



+ Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2020

**St. Andrew Lutheran Church
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Order for Worship

*As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith.
In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God:
a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that expands and lifts up, a treasured pearl,
a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign,
the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!*

Prelude

Introduction

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who forgive all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people,
turning us from our sin to live for you alone.

Give us the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may confess our sin,
receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

**In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
things we have done and things we have failed to do.**

**Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved.

In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you
with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C: Amen.

Refrain

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor trials in the present, nor any trial to come,
neither height, nor depth, nor all of creation
can ever separate us from the love of God
poured out in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

- 1 Dwell in the one who raised Christ from the dead;
though your body shall die, in Christ you shall rise
through the Spirit who brings you to life. *Refrain*
- 2 All who are led by the Spirit shall live
as children of God, and heirs with Christ Jesus,
God's adopted and chosen and loved. *Refrain*
- 3 All of the suffering we now must endure
is nothing to the glory so soon to be revealed
when creation itself is set free. *Refrain*
- 4 All of creation awaits the new birth,
the fullness of redemption, through labor pains of love,
and so we wait in patience and hope. *Refrain*
- 5 Who can separate us from the love of Christ?
Will hardship or distress, persecution or famine,
or nakedness or peril or sword? *Refrain*

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Romans 8. Text © 2001 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
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Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Glory to God, Glory in the Highest

Leader



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high-est!

All



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high-est!

Leader



To God be glo-ry for-ev-er!

All



To God be glo-ry for-ev-er!

Leader



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Leader



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1, 2



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1, 2



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Leader



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1, 2, 3



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Group 1, 2, 3



Al-le-lu-ia! A-men!

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Reading – 1 Kings 3: 5-12

⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” ⁶And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?”

¹⁰It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹²I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119: 129-136

The psalm will be sung by a cantor.

People of the assembly are invited to respond with the verses in bold.

¹²⁹Your de- | crees are wonderful;

therefore I obey them with | all my heart.

¹³⁰**When your word is opened | it gives light;**
it gives understanding | to the simple.

¹³¹I open my | mouth and pant

because I long for | your commandments.

¹³²**Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,**
as you always do to those who | love your name.

¹³³Order my footsteps | in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion | over me.
¹³⁴**Rescue me from those | who oppress me,
and I will keep | your commandments.**
¹³⁵Let your face shine up- | on your servant
and teach | me your statutes.
¹³⁶**My eyes shed | streams of tears,
because people do not | keep your teaching.**

Second Reading – Romans 8: 26-39

²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. ²⁹For those whom God foreknew, God also predestined to be conformed to the image of God's Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom God predestined, God also called; and those whom God called, God also justified; and those whom God justified, God also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²The one who did not withhold God's own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will God not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long;
we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through the one who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah



Music: Caribbean traditional

Gospel – Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

P: The holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

⁴⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵²And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

The Reign of God

Dolores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

North American traditional

Like mus - tard tree the reign of God from
Though hid - den now the reign of God may
The reign of God is come in Christ, the

3
ti - ny seed will spread; till birds of ev - 'ry
yet un - not - iced grow; from deep with - in it
6 reign of God is near, a - blaze a - mong us,

feath - er come to nest, and there be fed.
ris - es up, like yeast in swell - ing dough.
kind - ling hearts, the reign of God is here.

Thanksgiving for the Word

P: Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things:
you spoke the world into existence, called forth beauty from chaos,
and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts:
freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile,
wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness:
forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death,
the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

C: we give you thanks and praise.

P: O God of justice and love, send your Spirit of truth;
rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope,
and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need.
Draw near to all who call on you, O God, and help us to be faithful to your Word.
Give us the guidance we need for the days ahead, and at the end
bring all the world to your feast through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: Amen.

Prayers of the People

P: Confident of your care, O God, and with the help of the Holy Spirit,
we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

After each petition

P: God of mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude

P: In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love,
we offer these prayers to you, loving God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: 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.

Benediction

P: Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, ✠ Jesus Christ, our redeemer, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

Following Page

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



- 1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Abbreviations

P: Pastor/Presiding Minister

L: Lector

C: Congregation

ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal

Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements

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