

## The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost ✠ June 28, 2020

***WELCOME!** The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. The baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's Gospel reading, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome.*



### THE PASTORAL GREETING

### THE OPENING HYMN – “How Great Thou Art”      LSB 801

- 1    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;  
      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!
  
- 2    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;  
      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!
  
- 3    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;  
      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!
  
- 4    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!”  
      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!

## THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

**C: Amen.**

P: O Lord, open my lips.

**C: And my mouth will declare Your praise** *Ps. 51:15*

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

**C: Make haste to help me, O Lord. 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.** *Ps. 70:1*

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and to call upon him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as his people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking his grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

**C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P: 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 forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: Blessed be God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit!

**C: O come, let us worship Him!**

## THE HYMN OF PREPARATION — “Lift High the Cross”

LSB 837

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod,  
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God.  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign,  
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine.  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

3 All newborn soldiers of the Crucified  
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,  
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee.  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

- 5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell  
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell.  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.
- 6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory!  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

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## ✠ THE WORD ✠

### THE FIRST READING – Jeremiah 28:5-9, ESV

*Through a symbolic action Jeremiah insisted the Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon. Hananiah contradicted the word of Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah's rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the false prophet Hananiah to death.*

Then the prophet Jeremiah replied to the prophet Hananiah before the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord. He said, "Amen! May the Lord do so! May the Lord fulfill the words you have prophesied by bringing the articles of the Lord's house and all the exiles back to this place from Babylon. Nevertheless, listen to what I have to say in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people: From early times the prophets who preceded you and me have prophesied war, disaster and plague against many countries and great kingdoms. **9** But the prophet who prophesies peace will be recognized as one truly sent by the Lord only if his prediction comes true."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

### THE SECOND READING – Romans 6:12-23, ESV

*Sin is an enslaving power which motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin's final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin's slavery to live obediently under God's grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.*

Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.

What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means! Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance. You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness. When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! But now that you have been set free from sin and have

become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **THE VERSE – “Majesty”**

Majesty, worship his majesty! Unto Jesus be all glory, power, and praise!

Majesty, kingdom authority Flow from his throne, unto his own, his anthem raise!

So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus; Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus the King!

Majesty, worship his majesty: Jesus, who died, now glorified, King of all kings!

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### **THE HOLY GOSPEL READING – Matthew 10:34-42, ESV**

[Jesus said:] Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.

“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to turn “a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.”

“Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

“Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **THE HYMN OF PREPARATION – “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”**

**LSB 717**

- 1 Eternal Father, strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bidd’st the mighty ocean deep Its own appointed limits keep:  
O hear us when we cry to Thee For those in peril on the sea.
- 2 O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain, O’er which our traffic runs amain  
By mountain pass or valley low; Wherever, Lord, Thy people go,  
Protect them by Thy guarding hand From ev’ry peril on the land.
- 3 O Spirit, whom the Father sent To spread abroad the firmament;  
O Wind of heaven, by Thy might Save all who dare the eagle’s flight,  
And keep them by Thy watchful care From ev’ry peril in the air.

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### **THE MESSAGE**

### **✠ THE RESPONSE ✠**

### **THE HYMN OF RESPONSE – “Eternal Father, Strong to Save”**

**LSB 717**

- 4 O Trinity of love and pow'r, Our people shield in danger's hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe, Protect them wheresoe'er they go;  
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee Glad praise from air and land and sea.

## THE 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.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition will end with the words: Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Hear us Heavenly Father, as we pray the prayer that Christ gave us:

**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.**

## THE BLESSING

**P:** May the blessing of almighty God: Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit, be upon you and go forth with you this day and always.

**C: Amen.**

## THE HYMN "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

LSB 922

- 1 Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are My own.  
In My love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever.  
Go, My children, with My blessing—You are My own.
- 2 Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.  
Here you heard My dear Son's story; Here you touched Him, saw His glory.  
Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
- 3 Go, My children, fed and nourished, Closer to Me;  
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.  
Here My Spirit's power filled you; Here His tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, My children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.
- 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;  
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace:

I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.  
Go, My children; I will keep you And give you peace.

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**✠ May God bless you and yours. ✠**

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