

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 20

September 22, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

Jeremiah didn't have it easy, confronting enemies of himself and of God. Even his friends have betrayed him! So the prophet relies on God's faithful promises, just as David had to do as he wrote today's Psalm, which announces, "God is my helper; the Lord is the upholder of my life." We need not quarrel and become angry with the world around us, James writes in the Epistle. God responds better to those who have "the meekness of wisdom." Our Lord was faithful in His earthly ministry despite betrayal from one of the His followers. In today's Gospel He teaches the Twelve about true greatness even when they cannot understand His coming execution and resurrection. It is His faithfulness for us that buoys us up in the face of the conflicts around us. And that's what we celebrate today.

PRELUDE "First Song of Isaiah"

HYMN "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" sts. 1–4: *LSB* 633

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing
Praise to our victorious King,
Who has washed us in the tide
Flowing from His pierced side.
Alleluia!

2 Praise we Him, whose love divine
Gives His sacred blood for wine,
Gives His body for the feast—
Christ the victim, Christ the priest.
Alleluia!

3 Where the paschal blood is poured,
Death's dread angel sheathes the sword;
Israel's hosts triumphant go
Through the wave that drowns the foe.
Alleluia!

4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed,
Paschal victim, paschal bread;
With sincerity and love
Eat we manna from above.
Alleluia!
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INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 54:1–2*

Pastor: O God, save me, by Your name,

People: and vindicate me by Your might.

Pastor: O God, hear my prayer;

People: give ear to the words of my mouth.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to our heavenly Father.

People: Almighty God, I confess all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. I have relied on my own strength to endure during temptation rather than Your faithful protection. I am sorry for these my faults and ask Your forgiveness and pardon for the sake of Jesus our Lord.

Pastor: In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. God grant deliverance from every trouble and set your feet to walk in His ways now and always.

People: Amen.

INTROIT *Psalm 37:5–7; antiphon: v. 4*

Pastor: Delight yourself in the LORD, and He will give you the desires of your heart.

People: Commit your way to the LORD; trust in Him, and He will act.

Pastor: He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday.

People: Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him;

Pastor: fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!

All: 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.

Pastor: Delight yourself in the LORD, and He will give you the desires of your heart.

HYMN OF PRAISE “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing” sts. 5–8: *LSB* 633

5 Mighty Victim from the sky,
Hell’s fierce pow’rs beneath You lie;
You have conquered in the fight,
You have brought us life and light.
Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall,
Now no more the grave enthrall;
You have opened paradise,
And Your saints in You shall rise.
Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!
This alone can sin destroy;
From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free,
Newborn souls in You to be.
Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,
Savior, by whose death we live,
Spirit, guide through all our days:
Three in One, Your name we praise.
Alleluia!

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SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness, grant us humility and childlike faith that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Jeremiah 11:18–20* (The prophet asks God’s help in defending him against a plot.) The Lord made it known to me and I knew; then you showed me their deeds. But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. I did not know it was against me they devised schemes, saying, “Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name be remembered no more.” But, O Lord of hosts, who judges righteously, who tests the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL *Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.*

Pastor: Fear the LORD, you His saints,

People: for those who fear Him lack nothing!

Pastor: Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

People: but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

EPISTLE *James 3:13–4:10* (James teaches that submission to God means opposition to worldly ways.) Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace. What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us”? But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Mark 9:35b*

Pastor: Alleluia. If anyone would be first,

People: he must be last of all and servant of all. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 9:30–41* (Jesus tells the Twelve about His coming crucifixion and then uses a child to teach about true greatness.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

[The disciples] went on from there and passed through Galilee. And [Jesus] did not want anyone to know, for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise.” But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him. And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you discussing on the way?” But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.” And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.” John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. For the one who is not against us is for us. For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us” *LSB* 851

- 1 Lord of glory, You have bought us
 With Your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
 That tremendous sacrifice;
And with that have freely given
 Blessings countless as the sand
To the unthankful and the evil
 With Your own unsparing hand.
- 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You
 Gladly, freely of Your own.
With the sunshine of Your goodness
 Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures,
 Warmed by You, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed
 'Tis to give than to receive.
- 3 Wondrous honor You have given
 To our humblest charity
In Your own mysterious sentence,
 “You have done it all to Me.”
Can it be, O gracious Master,
 That You deign for alms to sue,
Saying by Your poor and needy,
 “Give as I have giv’n to you”?
- 4 Lord of glory, You have bought us
 With Your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
 That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust You boldly,
 Hope, to stay our souls on You;

But, oh, best of all Your graces,
With Your love our love renew.
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SERMON

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING "Humble Thyself / Awesome God"

We offer our gifts to the Lord as we use this time in our service for contemplation and preparation for the sacrament of communion. Offerings can be placed in the plates at the back entrance doors as you enter the sanctuary, or as the offering plates are passed at this time.

