

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 14

August 8, 2021 – 9:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we speak in the Fourth Petition, "Give us this day our daily bread." We are reminded that "daily bread" includes everything we need for this body and life as we pray and give thanks for all the Lord provides regarding our well-being in this mortal life. Yet, we are never left to just be satisfied with earthly things, as we will be taken from worldly provisions to His greater eternal gifts, which always last. It is why He sent His Son into this world, and why Jesus spoke to the people then and still to us today, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in Me shall never thirst" (John 6:35).

PRELUDE "I Am the Bread of Life" -Talbot

HYMN "What Wondrous Love Is This" *LSB* 543

1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this

That caused the Lord of bliss

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,

When I was sinking down, sinking down,

When I was sinking down

Beneath God's righteous frown,

Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,

Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.

3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing;

To God and to the Lamb I will sing;

To God and to the Lamb,

Who is the great I AM,

While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,

While millions join the theme, I will sing.

4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.

And when from death I'm free,

I'll sing His love for me,

And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,

And through eternity I'll sing on.

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INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Psalm 34:1–8*

Pastor: I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

People: My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.

Pastor: We confess to You, Lord.

People: Our mouths have not always praised You through our words, and we have boasted in things other than You. Help us humbly hear and be glad, that we may taste and see that the Lord is good.

Pastor: Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together!

People: I sought the LORD, and He answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

Pastor: We confess to You, Lord.

People: We have sought after other things than You and have let our fears impede our faith. Give us hearts centered on You, that we may taste and see that the Lord is good.

Pastor: Those who look to Him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed.

People: This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him and saved him out of all his troubles.

Pastor: We confess to You, Lord.

People: Our thoughts, words, and actions have not been faithful, and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Hear us and save us from our sin, that we may taste and see that the Lord is good.

Pastor: The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

People: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

Pastor: 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE “Praise and Thanksgiving” *LSB 789*

1 Praise and thanksgiving,

Father, we offer

For all things living,

Created good:

Harvest of sown fields,

Fruits of the orchard,

Hay from the mown fields,

Blossom and wood.

2 Bless, Lord, the labor

We bring to serve You

That with our neighbor

We may be fed.

Sowing or tilling,

We would work with You,

Harvesting, milling

For daily bread.

3 Father, providing

Food for Your children,

By Your wise guiding

Teach us to share

One with another,

So that, rejoicing

With us, all others

May know Your care.

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SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God, defend Your Church from false teaching and error that we may continually trust in Your providential care. In all life's challenges, help us to keep firm faith as we are fed Your good gifts of life and salvation through Jesus, the bread of life, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *1 Kings 19:1–18* (Elijah flees and the Lord feeds.) Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, “So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.” Then he was afraid, and he arose and ran for his life and came to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he asked that he might die, saying, “It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers.” And he lay down and slept under a broom tree. And behold, an angel touched him and said to him, “Arise and eat.” And he looked, and behold, there was at his head a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. And he ate and drank and lay down again. And the angel of the Lord came again a second time and touched him and said, “Arise and eat, for the journey is too great for you.” And he arose and ate and drank, and went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mount of God. There he came to a cave and lodged in it. And behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and he said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He said, “I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away.” And he said, “Go out and stand on the mount before the Lord.” And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He said, “I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away.” And the Lord said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria. And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place. And the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha put to death. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.” So he departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen in front of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and cast his cloak upon him.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Ephesians 4:17–5:2* (New life as God's children) This I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. But that is not the way you learned Christ!— assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of

God in true righteousness and holiness. Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil. Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *John 6:51a, b*

Pastor: I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever.

People: Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *John 6:35–51* (Jesus, the bread of life, continues teaching.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.” So the Jews grumbled about him, because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” They said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?” Jesus answered them, “Do not grumble among yourselves. No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the Prophets, ‘And they will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me— not that anyone has seen the Father except he who is from God; he has seen the Father. Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “We Praise You, O God” *LSB* 785

1 We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;

In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.

