger Gottschalk
Shannon Krueger
Nancy Hoelke
Kim Woller

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