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, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. 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, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and sent You only Son, the Second Adam, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him. Though we have betrayed Him in our thoughts, words, and deeds, Your grace has united us in His church, the Body of Christ. Grant us a true faith that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in this Sacrament.

People: Amen.

THE 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.

Communion is offered in two ways: the individual cup and the common cup. If you would like the individual cup, please partake as the assistant minister passes by after Pastor gives the bread. If you would like the common cup, let the assistant minister pass by, open your hands palm up, and Pastor will return to give you the common cup.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Jesu, Jesu Fill Us with Your Love” *LSB* 980

Refrain: Jesu, Jesu,
Fill us with Your love,
Show us how to serve
The neighbors we have from You.

1. Kneels at the feet of His friends,
Silently washes their feet,
Master who pours out Himself for them. Refrain

2. Neighbors are wealthy and poor,
Varied in color and race;
Neighbors are nearby and far away. Refrain

3. These are the ones we will serve;
These are the ones we will love;
All these are neighbors to us and You. Refrain

4. Kneel at the feet of our friends,
Silently washing their feet:
This is the way we will live with You. Refrain

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“God of Grace and God of Glory” *LSB* 850

1 God of grace and God of glory,
 On Your people pour Your pow’r;
Crown Your ancient Church’s story;
 Bring its bud to glorious flow’r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
 For the facing of this hour,
 For the facing of this hour.

2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us
 Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
 Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
 For the living of these days,
 For the living of these days.

3 Cure Your children’s warring madness;
 Bend our pride to Your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
 Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
 Lest we miss Your kingdom’s goal,
 Lest we miss Your kingdom’s goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation
 To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Your salvation
 Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
 Serving You whom we adore,
 Serving You whom we adore.
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“For the Fruits of His Creation” *LSB* 894

1 For the fruits of His creation,
 Thanks be to God.
For His gifts to ev’ry nation,
 Thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
Silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth’s safekeeping,
 Thanks be to God.

2 In the just reward of labor,
 God’s will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
 God’s will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
For the hungry and despairing,
In the harvests we are sharing,
 God’s will is done.

3 For the harvests of the Spirit,
 Thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
 Thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
For the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us,
 Thanks be to God.

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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 gift, which strengthens us to eternal life. We ask that in Your mercy You would rule our hearts and minds so that we know Christ’s forgiveness, seek ways to show love to all we meet, and serve You in willing obedience; 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 *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.

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

HYMN “Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go” *LSB* 920

1 Forth in the peace of Christ we go;
 Christ to the world with joy we bring;
Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
 Christ in our hearts, the world’s true king.

2 King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings;
 Kingship with Him His servants gain;
With Christ the Servant-Lord of all,
 Christ’s world we serve to share Christ’s reign.

3 Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth
 This world of time to consecrate,
This world of sin by grace to heal,
 Christ’s world in Christ to re-create.

4 Christ’s are our lips, His Word we speak;
 Prophets are we whose deeds proclaim
Christ’s truth in love that we may be
 Christ in the world, to spread Christ’s name.

5 We are the Church; Christ bids us show
 That in His Church all nations find
Their hearth and home where Christ restores
 True peace, true love to all mankind.

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POSTLUDE “Seek Ye First”

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 4.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship 9:30 a.m.

You are encouraged to take a walk this week with the Lord by reading Galatians. May the Lord make your heart burn with joy at the Good News and your place in His Kingdom!

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: *Mark 9:32 – “But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.”* The disciples really do hold up a mirror to our faces and force us to see ourselves: misunderstanding, afraid, confused. But the Word of God is clear if only we will listen with open ears. What was blocking the disciples' ears? The Gospels tell us time and again: they did not expect a suffering Christ, and so when Jesus spoke of suffering, they plugged their ears and didn't listen, so they ended up confused and scared. What about us? What's in the Word of God that we find hard to hear and contrary to our desires and expectations? That might just be exactly what we need to hear!

