

## SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Living Wide Awake

September 3 & 4, 2016

### AS WE GATHER

Jesus' words on the cost of discipleship were a wake-up call to His would-be followers. Many had been almost sleepwalking, watching Him from a distance. Now was the time to wake up to the reality of what it would mean to be counted among His disciples. In fact, by comparison to their commitment to follow Him, they would have to hate everyone and everything else. It would mean fighting against most of society, a difficult cross to bear. Jesus was echoing Moses' challenging words in the Old Testament Reading, to obey God's commandments, spoken just before the people would enter the Promised Land. Jesus was about to lead into our promised land, heaven itself, by His cross. Because we know the end of the story, how can we not respond to the gracious invitation to follow our Lord?

### WELCOME

Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD, the LORD, is the Rock eternal.

*Isaiah 26:4*

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

#### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

### OPENING HYMN #576 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
No merit of my own I claim But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

#### *Refrain:*

***On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;***

***All other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.***

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil. ***Refrain***

His oath, His covenant and blood Support me in the raging flood;  
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. ***Refrain***

When He shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
Clothed in His righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before His throne! ***Refrain***

(Rise)

### INVOCATION

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

**People: Amen.**

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: When the people of Israel were about to enter the Promised Land, as we shall hear, Moses challenged them to obey the commandments, statutes, and rules of the Lord.

**People: We confess that we have failed to obey in our thinking, speaking, and acting. Our hearts have turned away from God, our ears have become deaf to His Word, and we have put other things in His rightful place. Show us your grace and mercy, Lord our God.**

Pastor: Moses invited the people to choose life, Paul urged freedom for a slave, and Jesus called everyone with ears to hear His Word.

**People: But we are by nature sinners, incapable of choosing good without the help of our gracious God. For Jesus' sake, heavenly Father, forgive, renew, and strengthen us that we might faithfully follow our Savior in all that we think, do, and say.**

Pastor: God had promised the Israelites the Promised Land, and Jesus' carrying His cross through death to life has opened the door to the eternal promised land of heaven to all who call on Him for grace and mercy. 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.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE #685 "Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus"

Stanzas 3 & 4

Let us gladly die with Jesus. Since by death He conquered death,  
He will free us from destruction, Give to us immortal breath.  
Let us mortify all passion That would lead us into sin;  
And the grace that shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heaven.  
Jesus, here with You I die, There to live with You on high.

Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead  
That to life we may awaken. Jesus, You are now our head.  
We are Your own living members; Where You live, there we shall be  
In Your presence constantly, Living there with You forever.  
Jesus, let me faithful be, Life eternal grant to me.

### **SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray. O merciful Lord, your Son has called us to follow no matter the cost.

**People: Grant us open eyes to see beyond the cross to the promised land that awaits us because of His sacrifice on our behalf;**

Pastor: 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** *Deuteronomy 30:15–20* (Choose life; obey God.)

See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

**EPISTLE** *Philemon 1–21* (Paul sends a slave to his master to live as a brother.)

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier and to the church that meets in your home: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because I hear about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints. I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ. Your love has given me great joy and encouragement, because you, brother, have

refreshed the hearts of the saints. Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought to do, yet I appeal to you on the basis of love. I then, as Paul-- an old man and now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus-- I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who became my son while I was in chains. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he has become useful both to you and to me. I am sending him-- who is my very heart-- back to you. I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel. But I did not want to do anything without your consent, so that any favor you do will be spontaneous and not forced. Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while was that you might have him back for good--no longer as a slave, but better than a slave, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you, both as a man and as a brother in the Lord. So if you consider me a partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has done you any wrong or owes you anything, charge it to me. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will pay it back-- not to mention that you owe me your very self. I do wish, brother, that I may have some benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 14:25–35* (The cost of discipleship)

Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters-- yes, even his own life-- he cannot be my disciple. And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' "Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple. "Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out. "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

(Be seated)

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**SERMON HYMN #783      “Take My Life and Let It Be”**

Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love;  
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King;  
Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect and use Ev’ry pow’r as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.

**SERMON                                      “What Would You Give Up?”                                      Luke 14:25-35**

(Rise)

**NICENE 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.

(Rise)

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord, who reveals to us His Word of Truth so that we might know what to ask. Lord God Almighty, you know the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. For the sake of your only begotten Son, put false ways from us, turn our hearts away from all sins, and graciously teach us your Word that we may delight in it.

**People: Refresh the hearts of your saints in this and every congregation, and strengthen us in faith so that we might, in turn, show fervent love to one another.**

Pastor: Almighty God, empower us to live sacrificial lives with a willingness to take up our cross, follow Jesus, and give up those things so that we will be strengthened in both faith and life.

