

July 30, 2017 - EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

God Handles What You Can't Handle

PREPARATION

HYMN "Be Still, My Soul" *LSB 752*

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Nothing in all creation will be able to separate us from Christ Jesus our Lord.

People: Amid trouble, distress, and persecution,

Pastor: Christ Jesus is interceding for us.

People: Amid hunger, loneliness, and danger,

Pastor: Christ Jesus is interceding for us.

People: Amid violence, powers, heights, and depths,

Pastor: Christ Jesus is interceding for us.

People: Amid life and death,

Pastor: Christ Jesus is interceding for us.

People: Nothing in all creation will be able to separate us from Christ Jesus our Lord.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Mighty and merciful Lord, with heavy hearts we confess our sin to You.

A time of silence is observed.

Pastor: O Lord,

People: we have sinned against You, mighty God, in thought, word, and deed.

Pastor: When we have lived as though we are separated from Your steadfast love,

People: we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.

Pastor: When our loneliness has caused us to question Your abiding love,

People: we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.

Pastor: When we have let others around us live in loneliness, when all they need is a listening ear,

People: we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed.

Pastor: When we have separated ourselves from the Church, from friends, from our families,

People: we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. Bring us to repentance, Lord. Forgive our sins, those of which we are aware and those we do unwittingly. Have mercy on us. Seek us, for You alone can find us and restore us.

Pastor: Thus says the Lord God, "If God is for us, who can be against us?" Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.**

WORD

INTROIT *Psalm 105:2–6; antiphon: Psalm 105:1*

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon His name, O peoples!

People: Sing to Him, sing praises to Him; tell of a

Pastor: Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those

People: Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His

Pastor: Remember the wondrous works that He has done, O peoples; He uttered,

People: O offspring of Abraham, His servant, child

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

Pastor: Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon His name, O peoples!

KYRIE *p.152-153 in hymnal*

HYMN OF PRAISE "Through Jesus' Blood and

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. You treasure us, O Lord, and You

People: In the midst of even the worst things that conquerors through the love of Jesus.

Pastor: Help us to know the peace that Your presence brings.

People: and guide us toward the kingdom You promise.

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Deuteronomy 7:6–9*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 125*

Pastor: Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which is built on a rock and will never be moved.

People: As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so will the Lord surround Jerusalem, and from this time forth and forevermore.

Pastor: For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, lest the righteous stretch out their hands to do wrong.

People: Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts!

Pastor: But those who turn aside to their crooked ways the Lord will lead away with evildoers! Peace be upon Israel!

People: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

GRADUAL *Romans 11:33, 36*

Pastor: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

People: How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

Pastor: For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

People: To Him be glory forever. Amen.

EPISTLE *Romans 8:28–39* (Nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus.)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Matthew 13:35b*

Pastor: Alleluia. I will open My mouth in parables;

People: I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 13:44–52*

(Parables describing the kingdom of God)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “When Peace, like a River” *LSB 763*

SERMON

CREED *Apostles’ Creed (on hymnal cover)*

OFFERING

OFFERTORY “We Give Thee But Thine Own” *LSB 781*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: As the Lord’s treasured possession, a people loved and redeemed through our Savior Jesus Christ, let us bring acclamations of praise, cries for justice, pleas for mercy, and requests for peace for all those in need in our lonely and broken world and for ourselves.

Your steadfast love sustains the Church throughout the world. Strengthen the Church

wherever two or three are gathered in Your name. Give us the power of Your proclamation of the Gospel, so that the world may know the work of missionaries and church leaders. Enable sources of God’s love and redemption to the people in our world. God of steadfast love, **People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: You promise that nothing in all creation can separate us from Christ Jesus. Guide the rulers of our nation and of all our cities with wisdom, mercy, and peace. Watch over our military presence and our police presence known to their families. Protect innocent people from acts of terrorism. Reconcile us with our enemies. **People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: You work all things together for good for those who are in need and encourage those who are facing health troubles, financial hardship, danger, those who are feeling lonely or depressed, and those who are in need. Help them to see that even in the midst of suffering, nothing in all creation can separate them from Your love for us in Christ Jesus. **People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: You provide for the needs of our bodies and our souls. Give us the power of their hands to useful tasks—farmers and business owners, factory workers, accountants, homemakers and retail workers, factory workers, and the hearts of the unemployed and underemployed. Grant us a plentiful harvest of goods and services that will bless many. Give us the power of Your entrust to us. God of steadfast love, **People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: You redeemed us from slavery to sin through Your kingdom at work in this world, and help us so that we may live selflessly. God of steadfast love, **People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Christ Jesus, the one who died and rose, is in heaven. Hear our prayers to You, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ.

LORD’S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9–13*) (on hymnal cover)

BENEDICTION *Based on Deuteronomy 7:6; Romans 8:36*

Pastor: You are a people holy to the Lord your God. You are a people treasured by the Lord your God. Nothing in all creation can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

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.

HYMN “Church of God, Elect and Glorious” *LSB 64*

Creed

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