

FOLLOW THE SON
Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
8-03-25

Theme: Shining the Light on our Possessions.

Our Summer Series at Grace will focus on Discipleship, focusing on following Jesus, the Son. This week let us shine the Light on our possessions and what Christ says about the useful resources our gracious Father provides to us.

† GOD CALLS US †

SONG
“Father Welcomes”

Refrain:

**Father welcomes all His children to His fam’ly through His Son.
Father giving His salvation, Life forever has been won.**

**Little children, come to me, For My kingdom is of these.
Life and love I have to give, Mercy for your sin.
Father welcomes all His children to His fam’ly through His Son.
Father giving His salvation, Life forever has been won.**

**In the water, in the Word, in His promise, be assured:
Those who are baptized and believe, Shall be born again.
Father welcomes all His children to His fam’ly through His Son.
Father giving His salvation, Life forever has been won.**

**Let us daily die to sin; let us daily rise with Him
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord, Live in the peace of God.
Father welcomes all His children to His fam’ly through His Son.
Father giving His salvation, Life forever has been won.**

BAPTISM
Dean Alexander Urbach

† GOD CLEANSSES US †

TIME OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

ALL: Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

ALL: Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have sinned against you. We have done the things that we should not have done and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Forgive us, renew us, and restore us according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake He forgives all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I declare with joy, "Your sins are forgiven!" In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

"Lord Of Glory You have Bought Us" (LSB 851 v. 1 & 2)

Lord of glory, you have bought us With your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones That tremendous sacrifice;
And with that have freely given Blessings countless as the sand
To th' unthankful and the evil With your own unsparing hand.

2-Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you Gladly, freely of your own.
With the sunshine of your goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by you, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.

† GOD SPEAKS WITH US †

OLD TESTAMENT

Ecclesiastes 1:1-2, 12-14; 2:18-26

The words of the Teacher,^[a] son of David, king in Jerusalem:

² "Meaningless! Meaningless!"
says the Teacher.

"Utterly meaningless!
Everything is meaningless."

¹² I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ I applied my mind to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under the heavens. What a heavy burden God

has laid on mankind! ¹⁴ I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

¹⁸ I hated all the things I had toiled for under the sun, because I must leave them to the one who comes after me. ¹⁹ And who knows whether that person will be wise or foolish? Yet they will have control over all the fruit of my toil into which I have poured my effort and skill under the sun. This too is meaningless. ²⁰ So my heart began to despair over all my toilsome labor under the sun. ²¹ For a person may labor with wisdom, knowledge and skill, and then they must leave all they own to another who has not toiled for it. This too is meaningless and a great misfortune. ²² What do people get for all the toil and anxious striving with which they labor under the sun? ²³ All their days their work is grief and pain; even at night their minds do not rest. This too is meaningless.

²⁴ A person can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in their own toil. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, ²⁵ for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment? ²⁶ To the person who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness, but to the sinner he gives the task of gathering and storing up wealth to hand it over to the one who pleases God. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

EPISTLE Colossians 3:1-11

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. ³ For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ, who is your ^[a] life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ^[b] ⁷ You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸ But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.

¹¹ Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.”

¹⁴ Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” ¹⁵ Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.”

¹⁶ And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’

¹⁸ “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹ And I’ll say to myself, “You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.”’

²⁰ “But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?’

²¹ “This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God.”

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ!

MESSAGE

SONG

“Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart”

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ, His Son.

And now let the weak say, “I am strong,” let the poor say
“I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us.”

And now let the weak say, “I am strong,” let the poor say
“I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us.”

Give Thanks, give thanks.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
- The Apostles' Creed (MON)

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

BRINGING OF OUR BLESSINGS
with Thanksgiving in our Offering

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER (MON)

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

† GOD GIVES TO US †
The body and blood of Jesus given for you

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE DISTRIBUTION
"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be. *Refrain*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness

To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain*

Refrain

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

“Children Of the Heavenly Father”

Children of the heav’nly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e’er was given;

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.

Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever,
Unto them His grace He showeth,
And their sorrows all he knoweth.

Tho’ He giveth or He taketh,
God His children ne’er forsaketh,
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.

THE DISMISSAL

CLOSING SONG

“Sent Forth By God’s Blessing” (LSB 643)

Sent forth by God’s blessing, Our true faith confessing,
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
The Supper is ended. Oh, now be extended
The fruits of this service in all who believe.

The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

With praise and thanksgiving To God ever living,
The tasks of our ev'ry-day life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

† GOD BLESSES US & SENDS US OUT †

BLESSING

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon
you and be gracious to you; The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
ALL: Amen!

THE DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
ALL: Thanks be to God!