



Ordinary Time Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2020
Online Worship - 10 A.M.

Celebrating the Risen Christ through Acts of Love, Care and Justice

THEME OF THE DAY

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation. (Lectionary 23, Year A)

PRELUDE

Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether

James Biery

TOLLING THE WORSHIP HOUR

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

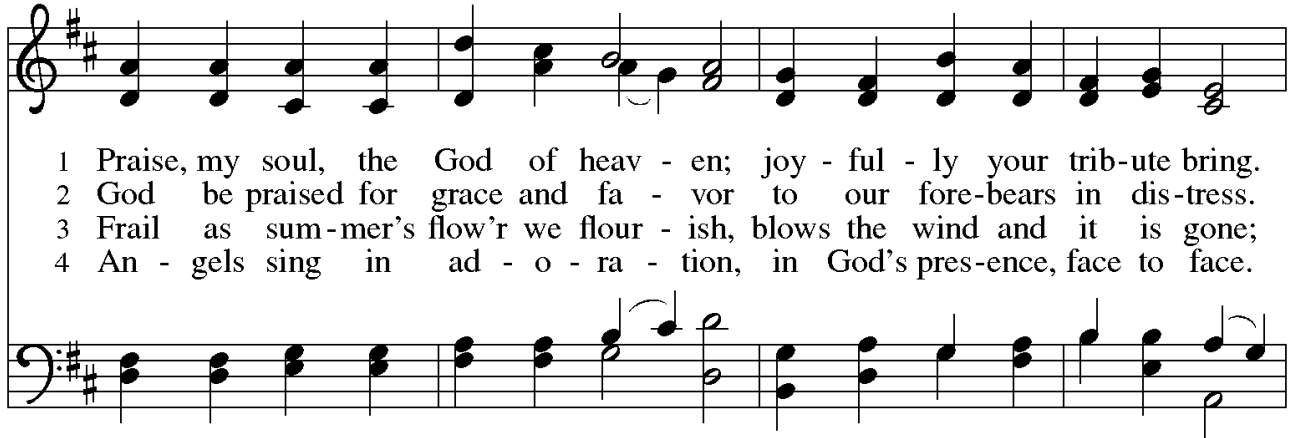
Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

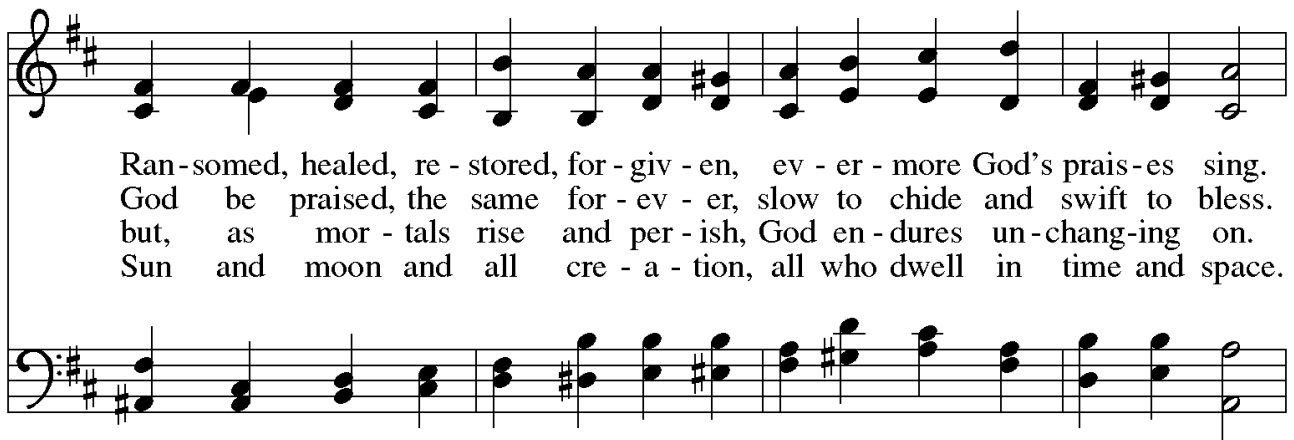
have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

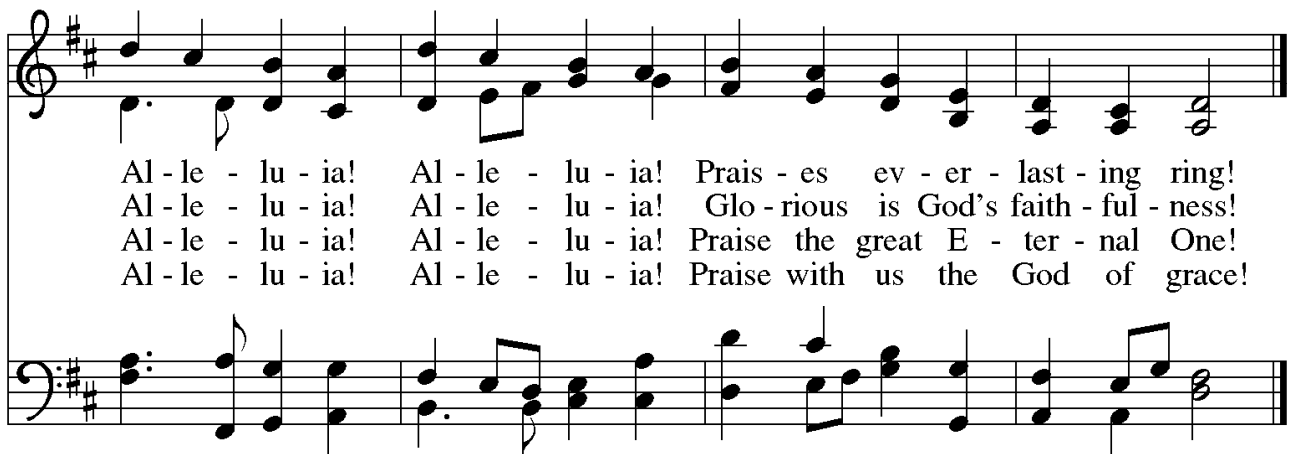
Amen.



