

Order of Service

Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost

August 30, 2020

"With one mind and one voice glorify God the Father."

[P = Pastor C = Congregation]

Opening Hymn: ELH #184 *"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"*

**My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.
Now hear me while I pray; Take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day, Be wholly Thine!**

**May Thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart; My zeal inspire!
As Thou hast died for me, O may my love to Thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be, A living fire!**

**While life's dark maze I tread
And griefs around me spread, Be Thou my Guide.
Bid darkness turn to day, Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray From Thee aside.**

**When ends life's transient dream,
When death's cold, sullen stream, Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Savior, then in love, Fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above, A ransomed soul!**

Invocation:

P: We worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **(sung) Amen.**

The Confession

P: Almighty Lord God, we have come together to stand in Your presence, to hear Your Word and to worship You. But who may appear in Your presence, heavenly Father, and who may call on You for help?

C: **He who has clean hands and a pure heart; he shall receive blessings from the Lord.**

P: O holy and righteous God, You alone can make us clean. We have rebelled against You and become worthless. But Your mercies never end; they are new every day. At Your command and promise, therefore, we come to You and confess our sins.

C: **O holy and most merciful Father, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But at Your gracious Word I come to You, and for the sake of my Lord Jesus Christ I plead: God, have mercy on me a sinner!**

P: Having heard your confession, I in the name of the Lord Jesus declare to you that our gracious Father in heaven hears the prayer of every repentant sinner, and has forgiven you all your sins for the sake of Jesus Christ. Peace be with you. Amen.

Congregational Response: “Amazing Grace”

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares
I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far
And grace will lead me home.**

Prayer for the Day

P: Almighty and merciful God, you have given great and precious promises to those who believe. Grant us faith which overcomes all doubts, that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (sung) Amen.

The Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8

(The Lord’s New Testament church will be “a house of prayer for all nations.” By the grace of God, those who had formerly been excluded from the people of God would be accepted by him.)

1 This is what the Lord says: Protect justice, and do righteousness, for my salvation is coming very soon. My righteousness is ready to be revealed. 6 Then the foreigners, who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him and to love the name of the Lord and to become his servants, everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it, those who take hold of my covenant— 7 I will bring them to my holy mountain, and I will make them glad in my house of prayer. Their whole burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable upon my altar. For my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples. 8 This is the declaration of God

the Lord, who gathers Israel's dispersed ones: "I will still gather others to it besides the ones already gathered."

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Psalm 133-134

P: How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!

C: For there the Lord bestows his blessing even life forevermore.

P: Praise the Lord, all you servants of the Lord who minister in the house of the Lord.

C: Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the Lord.

P: May the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth, bless you from Zion.

The Epistle Lesson: Romans 11: 13-15, 28-32

(At one time in history God gave all the promises of salvation to Israel alone. Israel's rejection of the Messiah became an opportunity to apostles, like Paul, to call the Gentiles to salvation. At one time or another, God bound over all the world to disobedience so that God's mercy might call his elect from among the Jews and the Gentiles.)

13 I am speaking to you Gentiles. For as long as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I am going to speak highly of my ministry. 14 Perhaps I may make my own people jealous, and so save some of them. 15 For if their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, what does their acceptance mean other than the dead coming to life?

28 In regard to the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But, in regard to election, they are especially dear for the sake of the patriarchs, 29 because God's gracious gifts and call are not regretted. 30 For just as you were once disobedient to God, but now have been shown mercy due to their disobedience, 31 so also now they have become disobedient, so that by the mercy shown to you they may be shown mercy too. 32 For God imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may show mercy to all. (EHV)

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 15: 21-28

(How harshly Jesus seems to treat a Gentile woman who turns to “the Son of David” for help! Her repeated pleas are met with silence, exclusion, and insult. Nevertheless, faith in a loving, merciful Savior still sees room for a “yes” in his harsh replies. Her “great faith” in Jesus is not disappointed, but strengthened. Her prayer is answered with the healing of her daughter.)

21 Jesus left that place and withdrew into the region of Tyre and Sidon. 22 There a Canaanite woman from that territory came and kept crying out, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David! A demon is severely tormenting my daughter!”