**People: Help us to keep our eyes on Jesus, who paid the ultimate price of our discipleship by laying down His life on the cross.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, you set before us your gift of life in your holy Word for us and for our children. Preserve your institutions of marriage and family. Guard husbands and wives, parents and children, both from despising and idolizing one another.

**People: Instead, let every relationship in the home be formed by your unconditional love for us in Christ, and grant that all might follow Him in their service to one another.**

Pastor: O Lord, guard us from the ways of the wicked, and guide us in your paths. We commend to you all who bear office in our land and ask you to make them a blessing to those they serve.

**People: Bless us to live as good citizens and grant to us every joy in the calling you have given to us, that we might render service to you in our works of love toward our neighbor.**

Pastor: Almighty God, protect us from the delusion that we can earn your favor by our efforts, works and intentions, lest we find out on the Last Day that we cannot finish what we have futilely begun.

**People: Instead, grant to us penitent hearts that confess our sinfulness and rejoice that Christ Jesus has already accomplished all things for our salvation at the cross.**

Pastor: Lord God, remember all those who, like Onesimus, have abandoned their callings in favor of sinful pursuits. Send forth your holy Word and bring them to repentance, so that they might be restored to the households of family and faith.

**People: Where we have been so betrayed and abandoned, give to us tender hearts that pray for our enemies and desire their repentance and restoration.**

Pastor: Everlasting Father, hear our prayers on behalf of all whose souls are heavy with sorrow, and strengthen them according to your Word. We pray for Dorothy, John, Irene, Cliff, David, Richard, Rosalie, Gavin, Marion, Roemelle, Arlene, Ruth, Kathleen, Jean, Mae, Marion, Helen, Leonard, LuEva, Linda, Gladys, Russ, Jack, Shirley, Sarah and Lois.

**People: Grant relief and deliverance to all who call upon you for help, and preserve them in your testimonies that they might not be put to shame by forsaking you.**

Pastor: Creator of all, we give you thanks for the gift of life and all its blessings and we rejoice with Phil and his family as he celebrates his birthday.

**People: Grant us all thankful hearts for every blessing you bestow upon us.**

Pastor: Almighty God, you have set before us life and death, blessing and curse in your holy Word. Now at the altar, through His own Word, your Son sets before us His own body and blood, that our sins may be forgiven and our souls refreshed.

**People: Grant that all who receive the Sacrament today might do so with prepared and penitent hearts, rejoicing in your gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation for the sake of Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord our God, we give thanks to you for the life and length of days that you have given to all your saints who have gone before us. Preserve us by your grace in the same faith and hope, that we might dwell with them and you for eternity in your Promised Land of heaven; 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 +

#### 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.

(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 #702 "My Faith Looks Up To Thee"

My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.

Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away:

O let me from this day Be wholly Thine!

May Thy rich grace impart Strength to my fainting heart; My zeal inspire!

As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee

Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!

While life's dark maze I tread And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my guide;

Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,

Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside!

When ends life's transient dream, When death's cold, sullen stream Shall o'er me roll,

Blest Savior, then, in love, Fear and distrust remove;

O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!

#### HYMN #425 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of Glory died,

My richest gain I count but loss And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the death of Christ, my God;

all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sorrow and love flow mingled down!

Did e'er such love and sorrow meet Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a tribute far too small;

Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all!

### HYMN #918 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”

Guide me, O Thou great Redeemer, Pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; Hold me with Thy pow’rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more:  
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv’rer, strong deliv’rer, Be Thou still my strength and shield;  
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell’s destruction, Land me safe on Canaan’s side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee; I will ever give to Thee.

### COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: We give thanks, heavenly Father, that you have refreshed us in this life-giving Sacrament, and we pray that you will continue to open our eyes to our Savior’s gracious leading, so that we may renounce all else to follow Him, 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 #917 “Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise”

Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise  
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;  
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,  
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.

Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;  
With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the day.  
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
That in this house have called upon Thy name.

Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;  
Turn Thou for us its darkness into light.  
From harm and danger keep Thy children free;  
For dark and light are both alike to Thee.

Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life,  
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;  
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,  
Call us, O Lord, to Thine eternal peace.

Preacher  
Liturgist  
Lectors  
Acolytes  
Organist

Pastor Harold Bender  
Pastor Gregg Stanton  
Debbie Ulbing, John Ficken, Jim Laux  
Jeffrey Moravec, Jennifer Moyle, Ryan Scheuer  
Michelle Prince