

Order of Service
Second Sunday After Pentecost
Confirmation Sunday
June 14, 2020

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

Opening Hymn: ELH 589

"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word"

Lord, keep us steadfast in Thy Word;
Curb those who fain by craft and sword
Would wrest the Kingdom from Thy Son
And set at naught all He hath done.

Lord Jesus Christ, Thy power make known,
For Thou art Lord of lords alone;
Defend Thy Christendom that we
May evermore sing praise to Thee.

O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth.
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

(P = Pastor C= Congregation)

The Invocation

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

C: (sung) Amen.

The Confession

P: O holy and righteous God, you alone can make us clean. We have rebelled against you and sinned against everything good. 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: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given His only-begotten Son to die for us, and for His sake alone forgives us all our sins. To all who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved.

C: Grant this unto us, O Lord. Amen.

Prayer for the Day

P: O God, the strength of all who trust in you, mercifully hear our prayers. Be gracious to us in our weakness and give us strength to keep your commandments in all we say and do; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: (sung) Amen.

The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 11:18-21, 26-28

(God's Word is essential to the spiritual welfare of his people. That is why he commands us to make it the guiding principle in our thoughts and actions, our coming and going. God's Word is the greatest inheritance we can give to our children. Here God is speaking about his holy law. Only when we despair of our own efforts are we ready to turn to our Savior, Jesus Christ, who kept the law in our place.)

18 Put these words of mine in your hearts and in your soul, and tie them on your wrists as signs and as symbols on your forehead. 19 Teach them to your children by talking about them when you sit in your house and when you travel on the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 20 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates, 21 so that your days and the days of your children may be many on the land that the Lord promised to your fathers with an oath, as many as the days that the heavens remain over the earth....

26 You see, I am placing before you today a blessing and a curse: 27 the blessing, if you listen to the commandments of the LORD your God that I am giving you today, 28 or the curse, if you do not listen to the commandments of the Lord your God and you turn away from the path that I am commanding you today by walking after other gods whom you did not know. (EHV)

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 78

P: Give ear, O my people, to my instruction

C: I will open my mouth to share a lesson.

P: I will speak about puzzling problems from long ago, things we have heard and known, things our fathers have told us.

C: We will not hide them from their descendants. We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders that he has done.

P: He set up testimony for Jacob. In Israel he established the law.

C: He commanded our fathers to make it known to their children. Then the next generation would know it, even the children not yet born. They would rise up and tell their children.

P: Then they would put their confidence in God, and they would not forget the deeds of God;

C: But they would keep his commands. (EHV)

The Second Lesson – Romans 3:21-25a, 27-28

(All of us have fallen short of the righteousness God's law demands. By that standard all of us are eternally condemned. Nevertheless, God provided a way of righteousness that has nothing to do with our obedience to God's law. Far from ignoring our sins, God punished them with Jesus' death on the cross, declared all of us just, and set us free to live with him forever. Just as Christ's righteousness creates the faith that is required to embrace it, even so, it excludes all self-righteous boasting.)

21 But now, completely apart from the law, a righteousness from God has been made known. The Law and the Prophets testify to it. 22 This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all and over all who believe.

In fact, there is no difference, 23 because all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God 24 and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God publicly displayed as the atonement seat through faith in his blood....

27 What happens to boasting then? It has been eliminated. By what principle—by the principle of works? No, but by the principle of faith. 28 For we conclude that a person is justified by faith without the works of the law. (EHV)

Congregational Response: ELH 515 vs. 1, 2

Thine forever, God of Love!
Hear us from Thy throne above;
Thine forever may we be
Here and in eternity!

Thine forever, O how blest
They who find in Thee their rest!
Savior, Guardian, heavenly Friend,
O defend us to the end.

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 7:15-23

(Faith is only as strong as the truth on which it rests. The fatal attraction of false teachers is that they adorn their soul-destroying *falsehood with our Lord's name* and his divine credentials. Jesus will finally expose them as evildoers. Until then, *he says that we can recognize them "by their fruit."* *The fruit of a teacher is his teaching.* If his teaching is not in accord with the words of Scripture, we must reject him.)

15 “Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. 16 By their fruit you will recognize them. You do not gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles, do you? 17 So then, every good tree produces good fruit, but a bad tree produces bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot produce good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not produce good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 So then, by their fruit you will recognize them.

21 Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and drive out demons in your name and perform many miracles in your name?’ 23 Then I will tell them plainly, ‘I never knew you. Depart from me, you evildoers.’

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 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.

Children’s Sermonette

Hymn – ELH 512 vs. 1, 3, 4

“My God, Accept My Heart This Day”

My God, accept my heart this day
And make it always Thine
That I from Thee no more may stray,
No more from Thee decline.

Anoint me with Thy Spirit’s grace

And seal me for Thine own
That I may see Thy glorious face
And worship at Thy throne.

May the dear blood, once shed for me
My blest atonement prove
That I from first to last may be
The purchase of Thy love!

The Sermon: Matthew 7:24-29

“Hold on to the Rock!”

24 “Everyone who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on bedrock. 25 The rain came down, the rivers rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house. But it did not fall, because it was founded on bedrock.

26 Everyone who hears these words of mine but does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the rivers rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—it was completely destroyed.”

28 When Jesus finished speaking these words, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, 29 because he taught them as one who had authority, and not like their experts in the law. (EHV)

Congregational Hymn: ELH 197 vs. 1, 3

"My Hope Is Built"

My hope is built on nothing less

Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;

I dare not trust the sweetest frame

But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;

All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, and blood

Support me in the whelming flood;

When every earthly prop gives way,

He then is all my Hope and Stay. (Refrain)

Offering Prayer

Let every thought and work and word To Thee be ever giv'n;

Then life shall be Thy service, Lord, And death the gate of heav'n.

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: Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed truthfully to troubled souls everywhere.

C: Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope to the world.

P: Let Your protecting hand be over our country. Give the leaders of our local, state, and national government the gift of your Spirit of wisdom, so that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

C: Hear us, O Lord, and have mercy! Lord, help us.

P: We commend to Your care all who are in trouble, want, sickness or any other adversity, especially those who are suffering for Your name and Your truth.

C: O Lord, be with all in trouble. Hear their prayers to the honor of Your name.

P: Build up the homes of our land. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to each other and to Christian parenting. Give our children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

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 our private petitions to you.

Silent Prayer

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

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer: (spoken by all)

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.

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 219 vs. 1, 4

“Fight the Good Fight”

Fight the good fight with all your might;
Christ is your strength and Christ your right.
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Your joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God’s good grace;

Lift up your eyes, and seek His face.
Life with its way before us lies;
Christ is the path and Christ the prize.