We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;

We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.

2 We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;

Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.

When perils o’ertake us, You will not forsake us,

And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

3 With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!
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SERMON

Every year in Florida, there are reports and incidents of ground that randomly collapses, creating a massive depression that Floridians call sinkholes. Cars, sidewalks, lawn furniture, and sometimes, complete houses and people fall into these holes. How does it happen? Sinkholes occur when underground water erodes the ground below to the point that the ground above, on the surface, loses its underlying support. And when that happens, suddenly, everything caves in. In 1 Kings 19, Elijah finds himself in a sinkhole. He is depressed, discouraged, and despairing. These things are a lot like a Florida sinkhole, aren't they? When they whittle out the support, what is above comes crashing down! So, what is Elijah doing there? How did it happen? And what does God do about it?

What is Elijah doing there in a sinkhole? On the surface, Elijah's life looked like a huge success. He starts his ministry in chapter 17 by calling the evil King Ahab to repentance and faith. In chapter 18, he challenges 450 prophets of Baal, and 400 prophets of Asherah to a contest. The chapter ends with a stunning, come-from-behind victory for Elijah with the people proclaiming, "**The LORD, He is God; the LORD, He is God.**" Everything seems to be going so well, and then chapter 19. In chapter 19, it all comes caving in. Elijah's stunning victory doesn't convert Ahab. There is no religious reformation from the people, and no profound, immediate, and visible changes. The evil queen Jezebel is still in power, and the prophet himself is in great danger. Worse yet, Elijah has not received a Word from God. For Elijah, everything comes crashing down, and he finds himself in a sinkhole with a broken heart, dashed dreams, and a splintered hope.

We can relate to that, can't we? On the surface, things look okay. We've accumulated a lot of good, and perhaps even some excellent assets, things like academic degrees, work experience, key relationships, money, physical strength, or outward beauty. On the outside, things look great. But, what about the inside? Have you ever had a conversation like this? You are walking past someone you know at work, and they say, "How are you?" "Fine." You say, but you aren't really. Inwardly, you are a mess. Anxiety is intense. Self-doubt is high. Faith is wavering. Temptations are brutal. Worry for others is crippling. But, you don't say anything. Instead, you just say, "You?" "Fine." They say as well, and keep on walking. Pain, loss, disappointment, and hopelessness can erode our heart and lives to the point that one day everything collapses. Suddenly, or so it would seem, life can cave in and we fall into a deep, dark hole, a sinkhole. We know Elijah's plight, and he knows ours. After all, James 5:17 says, "Elijah was a person just like us." We know we are in a sinkhole; so was Elijah. Let's look at the second question: how did it happen?

We can fall into a sinkhole when *we are obsessed with feelings*. In chapter 19, Elijah is on the run. Why? The evil queen Jezebel wants Elijah dead by sundown, and he hits the road running. He ends up at the most southern point of Judah, Beersheba, as far as he can be from Israel and Jezebel. Going a day's journey and sitting under a tree, he cries, "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers." Elijah, in a sense, says, "**I feel like a failure so I must be a failure. I quit. I'm done. I'm finished!**"

Feelings are good, and feelings are God's gift. Where would we be without feelings? Right? But, feelings are not facts. Feelings are not facts! Just because we feel like a failure doesn't mean we are a failure. Just because we feel hopeless doesn't mean we are hopeless.

It can also happen *when we are obsessed with others*. Elijah says, "**The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword.**" Elijah says this *twice*, with one immediately following an appearance by God! Elijah is obsessed...with others! Getting angry at others is a sure way to get down, depressed, and frustrated. It is a sure way to get into a sinkhole. We can focus so much on them that we can forget to care for ourselves, or lose sight of what is really important, our God and the precious things He has given us: our family, our loved ones, our faith, our church.

