

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 6, 2025 (9:00 a.m.)

**WE ARE ONE CHRISTIAN FAMILY LED BY GOD'S WORD AND THE
HOLY SPIRIT INTO LOVING SERVICE.**

**Our values are
Bible Based Preaching, Spiritual Growth, Great Commission (Go,
Make Disciples...)**

PRELUDE

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN "We Praise You, O God" LW 494

We praise you, O God, our redeemer, creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you, we kneel and adore you;
We bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our fathers, we bless you;
Through trial and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
And with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great redeemer, forever be praise!

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: *Amen*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
(1 John 1:8)

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 1:9)*

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

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father. (ref. Ps 32:5)

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: Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen

DOXOLOGY LW 461

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him all creatures here below. Praise him above ye heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

MEDLEY OF PATRIOTIC SONGS

1 Timothy 2:1-4

"God Bless Our Native Land"

LW # 497

God bless our native land; firm may it ever stand through storm and night;
When the wild tempest rave, Ruler of wind and wave,
Do Thou, our country save by Thy great might.

So shall our prayer arise to God above the skies; on whom we wait;
Thou, who art ever nigh, guarding with watchful eye;
To Thee aloud we cry, God save the State!

Psalm 19:1-4a

"America the Beautiful" v 1,3,4

O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain
majesties above the fruited plain! America! America! God shed his grace on
thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life! America! America! May God thy gold refine, till all success be nobleness and every gain divine!

O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears! America! America!
God shed His grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea!

Psalm 28:7-9

“Our God, Our Help In Ages Past” LW180 v 1,3,4,6

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame,
From everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home!

John 8:31-32

“Lift High the Cross” LW311 1,4,5

(Refrain) Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his sacred name.

Come Christians, follow where our captain trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the son of God. *(Refrain)*

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
Raise us, and let your cross the magnet be. *(Refrain)*

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! *(Refrain)*

COLLECT OF THE DAY

SERVICE OF THE WORD

FIRST LESSON: Psalms 33:10-22

The LORD foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples. ¹¹But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations. ¹²Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people he chose for his inheritance. ¹³From heaven the LORD looks down and sees all mankind; ¹⁴from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth— ¹⁵he who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do. ¹⁶No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength. ¹⁷A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save. ¹⁸But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love, ¹⁹to deliver them from death and keep them alive in famine. ²⁰We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. ²¹In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. ²²May your unfailing love rest upon us, O LORD, even as we put our hope in you.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

SECOND LESSON 1 Peter 2:11-17

Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. ¹²Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. ¹³Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human authority: whether to the emperor, as the supreme authority, ¹⁴or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. ¹⁵For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish people. ¹⁶Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. ¹⁷Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 20:20-26

Pastor: The Holy Gospel from St. Luke, the 20th chapter:

People: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

Keeping a close watch on him, they sent spies, who pretended to be honest. They hoped to catch Jesus in something he said so that they might hand him over to the

power and authority of the governor. ²¹So the spies questioned him: "Teacher, we know that you speak and teach what is right, and that you do not show partiality but teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. ²²Is it right for us to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" ²³He saw through their duplicity and said to them, ²⁴"Show me a denarius. Whose portrait and inscription are on it?" ²⁵"Caesar's," they replied. He said to them, "Then give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's." ²⁶They were unable to trap him in what he had said there in public. And astonished by his answer, they became silent.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY "Before You, Lord, We Bow" LW 500 v 1,3,4

Before you, Lord, we bow, our God who reigns above
And rules the world below, boundless in pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring in joy and praise,
Our hearts we raise to you, our king!

May ev'ry mountain height, each vale and forest green,
Shine in your Word's pure light, and its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue be tuned to praise
And join to raise a grateful song.

Earth, hear your Maker's voice; your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice, and worship him alone.
Cast down your pride, your sin deplore,
And bow before the Crucified.

SERMON

THE FIRST ARTICLE AND LUTHER'S EXPLANATION

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

What does this mean?

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, spouse

and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH - concluding with

Pastor: Lord in your mercy...

People: Hear our prayer.

OFFERTORY

People: Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, And take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me The joy of your salvation and uphold me with your free Spirit.

THE SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift your hearts and hands in praise

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and helpful... evermore praising you and singing:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYERS AND THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

People: 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.

Pastor: Our Lord on the night he was betrayed . . .

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

People: And also with you.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

People: Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

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

CLOSING HYMN "Lord, While for Humankind We Pray" LW 502

Lord, while for humankind we pray of ev'ry clime and coast,
Lord, hear us for our native land, the land we love the most!

Oh, guard our shores from ev'ry foe, with peace our borders bless,
With prosp'rous times our cities crown, our fields with plenteousness!

Unite us in the sacred love of all that's good and true;
And let our hills and valleys shout their songs, all praising you.

Here may your Gospel, pure and mild, renew our Sabbath hours
And let our hills and valleys shout their songs, all praising you.

Lord of the nations, thus to you our country we commend.
Oh, be her refuge and her trust, her everlasting friend.

Silent prayer

POSTLUDE

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