FALL POTLUCK: Join us Oct. 27th after the service and Congregational meeting. Bring your favorite Fall, Harvest, Halloween, or Oktoberfest food dish. Feel free to drop off your dish in the kitchen before the service. We can keep it warm or cold. Can you help? Sign up in the Narthex.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HELP: We could still use some helpers for Sunday School for a few more weeks. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex on the table. Any questions talk to Naomi B or Todd P.

MISSING: We are missing the bottom stand of one of our lemonade dispensers. If you borrowed them this summer, please check. Thanks!

FALL & CHRISTMAS DECORATION SALE: Emmaus will be having a Fall and Christmas decoration sale running from 11/3 to 11/24. This will be free-will donation and all proceeds will benefit the church. This sale will be located on the back tables in the Social Hall. If you are interested in contributing items, please contact either Chris Goetz or Jean Galligan. Thank you!

CANDY BINGO: Join us for our first ever Candy Bingo! This event is for everyone in the congregation, regardless of age. Join us for some fellowship, laughs, prizes, and pizza! The event will be on September 28, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please sign up or RSVP to Pastor or Dawn Kooi so the appropriate preparations can be made.

FREE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT: Following the death of her husband, a member of Our Saviour's has some free medical equipment available for those in need of it. The items are: Trapeze, on a free-standing frame (triangle that hangs above a bed, chair, or anywhere that you'd find it useful), lift chair, Get-U-Up (sit to stand lift assist), rolling walker (w/seat), transport chair, rolling bath chair (has removable cut out & can be used over a toilet, too), bath bench (3 different types), bath chair - raise & lower (w/rechargeable hand control), Jazzy power chair, transfer board. For more information contact the Our Saviour's office: 651-774-2396, deedee@oursaviourslutheran.org

RACHEL FEDERWITZ has an opportunity to go on an international choir tour to Germany with Concordia University Wisconsin's top choir, Kammerchor. She needs to raise about \$3,500 for this trip. If you would like to support Rachel, please donate to her choir using the letter found on the bulletin board by the office. Donations need to be received by the end of December.

HEAR “THE LUTHERAN HOUR” on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week's broadcast: “Love at First Sight, Love That Lasts” Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola. God loved us at first sight, from eternity. And He has given us Jesus so that we can know His love. (Genesis 29:20)

LWML MITES: Where do your LWML Mites go? Mobile Kitchen: Forged by Fire Services | \$85,000. Forged by Fire Services prepares food for communities following natural disasters. They will come into a community with their trailer of supplies; set up their tent and kitchen. Grant money will purchase a mobile kitchen trailer. The trailer will allow for faster setup, protection from weather changes, and require less space. To learn more, visit www.lwml.org/2023-2025-mission-grant-6.

CONCORDIA ACADEMY HOMECOMING: You're invited to celebrate the "Land of 10,000 Beacons" at Concordia Academy's homecoming on Friday night, September 27. A free outdoor family carnival starts at 5:30, followed by the football game vs. St. Agnes at 7:00. Get all the details at www.concordiaacademy.com/homecoming.

BASKETBALL PROGRAMS: Concordia Academy's BEAMS Basketball for boys and girls in grades 5-8 returns in October and is designed to complement sports offerings at the students' current schools. CA's six-week Beacon Buddies Saturday basketball camp for boys and girls in grades 1-4 starts in January. Both programs are open to students from any Twin Cities school. Get details and register at www.concordiaacademy.com/1-8sports.

THIS WEEK AT EMMAUS:

Today: 9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Bible Study

Wed: Bulletin Deadline

1:30 p.m. Bible Study (SH)

Thurs: 6:30–8 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Fri: Office closed – call Pastor in emergencies

Sat: 9-noon Emerald Ridge HOA meeting (SH)

12-5 p.m. Organist Rehearsal

4-6 p.m. Candy Bingo (SH)

Next Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Bible Study

SERVING OUR WORSHIP SERVICE TODAY:

PASTOR: Rev. Nick Kooi

ALTAR GUILD: Marilyn P

MUSIC LEADER: Paul H

SOUND TECH: Eric R

VIDEO TECH: Matt G

WORSHIP ASSISTANT: Alan M

USHERS: Todd and Nicole P

COUNTERS: Peggy K, Nancy W

LECTOR: Kjersti D

GREETER: Linda K

ACOLYTES: Espen D, Marit D