We can find ourselves in a sinkhole *when we are obsessed with ourselves*. Did you notice how Elijah started and ended his complaint? It revolves around *him*. He says, “I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts...and I, even I only, am left...” Elijah certainly was jealous for God, but he began to focus too much on himself. He had gone from “See how the Lord is using me” and “See what God has done” to “Look how zealous I have been for God” and “Look what I have done for God”. He went from “It all depends on God” to “It all depends on me.” The subject and objects have been *flipped*. When that happens, don’t be surprised when a sinkhole strikes.

It happens when *we are obsessed with the future*. Elijah says, “Now they are trying to kill me too.” God loved Elijah. God gave promises to Elijah. God cared for Elijah. God protected Elijah. Unfortunately, Elijah forgot about all that. Elijah is obsessed with the future. How so? Elijah believes that Jezebel holds his future and not the God who made heaven and earth. What, or *whom*, do we believe holds our future? Sickness? Sin? Addiction? Ourselves? Our job? A politician? Jesus?

Having seen what Elijah and us are doing in a sinkhole, and how it happens, let’s see what God does about it. How does God help Elijah, and us, out of the hole? With rest. **“And Elijah lay down and slept under a broom tree. And behold, an angel touched him and said to him, ‘Arise and eat.’ And he looked, and behold, there was at his head a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water. And he ate and drank and lay down again.”** The prophet received wonderful nourishment and had seen God’s continuing care and concern. Sometimes the most spiritual thing we can do is rest/sleep, but not now, though! Rest and good food work wonders for broken hearts. Why? Because we are comprised of both body and soul. Luther recognized this 500 years ago. In addition to urging prayer and the Word of God when people were troubled, he also encouraged people not to fast, for a hungry man exposes himself to the fiery darts of the devil. He once remarked, “Those who are assailed by doubts should be given plenty to eat and drink. Early this morning the devil was disputing with me concerning Zwingli, and I discovered that a person who is well-fed is better fitted for disputation with the devil than a person who is fasting.” Rest and care for your body.

He also does it by refocusing us on Him. God tells Elijah to stand on the mountain. Then there was a powerful wind. However, the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind, there was an earthquake, but the Lord wasn’t in the earthquake. After the earthquake, there came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. “And after the fire there was a still, small voice.” God came to Elijah in His Word. To the unbelieving world, the Word might seem simple, weak, and lowly, but God with all His divine attributes, accompanies His Word, and is present in it.

When we’re stuck in a sinkhole, we want God to do something big. We say, “God, do something great. God, do something grand! Wind! Fire! Earthquake!” Instead, God comes to us by something weak and lowly, a cross. Talk about a deep, dark, sinkhole. That would be the cross at Calvary. And from the cross comes a still, small voice. Listen. Can you hear it? It’s Jesus. He is speaking. **“Father, forgive them. For they know not what they do.” “Today you will be with me in paradise.” “It is finished.”** And where does God deliver these Gospel gifts? In another still, small voice. “I baptize *you* in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” “Take, eat, the body of Christ given for *you*.” He refocuses us on Him, His mighty Word, and His Gospel gifts.

He renews us. God tells Elijah, “Anoint Hazael king over Aram. Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah.” God moves Elijah outside himself. He turns him from looking inward to outward. He sends him to serve. He has him anoint the next king of Aram, the next king of Israel, and his successor. God isn’t done with Elijah, yet. God alone determines when our work is done.

Our God daily renews us in baptism, where we are not turned inward, but outward. Daily renewed in His grace and forgiveness, we live outside ourselves. United with Christ in His death and resurrection, we are emboldened to live again. We are strengthened to stand. The Spirit works in us to live a life in response to what God has done for us.

And so, when, not if, *when*, we fall into a sinkhole, how does God get us out? With His rest, refocus, and renewal.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED TO A CHURCH WORK STUDENT

The student is presented before the altar. The pastor addresses the congregation:

Pastor: Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, Hannah and Marie, whose faith and life have been nurtured in Christ, have been led to enter upon a course of study to prepare each of them to serve as Lutheran day school teachers. As they begin their study, we look to the Word of God for encouragement, strength, and guidance. The apostle Paul writes:

Romans 12:3–8

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Psalms 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

Colossians 3:15–17

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The student may kneel.