23 But he did not answer her a word. His disciples came and pleaded, “Send her away, because she keeps crying out after us.” 24 He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” 25 But she came and knelt in front of him, saying, “Lord, help me.” 26 He answered her, “It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” 27 “Yes, Lord,” she said, “yet the dogs also eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” 28 Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, your faith is great! It will be done for you, just as you desire.” And her daughter was healed at that very

hour.

(EHV)

The Confession of Faith— 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From there he shall 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.

Congregational Hymn: ELH #452 vs.1-3

“Out of the Depths I Cry to Thee”

**Out of the depths I cry to Thee;
Lord, hear me I implore Thee!
Thy gracious ear incline to me;
My prayer let come before Thee.
On my misdeeds in mercy look,
O deign to blot them from Thy book,
Or who can stand before Thee?**

**Thy love and grace alone avail
To blot out my transgression;
The best and holiest deeds must fail
To break sin’s dread oppression.
Before Thee none can boasting stand,
But all must fear Thy strict demand
And live alone by mercy.**

**Therefore my hope is in the Lord
And not in mine own merit;
It rests upon His faithful Word
To them of contrite spirit
That He is merciful and just—
This is my comfort and my trust.
His help I wait with patience.**

Sermon: Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8 (See *Old Testament Lesson*)

“Bind Yourself To The Lord!”

Hymn: ELH 207 vs 1-3, 5

“Seek Where Ye May to Find a Way”

**Seek where ye may To find a way
That leads to your salvation.
My heart is stilled, On Christ I build,
He is the one Foundation.
His Word is sure, His works endure.
He doth o'erthrow My ev'ry foe;
Through Him I more than conquer.**

**Seek whom ye may To be your stay;
None can redeem his brother.
All helpers failed, This Man prevailed,
The God-man, and none other.
Our Servant-Lord Did help afford;
We're justified, For He hath died,
The guiltless for the guilty.**

**Seek Him alone, Who did atone,
Who did your souls deliver;
Yea, seek Him first, All ye who thirst
For grace that faileth never.
In ev'ry need Seek Him indeed;
To ev'ry heart He will impart
His blessings without measure.**

**Hide not from me, I ask of Thee,
Thy gracious face and favor.
Though floods of woe Should o'er me flow,
My faith shall never waver.
From pain and grief Grant sweet relief;
For tears I weep, Lord, let me reap
Thy heav'nly joy and glory.**

Offering Prayer - Prayer of the Church

P: O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

C: We praise you for every grace and blessing.

P: We pray for our nation, that You would defend us from our enemies and from terrorism; Help our President, the Congress, and all in authority that they may govern wisely in the fear of the Lord;

C: Guard those who protect our nation and our communities.

P: Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses, social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

C: Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

P: Keep our financial institutions secure and our economy strong. Bless our fields that they may produce abundant harvests. Guard us from calamities of nature and accident and spare us from the ravages of disease and epidemic.

C: Teach us not to worry but to cast all our cares on you.

P: Strengthen the homes of our nation. By your Spirit lead husbands and wives to love each other, parents to nurture their children, young adults to assume responsibility, and children to show respect.

C: Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us Lord, as we bring to you our private petitions.

Silent Prayer

P: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

C: **Amen.**

The 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 pow'r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord turn to You in His favor and give you peace.

C: **(sung) Amen. Amen. Amen.**

Closing Hymn: ELH # 236 vs. 1, 3-4

"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

**Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Flee the world, which would deceive us
And to sin our souls allure.
Ever in His footsteps treading,
Body here, yet soul above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, abide with me;
Savior, lead, I follow Thee.**

**Let us also die with Jesus.
His death from the second death,
From our soul's destruction, frees us,
Quickens us with life's glad breath.
Let us mortify, while living,
Flesh and blood and die to sin;
And the grave that shuts us in
Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here I die to Thee
There to live eternally.**

**Let us gladly live with Jesus;
Since He's risen from the dead,
Death and grave must soon release us.
Jesus, Thou art now our Head,
We are truly Thine own members;
Where Thou livest, there live we.
Take and own us constantly,
Faithful Friend, as Thy dear brethren.
Jesus, here I live to Thee,
Also there eternally.**