



8th Sunday After Pentecost July 31, 2022

Rev. Kelley L. Pedersen, Interim Pastor

Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.

(*please stand as you are able)

(Congregation reads **bold** print)

Welcome & Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have not followed your path
but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,
we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need,
we have too often passed by on the other side.**

Set us again on the path of life.

**Save us from ourselves
and free us to love our neighbors.**

Amen.

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.

*Hymn "When Morning Gilds The Skies" #853

*Greeting

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

*Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the Unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

Amen.

Canticle of Praise – This is The Feast p. 140

***Prayer of the Day**

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2,12-14; 2:18-23

The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a "vanity of vanities." Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one's work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.

²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 49:1-12

My mouth shall speak of wisdom. (Ps. 49:3)

¹Hear this, all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

²**you of high degree and low,
rich and poor together.**

³My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

**⁴I will incline my ear to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

⁵Why should I be afraid in evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

**⁶the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,
and boast of their great riches?**

⁷One can never redeem another,
or give to God the ransom for another's life;

**⁸for the ransom of a life is so great
that there would never be enough to pay it,**

⁹in order to live forever and ever
and never see the grave.

**¹⁰For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

¹¹Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation
to generation,
though they had named lands after themselves.

**¹²Even though honored, they cannot live forever;
they are like the beasts that perish.**

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation -- p. 142**

*The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 12th Chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord**

Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Message

Hymn of the Day "Hope of the World" #1085 ACS

*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 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 Intercession

Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

A brief silence.

O God, you are wholeness. Where there is division in your church, bring reconciliation and healing. Guide the work of theologians, Sunday school teachers, seminary professors, and all who provide instruction for the building up of your church. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, you are the source of all life. Where creation cries out in distress, bring relief and renewal. Bless farmers, ranchers, distributors, and all who provide our food. Nourish the land and all its habitants. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

O God, you are wisdom. Where nations and communities yearn for peace, bring justice. Strengthen those who toil for the welfare of others, especially military personnel, police, first responders, and activists, and for the healing of the nations. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

O God, you are life. Where your people are overwhelmed with the busy-ness of life, bring encouragement. Accompany all who experience emotional, mental, or physical distress (*especially*). Renew us at your table of mercy. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

O God, you are our treasure. Where scarcity and anxiety pervade your church, bring abundance and vitality. Guide the work of church councils and committees and give them clarity for the work of ministry in this place (*specific ministries may be named*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

O God, you are resurrection. We give you thanks for all your saints (*especially*). Inspire us by their example of faithful living to set our minds on things above and to be rich in love toward you. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

Amen.

***Peace**

May the peace of God be with you all.

And also with you.

Offering

***Doxology #884**

***Offering Prayer**

God of abundance:

you have set before us a plentiful harvest.

As we feast on your goodness,

strengthen us to labor in your field,

and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,

in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

***Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

***Holy, Holy, Holy p. 144**

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer** p. 145

***Invitation to Communion**

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy.
Come to the banquet.

Communion (continuous)

Come forward in the center aisle, distancing as desired. Please cup your hands to receive the bread. Move to the right or left to receive the wine. Return to your pew via the side aisles. Gluten-free wafers are available in the container in front of the font.

Those who wish to be served at their seats or use the individual pre-packaged elements at their seats may stand to hear the words for individual distribution.

Distribution Hymns: #542 "O Living Bread From Home" #793 "Be Thou My Vision"

***Prayer after Communion**

Life-giving God,
through this meal you have bandaged our wounds
and fed us with your mercy.
Now send us forth to live for others,
both friend and stranger,
that all may come to know your love.
This we pray in the name of Jesus.
Amen.

***Blessing**

The God of peace,
Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you, comfort you,
and show you the path of life
this day and always.
Amen.

***Sending Hymn** "Faith Begins By Letting Go" #1004 ACS

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.
Thanks be to God.

Baptized believers sent into God's world to share God's love and grace.

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Welcome! May you be blessed as we worship together!

Pr. Kelley can be reached at 402-750-9944 (cell).

This Week's Events: July 31-Aug 7

Tues. 7:00pm **AA Meeting** (Contact person is Larry S., 712-251-4207)
Sun. Aug 7 9:00am **9th Sunday after Pentecost**

Upcoming Events:

Sun. August 14 TLC Council Meeting (after worship)
Sun. Sept 11 God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

Worship Assistants for July:

Organist: Ruth Chartier & Jacob Martin Altar Guild: Cindy & Gail Ploen
Scripture Reader: Ann Hopp Offertory Accountants: Irv Martin
Tech Assistants: Casey & Jill Stratton
Acolyte: Crucifer:

Worship Assistants for August:

Organist: Ruth Chartier & Jacob Martin Altar Guild: Susan & Roger Christiansen
Scripture Reader: Denny Bain Offertory Accountants: Dave & Patti
Tech Assistants: Casey & Jill Stratton Christiansen
Acolyte: Crucifer:

Birthdays: 31 – Joy Bramson, Aaron Corbin; Aug 1 – Barb Allner, Kassie Bain, Lakin Brosamle; 2 – Bailey Even, Beau Morgan; 4 – Stan Bolender, Tate Davidson, Kane Wahlberg; 5 – Rita Tabke, Levi Smith

Anniversaries: 1 – Chris & Brittany Calvillo

Prayers

For those battling cancer: Doug Dahlke-Cancer has returned and seems to be spreading, waiting and hoping for a spot in a Car T cell transplant.

We pray for Ed Kunkel (Barb's son)- was hospitalized with Covid, now home but still dealing with problems; Kelly Martin; Derek DeWitt and Ben Erdmann - deployed; those in addictions/recovery; all who are grieving; victims of COVID-19, extreme weather and natural disasters, violence and domestic abuse.

Bathroom remodels are nearing completion! To date, we have invested \$8,300 with a few final expenditures yet to come. The Memorial Fund provided \$3,500 of undesignated funds and a generous donor gave \$5,000 which will cover the remaining expenditures and provide an additional \$200 to complete the project. We are grateful for all that helped make this update happen!

God's Work, Our Hands!! We are looking for community service project(s) for Sunday, September 11th or after. If you have an idea or project we can help with please reach out to the church office or Rebecca Brockhaus (490-5876).

TLC will be hosting the Iowa State Extension Office as they provide an 8 week nutrition class here on Thursday evenings at 6:00pm starting September 8. The classes are free to the public and intended to provide support in planning and preparing healthy meals.

New way to support the church! Try out Tithe.ly!! [TLC Tithe.ly](#)

On Ushers' Table:

- Children's bulletins
 - Lutheran Disaster Response - US Wildfires information, Haiti earthquake relief
 - 2022 July-September Devotional (large and small print available)
 - Sermon sheets for confirmation students
 - July Newsletter
-

God's Work. Our gifts. Thank you to all who support our ministry!

Electronic giving	\$ 100.00
Mission Support	\$ 30.00
<u>General Fund</u>	<u>\$ 958.00</u>
Total	\$ 1,088.00

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