

UNEXPECTED TRUTHS

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8-16-26

WORSHIP THEME: There are so many wonderful surprises that God reveals in the Word of God. Biblical truth is revealed by God and cannot be discovered by reason alone. While some truth can be obvious to human reason, the truths of the Bible are often unexpected. Today, the unexpected truth revealed is that “there is mercy for all.”

† GOD CALLS †

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 67

Pastor: May God be gracious to us and bless us,
ALL: And make His face to shine upon us.

Pastor: May the peoples praise you, O God;
ALL: may all the peoples praise you.

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
ALL: Amen!

OPENING SONG

“I Stand Amazed”

I bring You my heart, I bring You my praise,
I bring You my broken dreams I’ve lost along the way.
I lift up my voice, I lift up my hands,
I lift up the moments in my life that I don’t understand

And I lay it at the cross
Where I’m surrounded by Your grace
And I marvel at the wonder of Your love

Chorus

I stand amazed, I stand in awe
I stand forgiven in the midst of it all
Before You I bow, before You I fall
Blessed Redeemer, sweet Savior of all
I stand amazed

I offer You thanks, I offer my life
I offer a sacrifice of praise
When I'm scattered by the night
For You are my shelter
You are my King
You are the risen Son of God
The Lord of everything

And I'm standing at the cross
Where I'm surrounded by Your grace
And I marvel at the wonder of Your love

I stand amazed, I stand in awe
I stand forgiven in the midst of it all
Before You I bow, before You I fall
Blessed Redeemer, sweet Savior of all

And there is life in His body
There is grace in His blood
There is peace for the sinner
Given by God's love

I stand amazed, I stand in awe
I stand forgiven in the midst of it all
Before You I bow, before You I fall
Blessed Redeemer, sweet Savior of all
I stand amazed

† GOD CLEANSSES †

TIME OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus to forgive us.

ALL: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, for sins of habit and sins of choice, for the evil I have done and good I have failed to do, You should cast me from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

Pastor: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In His great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word

of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

SONG OF PRAISE
“The Gospel Doxology”

**Your perfect Law exposes me
I feel my sin and desperate need
My best good works are powerless
To satisfy Your righteousness**

**But there is One who lived for me
His life, my only victory
His death forever sealed in time
That I am His and He is mine**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below,
Praise him above, O heav’nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you all!

ALL: And also with you!

† GOD SPEAKS †

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

FIRST READING
Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

**This is what the Lord says:
“Maintain justice
and do what is right,
for my salvation is close at hand
and my righteousness will soon be revealed.**

**And foreigners who bind themselves to the Lord
to minister to him,**

to love the name of the Lord,
and to be his servants,
all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it
and who hold fast to my covenant—
⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain
and give them joy in my house of prayer.
Their burnt offerings and sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house will be called
a house of prayer for all nations.”
⁸ The Sovereign Lord declares—
he who gathers the exiles of Israel:
“I will gather still others to them
besides those already gathered.”

SECOND READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. ² God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew.

²⁹ for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, ³¹ so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now ^[a] receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. ³² For God has bound everyone over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.”

²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”

²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”

²⁵ The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said.

²⁶ He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”

²⁷ “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”

²⁸ Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;

who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.

And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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 power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

SONG OF THE DAY

"His Mercy Is More"

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?
Omniscient, all knowing, he counts not their sum;
thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
our sins they are many, his mercy is more.

Praise the Lord! His mercy is more!
Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn;
our sins they are many, his mercy is more!

What patience would wait as we constantly roam,
what Father so tender is calling us home!
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor;
our sins they are many, his mercy is more.

Praise the Lord! His mercy is more!
Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn;
our sins they are many, his mercy is more!

What riches of kindness he lavished on us;
his blood was the payment, his life was the cost.
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford;
our sins they are many his mercy is more.

Praise the Lord! His mercy is more!
Stronger than darkness, new ev'ry morn;
our sins they are many, his mercy is more!

Our sins they are many,
his mercy is more!

MESSAGE

† GOD GIVES †

Here our Lord gives to us His own Body and Blood for the forgiveness of all our sins.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION

“Jesus Thy Blood and Righteousness”

1. Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress:
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift up my head.

2. Bold shall I stand in that great day,
Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;
Fully absolved through these I am
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

3. Lord, I believe Thy precious blood,
Which at the mercy seat of God
Pleads for the captives' liberty,
Was also shed in love for me.

4. Lord, I believe, were sinners more
Than sands upon the ocean shore,
Thou hast for all a ransom paid,
For all a full atonement made.

5. When from the dust of death I rise
To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea:
Jesus lived and died for me.

6. Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made,
An everlasting ransom paid.

“I Know that My Redeemer Lives”

**1 I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living Head.**

**2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.**

**3 He lives to bless me with His love,
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.**

**4 He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.**

**5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.**

**6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly Friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.**

**7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.**

**8 He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives;
I know that my Redeemer lives!**

DISMISSAL

CLOSING SONG “Mighty To Save”

Everyone needs compassion Love that's never failing
Let mercy fall on me Everyone needs forgiveness
The kindness of a Savior The hope of nations

Chorus: Savior He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save
He is mighty to save
Forever Author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave

So take me as You find me All my fears and failures
Fill my life again I give my life to follow
Everything I believe in Now I surrender

Savior He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save
He is mighty to save
Forever Author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave

Savior He can move the mountains
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He is mighty to save
Forever Author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave

† GOD BLESSES & SENDS †

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!

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord!

ALL: Thanks be to God