1 Praise, my soul, the God of heav - en; joy - ful - ly your trib-ute bring.
 2 God be praised for grace and fa - vor to our fore-bears in dis-tress.
 3 Frail as sum-mer's flow'r we flour - ish, blows the wind and it is gone;
 4 An - gels sing in ad - o - ra - tion, in God's pres-ence, face to face.



Ran-somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more God's prais-es sing.
 God be praised, the same for - ev - er, slow to chide and swift to bless.
 but, as mor - tals rise and per - ish, God en - dures un - chang - ing on.
 Sun and moon and all cre - a - tion, all who dwell in time and space.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Prais - es ev - er - last - ing ring!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious is God's faith - ful - ness!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the great E - ter - nal One!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847; alt. Walter R. Bouman, 1927–2005
 Music: PRAISE, MY SOUL, John Goss, 1800–1880


GREETING

The grace of our ✠ Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with You.

And also with you.

Let us pray... O Lord God,

enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

W O R D

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 33:7-11

God appointed Ezekiel as a sentinel for the house of Israel. Ezekiel must faithfully convey God's warnings to the people. Remarkably, God—who is about to attack Jerusalem—gives a warning with the hope that repentance will make the attack unnecessary.

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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³³ Teach me, O LORD, the way | of your statutes,* and I shall keep it | to the end.

³⁴ **Give me understanding, and I shall | keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with | all my heart.**

³⁵ Lead me in the path of | your commandments,* for that is | my desire.

³⁶ **Incline my heart to | your decrees* and not to | unjust gain.**

³⁷ Turn my eyes from be- | holding falsehood;* give me life | in your way.

³⁸ **Fulfill your promise | to your servant,* which is for | those who fear you.**

³⁹ Turn away the reproach | that I dread,* because your judg- | ments are good.

⁴⁰ **Behold, I long for | your commandments;* by your righteousness en- | liven me.**

The obligation of Christians is to love one another and so fulfill the heart and goal of the law. Clothes make the person as we “put on the Lord Jesus Christ” and live today in light of the future God has in store for us.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is,

how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

ALLELUIA VERSE (ALL sing)

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Jesus offers practical advice to his disciples on how individuals—and the church as a whole—should go about restoring relationships when one member has sinned against another.

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 18

Glory to You, O Lord

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen

even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

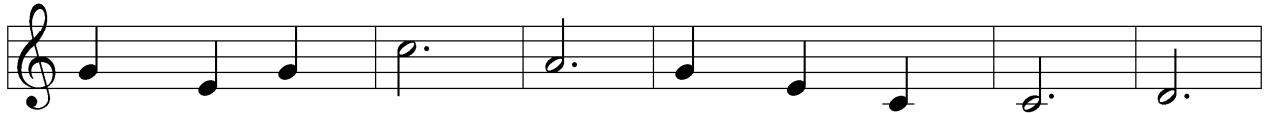
The Gospel of Our Lord!
Praise to You, O Christ



1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,
 2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,
 3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken.
 4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,



un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.
 blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,
 This is Christ's prom - ise, this is Christ's sign:
 bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.



When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,
 yet Christ walks with us ev - er a - wait - ing
 when the church gath - ers, when bread is bro - ken,
 Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing



and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.
 our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.
 there Christ is with us in bread and wine.
 that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic melody

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PROFESSION OF FAITH — APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

(after each petition) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer....**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We share the peace of Christ with one another.

GATHERING OF GIFTS

The God of Abraham Praise

Richard Proulx

Make your offering via US mail, or at: give.rlcplano.org



Or scan here to give online. Thank you!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray...Blessed are you, O God,
maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

We thank you, O God, for your life-giving Word, for calling creation into being, declaring forgiveness from the cross, and delivering the spirit of rebirth.

We praise you, O God, for your Word.

Your word is a lamp lighting our path, a mirror reflecting our selves, a shield providing us refuge, a fire burning for justice and truth. Your word is sweeter than honey: it nourishes our bodies like milk, it sustains your people like bread. We receive your promises, more treasured than gold.

We bless you, O God, for your Word.

Open our ears to your prophets, apostles, and saints, and to all the cries of the needy. Breathe into your church the mighty Spirit of Christ, that heeding your voice of beauty and power we are strengthened to serve wherever we are called.

To you, Father, Son, and Spirit – the Source, Word, and Breath -- we offer our thanks for your life-giving Word. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (modern text)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING

BENEDICTION

Mothering God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

ELW 836

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - jice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922
 Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

Wayne L. Wold



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