

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday, June 16, 2018

5:00 PM

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## *GIVING THANKS TO GOD THROUGH WORSHIP*



**Welcome!** We hope that your time in worship will encourage and strengthen your relationship with God. We share the greatest hope through the One who loves you most – Jesus Christ! We invite all worshipers today to fill out the Fellowship Pew Pad during the offering portion of worship. You are also invited to make a prayer request on the blue card, which is in the pew rack and then place the card in the offering plate or hand them to an usher. We pray God’s blessings upon you and invite you to worship with us every Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday morning at 9:00 am.

### **AS WE GATHER WE PRAY**

*Almighty and everlasting God, always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than we either desire or deserve, pour down upon us the abundance of Your mercy, forgiving those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things that we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

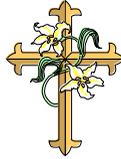
The paraments are green, a change from the previous Sunday’s white. Green is the symbolic color of life in nature and so represents our spiritual life in God’s kingdom of Grace.

### **THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE (June 17 – June 23)**

**2 Corinthians 5:17:** *“If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God.” (NIV)*

**WELCOME**

✠ DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE ✠  
(Lutheran Service Book, Page 151)



**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. [Matt. 28:19b]

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People: But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** [1 John 1:8-9]

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** ≈ *Glory to God in the Highest (Sung – LSB page 154)*

Pastor: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:  
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:  
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.  
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
In the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*[Luke 2:14; John1:29]*

**SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *[2 Timothy 4:22]*

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠**

**OLD TESTAMENT: EZEKIEL 17:22-24**

“This is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will take a shoot from the very top of a cedar and plant it; I will break off a tender sprig from its topmost shoots and plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain heights of Israel I will plant it; it will produce branches and bear fruit and become a splendid cedar. Birds of every kind will nest in it; they will find shelter in the shade of its branches. All the trees of the forest will

know that I the LORD bring down the tall tree and make the low tree grow tall. I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish.

““I the LORD have spoken, and I will do it.”” (NIV)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.** (*Responses are spoken*)

## **NEW TESTAMENT: 2 CORINTHIANS 5:1-10**

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed instead with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. Now the one who has fashioned us for this very purpose is God, who has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. For we live by faith, not by sight. We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad. (NIV)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*Please rise*

**ALLELUIA** (*Sung – LSB page 156*)

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

*[John 6:68]*

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL: MARK 4:26-34**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

[Jesus] also said, “This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though

he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain – first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come.”

Again he said, “What shall we say the kingdom of God is like, or what parable shall we use to describe it? It is like a mustard seed, which is the smallest of all seeds on earth. Yet when planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all garden plants, with such big branches that the birds can perch in its shade.”

With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything. (NIV)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

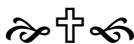
*Please be seated*

**HYMN** “*Come, Thou Almighty King*” – LSB 905 (Please rise for verse 4)

## THE SERMON

**2 Corinthians 5:17:** “*If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God.*” (NIV)

*Please rise*



## GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

*“Seek Ye First” – LSB 712*

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God, And His righteousness.  
And all these things shall be added unto you! Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find,  
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Man does not live by bread alone, But by ev'ry word  
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord, Alleluia, alleluia!**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*O God, hear the prayers and petitions of Your people. We do not make requests of You because we are righteous, but because of Your great mercy (Daniel 9:18).*

*Please be seated*

## SHARING GOD'S BLESSINGS: THE OFFERING

*Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all you produce. – Proverbs 3:9*

Because we value your presence in worship and desire to serve you as best as we can, please use this time to complete the Fellowship Pew Pad and pass it to your neighbor. Prayer requests may be made by filling out the green card in the pew rack in front of you and placing it in the offering plate.

## MUSICAL OFFERING

### PRAYER

Pastor: We pray together:

**People: Lord God, our heavenly Father, stir up Your Holy Spirit in our hearts that He may rule and direct us according to Your will. Enlighten us with Your favor and kindness that we may forever give You thanks for Your grace, be strengthened in all times of tribulation and temptation, and increase in all good works; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## 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.**

## BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you + peace.

**People: Amen.**

**HYMN** "*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*" – LSB 803

## POSTLUDE



*Spiritual formation and growth is not evolutionary.  
It is revolutionary.  
Therefore, it must be intentional.*