



# Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2020

At Home Worship  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Closter, New Jersey

*My burden is light.*

Matthew 11:30

Our service today is taken from *Hymnal Supplement '98*.

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### PREPARATION

#### INVOCATION

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

**Congregation**      **Amen.**

#### CONFESSION

Pastor If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins,

**Congregation**      **O Lord, who could stand?**

Pastor But with You there is forgiveness;

**Congregation**      **therefore You are feared.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

Pastor O almighty God, merciful Father,

**Congregation**        **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

## **ABSOLUTION**

Pastor Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation**        **Amen.**

**ENTRANCE HYMN**    *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*

1.    All people that on earth do dwell,  
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell;  
Come ye before Him and rejoice.
  
2.    Know that the Lord is God indeed;  
Without our aid He did us make.  
We are His folk, He doth us feed,  
And for His sheep He doth us take.
  
- 3    O enter then His gates with praise;  
Approach with joy His courts unto.  
Praise, laud, and bless His name always,  
For it is seemly so to do.
  
- 4    For Why? The Lord our God is good:  
His mercy is forever sure.  
His truth for all times firmly stood  
And shall from age to age endure.
  
- 5    To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
The God whom heav'n and earth adore,  
From us and from the angel host  
Be praise and glory evermore.

**KYRIE** Lord, have mercy on us; Christ have mercy on us;  
Lord, have mercy on us.

***GLORIA IN EXCELSIS***

**Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;  
Of heavenly joy and earthly peace we sing.  
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,  
Lord God, almighty Father, heavenly King.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,  
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.  
O Lamb of God, Your glorious victory won,  
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.**

**Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,  
At God's right hand in majesty most high:  
Who, with the Spirit worshiped and adored,  
With all the heav'nly host we glorify.**

## **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**Congregation: And with your spirit.**

Pastor: Almighty and everlasting God,  
give us an increase of faith, hope, and love  
that, receiving what You have promised,  
we may love what You have commanded;  
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

**Congregation: Amen.**

## READINGS

### ***Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 7:6 – 9***

<sup>6</sup> "For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.<sup>7</sup> It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples,<sup>8</sup> but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.<sup>9</sup> Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

*After the reading:*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle Reading: Romans 8:28 - 39**

- 28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.<sup>29</sup> For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.<sup>30</sup> And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.
- 31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?<sup>32</sup> He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?<sup>33</sup> Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies.<sup>34</sup> Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died---more than that, who was raised---who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.<sup>35</sup> Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?<sup>36</sup> As it is written,  
"For your sake we are being killed all the day long;  
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered."
- 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.<sup>38</sup> For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers,<sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*After the reading:*

Lector This is the Word of the Lord  
**Congregation Thanks be to God.**



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**These things are written that you may believe**

**That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, chapter chapter thirteen beginning at verse forty-four .

**Congregation** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

- 44 [Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.
- 45 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls,<sup>46</sup> who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.
- 47 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind.<sup>48</sup> When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad.<sup>49</sup> So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous<sup>50</sup> and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- 51 "Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes."<sup>52</sup> And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

*After the reading:*

Pastor

This is the Gospel of the Lord

**Congregation**

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

### **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.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**    *Children of the Heavenly Father*

- 1. Children of the heavenly Father  
Safely in His bosom gather;  
Nestling bird nor star in heaven  
Such a refuge e'er was given.**
- 2. God His own doth tend and nourish;  
In His holy courts they flourish.  
From all evil things He spares them;  
In His mighty arms He bears them.**
- 3. Neither life nor death shall ever  
From the Lord His children sever;  
Unto them His grace He showeth,  
And their sorrows all He knoweth.**
- 4. Though He giveth or He taketh,  
God His children ne'er forsaketh;  
His the loving purpose solely  
To preserve them pure and holy.**

## SERMON

### 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.

*after each portion of the prayer:*

Pastor Lord, in Your mercy,

**Congregation hear our prayer.**

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

**Congregation Amen.**

## LITANY (Sung)

Pastor In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor 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.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For Pastor Holsten, our Pastor in Christ, for all the servants of the church and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For our public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need let us pray to the Lord.

**Congregation Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ Let us give thanks to the Lord.

**Congregation Alleluia.**

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

*(Silence for meditation)*

Pastor Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.

**Congregation To You, O Lord.**

Pastor O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

**Congregation Amen.**



Pastor Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

## **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.**

Pastor Let us bless the Lord.

**Congregation Thanks be to God.**

### **PRAYER**

Pastor Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Congregation Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

Pastor The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.

**Congregation Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN** *All You Works of God, Bless the Lord*

- 1. All you works of God, bless the Lord!  
All you angels, now bless the Lord;  
Come, you heavens and pow'rs that be,  
Praise the Lord and His majesty:**

***Refrain*** **Raise your voices high, praise and magnify  
All you works of God, bless the Lord!  
Raise your voices high, praise and magnify  
All you works of God, bless the Lord!**

- 2. Sing you sun and you moon above,  
Stars of heaven, now sing His love;  
Dew and showers, you winds that blow,  
Heat and fire, you ice and snow:**
- 3. Frost of winter with song so cold,  
Dews of summer, your song unfold;  
Light and darkness, you day and night,  
Clouds of thunder, you lightnings bright:**

- 1. Hills and mountains, now sing His worth,  
All you green things that grow on earth;  
Seas and rivers, you springs and wells,  
Beasts and cattle, you birds and whales:**
- 2. Come, humanity, sing along,  
Sing, you people of God a song;  
Priests and servants, your Lord now bless,  
Join, you spirits and souls at rest:**
- 3. Bless the Lord, all you pure of heart;  
All you humble, His praise impart;  
God the Father and Son adore  
Bless the Spirit forevermore!**