

FOLLOW THE SON

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

8-10-25

Theme: Shining the Light on God's Word.

Our Summer Series at Grace will focus on Discipleship, focusing on following Jesus, the Son. This week let us shine the Light on God's Word in the midst of fear, trusting in God's promises.

† GOD CALLS US †

SONG

"The Church's One Foundation" (LSB 644 v. 1-2)

**1-The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord.
She is His new creation
By water and the Word
From heav'n he came and sought her
To be His holy bride
With His own blood he bought her
And for her life He died**

**2 Elect from ev'ry nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation:
One Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses,
With ev'ry grace endued.**

BAPTISM

† 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 *"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.

† GOD SPEAKS WITH US †

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

OLD TESTAMENT Genesis 15:1-6

After this, the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision:

"Do not be afraid, Abram.

I am your shield,^[a]

your very great reward.^[b]"

² But Abram said, “Sovereign Lord, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit^[c] my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³ And Abram said, “You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir.”

⁴ Then the word of the Lord came to him: “This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir.” ⁵ He took him outside and said, “Look up at the sky and count the stars—if indeed you can count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring^[d] be.”

⁶ Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him as righteousness.

EPISTLE Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for.

³ By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. ⁹ By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

¹⁰ For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she^[a] considered him faithful who had made the promise. ¹² And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

¹³ All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.

¹⁴ People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore, God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

HOLY GOSPEL
Luke 12:22-34

Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes.

²⁴ Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! ²⁵ Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life^[a]? ²⁶ Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?

²⁷ “Consider how the wild flowers grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. ²⁸ If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today, and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! ²⁹ And do not set your heart on what you will eat or drink; do not worry about it. ³⁰ For the pagan world runs after all such things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ But seek his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

³² “Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ!

SONG of the DAY
“Thy Strong Word” (LSB 578 v. 1-3)

1-Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee,
While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

2-Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation,
Breathed Thine own life breathing breath.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send.

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

3-Thy strong Word be-speaks us righteous;
Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise to Thee who light dost send.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia without end!

MESSAGE

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 Thankfulness 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
“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul He leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid
And home rejoicing brought me.

In death’s dark vale I fear no ill
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever.

“I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus” (CW 816 (Big Blue))

1-I am trusting you, Lord Jesus, Trusting only you;
Trusting you for full salvation, Free and true.

2-I am trusting you for pardon; At your feet I bow,
For your grace and tender mercy Trusting now.

3-I am trusting you for cleansing In the crimson flood;
Trusting you to make me holy By your blood.

4-I am trusting you to guide me; You alone shall lead,
Every day and hour supplying All my need.

5-I am trusting you for power; You can never fail;
Words which you yourself shall give me Must Prevail.

6-I am trusting you, Lord Jesus; Never let me fall;
I am trusting you forever And for all.

THE DISMISSAL

CLOSING SONG *"Cornerstone"*

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus name

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus name

Christ alone; cornerstone
Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love
Through the storm, He is Lord
Lord of all

When Darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil

Christ alone; cornerstone
Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love
Through the storm, He is Lord
Lord of all

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found;
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless I stand before the throne.

**Christ alone; cornerstone
Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love
Through the storm, He is Lord
Lord of all**

† 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!