

Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost

October 4, 2020

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Hermiston, Oregon

Christ Alone Lutheran Church, Ione, Oregon

Prayer Before Worship

O Lord, my Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

Hymn #656 "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.

With might of ours can naught be done,
Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One,
Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this?
Jesus Christ it is,
Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.

Though devils all the world should fill,
All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
They shall not overpower us.
This world's prince may still
Scowl fierce as he will,
He can harm us none.
He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.

The Word they still shall let remain
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

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Opening Versicles

L: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

L: 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.**

Introit of the Day

Psalm 118:22-24 antiphon: v.1

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;
for His steadfast love endures forever!

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**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.**

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;
for His steadfast love endures forever!

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual

recited by all

Psalm 91:11; 103:1

**He will command His angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.**

**Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless His holy name!**

Epistle Lesson

Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 21:33-46

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the Twenty-First chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. ³⁴When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' ³⁹And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons."

⁴²Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures:

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord's doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.

⁴⁴And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him."

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them.

⁴⁶And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn #544 "O Love, How Deep"

O love, how deep, how broad, how high,
Beyond all thought and fantasy,
That God, the Son of God, should take
Our mortal form for mortals' sake!

He sent no angel to our race,
Of higher or of lower place,
But wore the robe of human frame,
And to this world Himself He came.

For us baptized, for us He bore
His holy fast and hungered sore;
For us temptation sharp He knew;
For us the tempter overthrew.

For us He prayed; for us He taught;
For us His daily works He wrought,
By words and signs and actions thus
Still seeking not Himself but us.

For us by wickedness betrayed,
For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,
He bore the shameful cross and death;
For us He gave His dying breath.

For us He rose from death again;
For us He went on high to reign;
For us He sent His Spirit here
To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

△ All glory to our Lord and God
For love so deep, so high, so broad;
The Trinity whom we adore
Forever and forevermore.

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Sermon

Offering

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 #769 "Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ"

sung to: #637 "Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"

Eternal Spirit of the living Christ,
I know not how to ask or what to say;
I only know my need, as deep as life,
And only You can teach me how to pray.

Come, pray in me the prayer I need this day;
Help me to see Your purpose and Your will—
Where I have failed, what I have done amiss;
Held in forgiving love, let me be still.

Come with the strength I lack, bring vision clear
Of human need; O give me eyes to see
Fulfillment of my life in love outpoured,
My life in You, O Christ; Your love in me.

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Kyrie

L: O Lord,	C: have mercy.
L: O Christ,	C: have mercy.
L: O Lord,	C: have mercy.

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.**

Versicles

**L: Hear my prayer, O Lord;
C: let my cry come to You.**

L: In the day of my trouble I call upon You;

C: for You answer me.

L: Hide Your face from my sins,

C: and blot out all my iniquities.

L: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

C: and renew a right spirit within me.

L: Cast me not away from Your presence,

C: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.

L: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,

C: and uphold me with a willing spirit.

L: Because Your steadfast love is better than life,

C: my lips will praise You.

L: For You have been my help,

C: and in the shadow of Your wings I will sing for joy.

L: Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;

C: unite my heart to fear Your name.

L: I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,

C: and I will glorify Your name forever.

L: May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.

C: May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

L: Save Your people and bless Your heritage!

C: Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

L: . . . *Congregational prayers are offered here* . . . Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;

C: listen to my plea for grace.

Collects

L: Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love, and grant us the fullness of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

All: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Benedicamus and Blessing

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

L: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: Amen.

Hymn #912 "Christ is our Cornerstone"

Christ is our cornerstone,
On Him alone we build;
With His true saints alone
The courts of heav'n are filled.
On His great love
Our hopes we place Of present grace
And joys above.

Here may we gain from heav'n
The grace which we implore,
And may that grace, once giv'n,
Be with us evermore
Until that day
When all the blest To endless rest
Are called away.

△ Oh, then, with hymns of praise
These hallowed courts shall ring;
Our voices we will raise
The Three in One to sing
And thus proclaim
In joyful song, Both loud and long,
That glorious name.

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Scripture for October

Romans 12:12 NIV

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

What's Happening This Week

Worship: At Bethlehem (*Hermiston*) Sunday at 9 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
At Christ Alone (*lone*) Sunday at 8 a.m.

Bible Study: At the Lone Market Wednesday at 7 a.m.

Men's Prayer Breakfast: At Bethlehem Wednesday at 6:00 a.m.

Doxology #805 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

△ Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

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