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord God, merciful and gracious Father, we give thanks for all the blessings You have bestowed on Hannah and Marie who have been moved to begin preparation for work in Your kingdom. By Your Holy Spirit, grant them an open mind and heart to hear and learn Your holy Word. Grant them the ability to serve You faithfully and effectively after their instruction is completed. Support, strengthen, and protect them during the years that lie ahead so that by Your Word Your Church may be built and increased; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Go in peace and joy. The almighty and most merciful God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you, and bless and strengthen you for faithful service in His name.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING “They’ll Know We Are Christians”

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the Virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Holy holy holy Lord

God of power and might

Heav’n and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is he who comes

In the name of the Lord

Hosanna in the highest

Hosanna in the highest

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

PAX DOMINI

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

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God you take away

All the sin of the world

Oh Lamb of God have mercy on us

And grant to us your peace

You are invited to receive the Lord's Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS "Holy, Holy, Holy" *LSB 507*

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,

Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,

Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,

Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,

Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,

Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

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“Be Still, My Soul” *LSB* 752

1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
 Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
 In ev’ry change He faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul; your best, your heav’nly Friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

2 Be still, my soul; your God will undertake
 To guide the future as He has the past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
 All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
His voice who ruled them while He dwelt below.

3 Be still, my soul; though dearest friends depart
 And all is darkened in this vale of tears;
Then you will better know His love, His heart,
 Who comes to soothe your sorrows and your fears.
Be still, my soul; your Jesus can repay
From His own fullness all He takes away.

4 Be still, my soul; the hour is hast’ning on
 When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
 Sorrow forgot, love’s purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessèd we shall meet at last.

Text: Public domain

BLESSING

Pastor: May our Lord’s body and blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to life everlasting. Depart in peace and with joy.

People: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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 *Numbers 6:24–26*

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.

HYMN “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” LSB 809

1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be. Refrain

ref Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. Refrain

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain
Text: Public domain

POSTLUDE “Taste and See” -Talbot

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: *Ephesians 4:28 – “Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.”* God gives us honest work to do so that we can be a blessing to others. That’s how so many of God’s blessings go. He gives to us so that we in turn can be a blessing to others. He graciously calls us into the midst of His own work in the world.

VBS: We will be having a Vacation Bible School this August. Families, please mark your calendars for August 11, 12 & 13 from 5:30 – 7 p.m. We will be learning about some amazing women of the Bible. If you think you will be attending, please let Nicole P know. If you would like to help in some way please also reach out to Nicole. We could use people in helping tell the stories, crafts, playing games, decorating, etc.

PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY: Wednesdays we will have a prayer and Bible Study group. Please check with Pastor Kooi for the current start time. Each week, we will gather together to pray and study a text. We will be meeting in-person and virtually. For those that attend virtually, we will have you join us via Zoom (contact Pastor Kooi for the link). Please contact Pastor Kooi for more details.

HEAR “THE LUTHERAN HOUR” on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week’s broadcast: “A Sunny Place for Shady People” Guest Speaker: Dr. Oswald Hoffmann “Archives August.” The life of a notorious saint shows how the grace of God makes the Church a sunny place for shady people. (Ephesians 5:8)

CONCORDIA ACADEMY GOLF TOURNAMENT! Concordia Academy's 18th Annual Beacon Cup is scheduled for Friday, August 20 at Oak Glen Golf Course in Stillwater. This year, there are two golfing options: the 18-hole championship course, and a 9-hole executive course. Early pricing is available through August 1. Go to www.concordiaacademy.com/golf to get details and register to support CA athletic programs!

CONCORDIA ACADEMY CRAFT FAIR: The Concordia Academy Craft Fair returns on November 13, and registration is now open for crafters and vendors, with an early registration discount through the end of August. Go to www.concordiaacademy.com/craftfair for details!