
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 7, 2019

THEME: We reflect upon our status as children of God today. Being adopted as God's children is excellent news because our heavenly Father cares for us. Yet, sometimes we lose our way as God's children. We struggle with sin. Yet, God has shown His extraordinary care for us in sending His Son, Jesus. We also reflect today on God's gift of this great land we have been given. Although it is an imperfect nation, in God's grace He continues to bless us.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING BLESSING

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires are known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

~Silence for reflection~

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: God, our heavenly Creator, hears the prayers of all people and answers those prayers. Our prayer for forgiveness is answered in the person and work of Jesus Christ, who died for our sin that we might have new life. By the command of Jesus, I forgive you all of your sins—in the name of the Father, and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

KYRIE

LBW pg. 78-79

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, Have mercy.

P: For peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, Have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God. And for the unity of all , let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, Have mercy.

P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, Have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord

C: Amen

P: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever, Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Dear heavenly Father, You have shown Your immense care for us through the gift of Your Son, Jesus. Instill in us an attitude of constant rejoicing that we are Your children and our names are written in the Book of Life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON:

Isaiah 66:10-14

God's children rejoice and are satisfied.

“Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice greatly with her, all you who mourn over her. For you will nurse and be satisfied at her comforting breasts; you will drink deeply and delight in her overflowing abundance.” For this is what the LORD says: “I will extend peace to her like a river, and the wealth of nations like a flooding stream; you will nurse and be carried on her arm and dandled on her knees. As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem.” When you see this, your heart will rejoice and you will flourish like grass; the hand of the LORD will be made known to his servants, but his fury will be shown to his foes.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. “When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. “When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, ‘Even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God has come near.’ I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town. “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. But it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted to the heavens? No, you will go down to Hades. “Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me.” The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.” He replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: "Here I am Lord"

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save
I, who made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

*CHORUS: Here I am, Lord. Is it I,
Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night
I will go, Lord, if you lead me
I will hold your people in my heart*

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain
I have borne my people's pain
I have wept for love of them

They turn away
I will break their hearts of stone
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my words to them
Whom shall I send?

CHORUS

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will send the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them
My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide
'Til their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them
Whom shall I send?

CHORUS

SERMON

CONFESSING OUR FAITH

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
And born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again,

He ascended into heaven,

And is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

OFFERINGS GATHERED

We give our offerings as a sign of our lives given to the Lord in humble service.

COMMISSIONING OF YOUTH & CHAPERONES

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Dear heavenly Father send out messengers and missionaries to every corner of the earth, that people from every tribe, nation and language would hear the saving message of Your Son, Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord, help Your Church throughout the world to bear one another's burdens. Humble those who need humbling and strengthen those who need to ask for help. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord, we rejoice in many things in this world. Thank You for providing so many blessings and reasons for us to rejoice. Help us to not lose sight of our main reason for rejoicing: We are Your children, and our names are written in heaven. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, (especially...). Have mercy upon them and heal them according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN:

“I Love to Tell the Story”

LBW 390

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;
It satisfies my longings as nothing else would do
I love to tell the story; I'll sing this theme in glory
And tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story; how pleasant to repeat
What seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word.
I love to tell the story; I'll sing this theme in glory
And tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long.
I love to tell the story; I'll sing this theme in glory
And tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

“What a Friend”

LBW 439

What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and grief's to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
Oh what needless pain we bear
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
You will find a solace there.

“When Peace, like a River”

LBW 346

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;
When sorrows, like sea billows roll;
What ever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, It is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed his own blood for my soul.

He lives – oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to his cross, and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound, and the Lord shall descend;
Even so it is well with my soul.

PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

P: Lord of the nations, we ask Your blessings upon all who make, administer, and adjudicate our laws; give them courage and wisdom. Grant that freedom continue to ring in this great land. Give our leaders hearts of compassion and minds of justice. Protect and defend all who maintain the peace at home and defend freedom abroad. Assure of Your presence all who support the poor, powerless, and forgotten in society. O Lord, who has given us the freedom we enjoy in this nation.

C: Amen.

CLOSING SONG: “Battle Hymn of the Republic”

LBW 332

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord,
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword,
His truth is marching on.

*CHORUS: Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
His truth is marching on!*

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat,
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat;
O be swift, my soul, to answer Him, be jubilant, my feet!
Our God is marching on.

CHORUS

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His being that transfigures you and me;
As He died to make men holy let us live to make men free!
While God is marching on.

CHORUS

BENEDICTION

P: The blessing of God almighty—the Father, who establishes all earthly powers, the Son, by whose grace we are citizens of heaven, and the Holy Spirit, who guides us to use His gifts even in our secular society—bless you and keep you, now and forever.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!