

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 8, 2018

8:30 a.m.

AS WE GATHER

God's power, grace, and mercy stands in contrast to our weakness. The psalmist urges us to lift up our eyes to God, especially in times of distress. In the Old Testament Reading, Ezekiel is sent to rebellious Israel to speak the Word of the Lord. Likewise, in the Gospel, Jesus comes to His hometown to teach, but He is rejected. And in the Epistle, we find the theme in its clearest depiction as Paul boasts and rejoices in his weakness, because when he is weak, then he is strong, and God most clearly showcases His power, grace, and mercy.

PRELUDE

"There Is A Redeemer"

arr. by Lloyd Larson

The congregation turns and faces the cross as the procession approaches the altar reminding us that Christ leads us into the presence of God.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Please stand

ENTRANCE HYMN

907 God Himself Is Present

INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Leader: The Sun of righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing. Let us gather under the wings of God's mercy. Gracious God,

People: **we acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess our sins – those known to us that burden our hearts, and those unknown to us but seen by You. We know that before You nothing remains hidden, and in You everything is revealed. Free us from the slavery of sin; liberate us from the bondage of guilt; work in us that which is pleasing in Your sight; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Leader: From the house of David, God raised up a mighty Savior.

People: **Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who comes to set us free.**

Leader: Remembering the covenant, God delivered us from our enemies.

People: **Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who comes to set us free.**

Leader: Before God we are holy and righteous, free to worship without fear.

People: **Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who comes to set us free.**

Leader: With a heart full of mercy and compassion, God saves us and forgives us all our sins. Christ, the dawn from on high, shines upon us, and by the light of the Holy Spirit guides our feet into the way of peace.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Give to Our God Immortal Praise" (tune: I Know that My Redeemer Lives)

**Give to our God immortal praise! Mercy and truth are all his ways;
Wonders of grace to God belong; Repeat his mercies in your song.**

**He sent his Son with pow'r to save From guilt and darkness and the grave.
Wonders of grace to God belong; Repeat his mercies in your song.**

**Give to the Lord of lords renown; The King of kings with glory crown.
His mercies ever shall endure When lords and kings are known no more!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: **Almighty God, Your grace is sufficient for us. When we are weak and suffering, point us back to You, our source of strength and comfort, that we rejoice in Your power, mercy, and grace, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

EXCHANGE OF PEACE

WELCOME

✠ WORD ✠

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 2:1-5

(Ezekiel is sent to Israel, a nation of rebels, with God's Word.)

¹ He said to me, "Son of man, stand up on your feet and I will speak to you." ² As he spoke, the Spirit came into me and raised me to my feet, and I heard him speaking to me.

³ He said: "Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against me; they and their fathers have been in revolt against me to this very day. ⁴ The people to whom I am sending you are obstinate and stubborn. Say to them, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says.' ⁵ And whether they listen or fail to listen--for they are a rebellious house--they will know that a prophet has been among them.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALMODY

“Psalm 123: O Lord, Hear My Prayer”

Hal H. Hopson

Refrain

Lord, hear my prayer; come and
help me. Lord, hear my prayer.

*I lift my eyes to you, O Lord, Your throne, earth's canopy;
As masters hold their servants dear, So, Lord, remember me. **Refrain***

*More like a child than bonded slave, I claim your grace outright;
The proud shall fall, but yet the meek Find favor in your sight. **Refrain***

*Your boundless mercies, Lord, outweigh The scorn we must endure;
While foes shall fade in their contempt, Your love will long endure. **Refrain***

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EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 12:1–10

(We rejoice in our weaknesses because they showcase the power, mercy, and grace of Christ.)

¹ I must go on boasting. Although there is nothing to be gained, I will go on to visions and revelations from the Lord. ² I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know--God knows. ³ And I know that this man--whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows--⁴ was caught up to paradise. He heard inexpressible things, things that man is not permitted to tell. ⁵ I will boast about a man like that, but I will not boast about myself, except about my weaknesses. ⁶ Even if I should choose to boast, I would not be a fool, because I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain, so no one will think more of me than is warranted by what I do or say.

⁷ To keep me from becoming conceited because of these surpassingly great revelations, there was given me a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. ⁸ Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. ⁹ But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. ¹⁰ That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6:1–13

(Jesus is rejected in His hometown but sends out the twelve disciples to proclaim repentance, cast out demons, and heal the sick.)

¹ Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. ² When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.

"Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him, that he even does miracles!" ³ Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

⁴ Jesus said to them, "Only in his hometown, among his relatives and in his own house is a prophet without honor." ⁵ He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. ⁶ And he was amazed at their lack of faith.

Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village. ⁷ Calling the Twelve to him, he sent them out two by two and gave them authority over evil spirits.

(continued on next page)

⁸ These were his instructions: "Take nothing for the journey except a staff--no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. ⁹ Wear sandals but not an extra tunic. ¹⁰ Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. ¹¹ And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, shake the dust off your feet when you leave, as a testimony against them."

¹² They went out and preached that people should repent. ¹³ They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE WORD

839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Please stand

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.

OFFERING

"Eclogue"

G. Finzi, arr. by R. Gower

Please stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

+++ Special Intercessions +++

Each concluding: **Leader:** Lord, in Your mercy, **People:** hear our prayer.

Leader: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please turn towards the cross as it is carried out of the church, and remain facing it until the hymn is completed. This symbolizes our following Christ into the world as we leave.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

POSTLUDE

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

setting by Charles W. Ore

Prepare for next weekend’s worship by reading:

Amos 7:7-15; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29

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Serving at Chapel

Preacher:	Theodore Laesch	
Liturgists:	5:00 p.m.	Jake Bellinghausen
	8:30 a.m.	Orval Mueller
	11:00 a.m.	Clifford Bischoff
Lectors:	8:30 a.m.	Lynn Freund
	11:00 a.m.	Jan Arban
Acolytes:	5:00 p.m.	Alex Uttley
	8:30 a.m.	Zachary Oliver
	11:00 a.m.	Cassie Dunn
Organist & Accompanist:	Ryan Meyer	
Radio Announcer:	Mike Powell	
Elder of the Week:	David Stahlhut	