
TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 18, 2019

AS WE GATHER... “By faith...” With these words the writer to the Hebrews describes the manner of life of the saints of old. The writer records that “by faith” God’s people did things. They did not just believe stuff—they acted! This echoes James who challenges us, “Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works” (James 2:18). Life is changing all around us. Entrusting our life and will to the care of the founder and perfecter of our faith, Jesus, the Prince of Peace, God’s people act...by faith.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING BLESSING

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

C: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

L: Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

C: We should never be discouraged. Let’s take it to the Lord in prayer.

L: Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?

C: Jesus knows our every weakness. Let’s take it to the Lord in prayer.

OPENING UP TO GOD AND ONE ANOTHER

L: In a time of confession, let us take our sins to the Lord in prayer, trusting that our Father hears us for the sake of His Son, Jesus.

Silent Reflection

L: Loving God,

C: we confess our alienation from You both by nature and by choice. Help us to know and believe how much You love us. Let us abide in Your love even as You abide in us always. Heal us with forgiveness for Jesus' sake.

L: Our dear Holy Trinity in mercy has given the Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SONG OF CONFIDENCE: “Shall We Gather at the River”

Shall we gather at the river, Where bright angel feet have trod;
With its crystal tide forever Flowing by the throne of God?

*CHORUS: Yes, we'll gather at the river,
The beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God.*

Ere we reach the shining river, Lay we ev'ry burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver, And provide a robe and crown.

CHORUS

Soon we'll reach the shining river, Soon our pilgrimage will cease,
Soon our happy hearts will quiver With the melody of peace.

CHORUS

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us Pray. Loving God, You have kindled the fire of Your love among all the peoples of the earth. Grant that we who walk by faith in Jesus be kept by His peace in the midst of every tribulation and conflict with our fellow human beings; through the same Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns in communion and love with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Epistle:

Hebrews 11:17-31; 12:1-3

The people of God living by faith

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones. By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them. By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

"I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN: "The Church's One Foundation"**LBW 369**

The Church's One Foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is his new creation By water and the Word.
From heav'n he came and sought her To be his holy bride;
With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth;
Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth,
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses with ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder This world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up: "How Long?"
And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,
That we, like saints before us, May see you face to face

SERMON
Vicar Dollar

WE SHARE OUR FAITH

ALL: We believe in God, the Creator of all things, the source of all goodness and love. We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, true God yet true man. He was crucified, died and was buried for our sin that we might be free and know the joy of life. He was raised on the third day and ascended to heaven and will come again in power and glory to judge both the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the power of God at work inside of us. We believe in the church of God, the people of faith throughout the world. We believe that our sin is forgiven and that we will live together with God for now and throughout eternity. Amen.

OFFERING

We offer our thanksgiving for what God has first given us—ourselves, our time, our possessions.

OFFERTORY

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: Let us pray together in Christ Jesus for all people according to their needs. For faith to act in love and service to people, as we follow Jesus through the seasons and changes of life, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For peace in the midst of conflict rather than freedom from it, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For kind pastors who speak the peace Jesus embodied through the Law and the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For all who hold positions of public trust in this and every land that all people may live in peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the healing of the sick and peace to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (especially...), let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the good of all who partake this day of the Holy Supper of Jesus' body and blood, let us pray to the Lord:

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus, our Lord.

C: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

“In His Time”

TOSB 98

In his time, in his time, He makes all things beautiful, in his time
Lord please show my ev’ry day as you’re teaching me your way,
That you do just what you say, in your time.

In your time, in your time, you make all things beautiful in your time,
Lord, my life to you I bring, May each song I have to sing,
Be to you a lovely thing, in your time.

“Jesus Loves Me”

TOSB 114

Jesus loves me—this I know, For the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong—They are weak, but He is strong.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me—loves me still, Though I’m very weak and ill;
That I might from sin be free, Bled and died upon the tree.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me—He who died, Heaven’s gate to open wide;
He will wash away my sin, Let His little child come in.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Jesus loves me—He will stay Close beside me all the way,
Though hast bled and died for me, I will henceforth live for the.
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

“Beautiful Savior”

TOSB 9

1. Beautiful Savior, King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I’d love thee, Truly I’d serve thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2. Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
3. Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight,
And the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer,
Than all the angels in the sky.
4. Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be Thine!

BENEDICTION

L: Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

C: We should never be discouraged. We take it to the Lord in prayer.

L: Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?

C: Because Jesus knows our every weakness, we take all things to the Lord in prayer.

L: 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.

C: Amen.

CLOSING 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.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.