

THE CHURCH IS... MADE FOR MORE.

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A SERMON SERIES

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8:30 a.m. ~ Sunday, September 18th

PRELUDE

“Praise the Almighty, My Soul Adore Him”

arr. John Behnke

Organ

WELCOME & RELATIONSHIPS of PEACE

OPENING HYMN “The Church’s One Foundation”

OPENING LITURGY

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the LORD,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O LORD, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Remember that you were once separated from Christ, having no hope and without God in the world.

C: But now in Christ Jesus we who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace.

[Moment of silent reflection]

P: Although God has graciously showered the light of His love on us, we have not responded in lives of total devotion. But because He has graciously promised to forgive, let us go to Him in the name of “Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in Him.”

C: Gracious Lord, we confess that we have not feared, loved, and trusted in You above all things. We have allowed other things to distract us from Your presence in our homes and Your mission in our lives. We have not extended Your saving love to others as we ought, choosing to keep Your good blessings to ourselves instead of sharing them with those around us. Have mercy upon us, O Lord. Grant us the Spirit of Jesus, who cleanses us from our sin that we may worship You with joyful hearts and proclaim Your kingdom all our days. Amen.

P: Hear this Good New: even when we were dead in our trespasses,

C: God made us alive together with Christ.

P: For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son,

C: that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

P: God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us,

C: made us alive together with Christ.

P: God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world,

C: but in order that the world might be saved through Him.

P: By grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, Almighty, who had mercy upon us and gave His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sin. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C: Amen.

P: In peace, “holy and blameless before Him,” let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For peace from God’s blessing us in Christ, choosing “us in Him before the foundation of the world,” let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, in which all things work “according to the counsel of His will,” let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and all places where people hear “the word of truth, the gospel of Your salvation,” let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord, until we acquire possession of our inheritance.

C: Amen.

RESPONSE “The Church’s One Foundation”

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON **Ephesians 1:3-14** *[ESV]*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

R: This is the Word of Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

STATEMENT of FAITH *The Apostles' Creed*

RESPONSE "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

SERMON "LESS US, MORE JESUS"

OFFERING

RESPONSE "Great God of Every Blessing"

PRAYERS of the CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P: Always and everywhere praise and thanks are due to You, almighty God, through Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, by whose perfect obedience and all-sufficient sacrifice we are bold to stand in Your presence, now and in the day of judgment. Therefore, with those who bear Your name on earth and those who praise Your name on high, we join in the everlasting hymn:

SANCTUS

WORDS of INSTITUTION

THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

“By Grace I’m Saved”

Organ

arr. John Behnke

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

NUNC DIMITTIS

POSTLUDE

“Trumpet Tune”

Organ

Raymond Haan



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Use the listing above and match the Elder
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