

August 23, 2020
Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost



**"YOU ARE THE
MESSIAH,
THE SON OF THE
LIVING
GOD."**

Matthew 16:16, NRSV

Trinity Lutheran Church & School

*Our Mission:
To Make More and Better Disciples of Jesus Christ.*

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 23, 2020

AS WE GATHER

Acknowledging Jesus as the Christ is central to our confession of faith as individual Christians and vital in our worship as the gathered people of God. In our use of that divine title, we echo the words of the angel who spoke to the shepherds in the field outside of Bethlehem with the Gospel message, “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:11). We are blessed in knowing that Jesus, the Christ, is not only God in person in human form but that He is God for us. St. Patrick poetically spoke his confession with the words “Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ in me.” As we confess Jesus as the Christ this day, we are joining with saints and angels as well as with the sisters and brothers that surround us gathered for worship!

PRESERVICE MUSIC

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES *Isaiah 51:4–6*

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

People: Amen.

Pastor: Give attention to Me, My people,

People: and give ear to Me, My nation;

Pastor: My righteousness draws near,

People: My salvation has gone out,

Pastor: Lift up your eyes to the heavens,

People: and look at the earth beneath;

Pastor: My salvation will be forever,

People: and My righteousness will never be dismayed.

HYMN

“How Great Thou Art”

[Stuart Hine © 1949. 1953 Stuart Hine Trust. Administration: U.S.A. All rights by EMI CMG, except print rights administered by Manna Music. CCLI# 254312]

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

REFRAIN:

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!**

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

(Refrain)

But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in -
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin;

(Refrain)

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation,
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!"

(Refrain)

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God, merciful Father,

People: We humbly plead for Your mercy and ask Your forgiveness. Our lives have not reflected the confession of our lips, and we have failed to marvel at the depth of the riches and wisdom of the knowledge of God. Instead of trusting You, we have relied on our own understanding. We have thought too highly of ourselves instead of presenting ourselves as offerings in gratefulness for Your mercy. Hear and forgive us for Jesus' sake, and fill us with the Holy Spirit that we may seek only to know Your will and the strength to carry it out.

Pastor: God has heard your confession and grants you full and free forgiveness because Jesus died and rose again for you. 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, You inspired Peter to confess Jesus as the Christ, Your living Son. Keep Your Church firm on the rock of this faith, that in unity and peace the Savior will be proclaimed throughout the world until the end of time as the Holy Spirit works in the lives of Your people. This we ask through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

EPISTLE: *Romans 11:33–12:8*

³³Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

³⁴“Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?”

³⁵“Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?”

³⁶For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ²Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

³For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL: *Matthew 16:13–20*

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

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

¹⁴ They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

¹⁵ "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

¹⁷ Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY ***"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"***

[Augustus M. Toplady / Thomas Hastings. Public Domain]

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labor of my hands
Can fulfill Thy Law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.

SERMON: "What's My Line?" *Matthew 16:13-20*

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

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Pastor: Almighty God, from You and through You and to You are all things. You have built Your Church on the confession of the Gospel and have promised that the gates of hell will not overcome it. To Your Church throughout the world, together and united as one body, grant the faith and courage to confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Wherever the Church is under attack, O Lord, protect and defend her against the assaults of the evil one even to the gates of hell. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Wherever people are oppressed or denied their dignity, O Lord, raise up leaders to order society in peace and justice. May all the rulers of the earth acknowledge Your authority in gratitude and praise. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Wherever Your people are straying from Your Word and will, O Lord, arm Your servants with Your mighty Gospel, and cause them again to confess You as the Christ, the Son of the living God. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Whenever we fail to use the gifts You have placed within us, O Lord, turn our hearts toward repentance and open our eyes to see the opportunities for service that You provide within the Body of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Whenever we allow the distractions of this world to blind us to Your power and glory, O Lord, remind us again of the depth of Your riches, wisdom, and knowledge. Call us again to listen, and look, and pay attention that we may seek You where You and salvation will be found. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Wherever people are in mourning or ill health, without food or shelter, or in any other distress, O Lord, visit, relieve, support, and uplift them in Your mercy. Fulfill Your purpose for them. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: (Special petitions). Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BENEDICTION [Sung] *“Benediction”*

May the Lord bless you and keep you
May the Lord make His face to shine upon you.

May He be gracious unto you,
Lift His countenance upon you.
And may the Lord give you peace

HYMN

“Shout to the North”

[Martin Smith © 1995 Curious? Music UK Admin. By EMI Christian Music Publishing; CCLI# 254312]

Men of faith rise up and sing.
Of the great and glorious King.
You are strong when you feel weak.
In your brokenness complete.

REFRAIN:

**Shout to the north and the south.
Sing to the east and the west.
Jesus is Savior to all. Lord of heaven and earth.**

Rise up women of the truth.
Stand and sing to broken hearts.
Who can know the healing pow'r
Of our awesome King of love.

REFRAIN:

**Shout to the north and the south.
Sing to the east and the west.
Jesus is Savior to all. Lord of heaven and earth.**

We've been through fire,
We've been through rain.
We've been refined
By the pow'r of His name.
We've fallen deeper
In love with You.
You've burned
The truth on our lips.

(Refrain)

Rise up church with broken wings.
Fill this place with songs again.
Of our God who reigns on high.
By His grace again we'll fly.

(Refrain)

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Serving Us

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