

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM Service

July 26, 2020

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GATHERING

*Prelude*

*Welcome and Announcements*

*Ringling of the Bell*

*(Please Stand)*

*Confession and Forgiveness*

Blessed by the Holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

**Amen.**

Let us pray. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

*(Silence)*

Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

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.

**Amen.**

1. Here in this place new light is streaming,  
Now is the darkness vanished away;  
See in this space our fears and our dreamings  
Brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,  
Gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
Call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
We shall arise at the sound of our name.
2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery,  
We are the old who yearn for your face;  
We have been sung throughout all of history,  
Called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,  
Gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
Give us a heart so meek and so lowly,  
Give us the courage to enter the song.
3. Here we will take the wine and the water,  
Here we will take the bread of new birth,  
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
Call us anew to be salt for the earth,  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,  
Give us to eat the bread that is you;  
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion  
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
4. Not in the dark of buildings confining  
Not in some heaven light years away  
Here in this place the new light is shining,  
Now is the kingdom, now is the day,  
Gather us in and hold us forever,  
Gather us in and make us your own;  
Gather us in, all peoples together,  
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

L: 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.**

L: 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. Amen.**

#### WORD

First Reading	1 Kings 3: 5—12	Pg. 524
Psalm	Psalm 119: 129—136	Pg. 963

<sup>129</sup> Your statutes are / wonderful; therefore / I obey them.

<sup>130</sup> **The unfolding of your / words gives light; it gives understanding / to the simple.**

<sup>131</sup> I open my / mouth and pant, longing for / your commands.

<sup>132</sup> **Turn to me and have mer- / cy on me, as you always do to those who / love your name.**

<sup>133</sup> Direct my footsteps according / to your word; let no sin rule / over me.

<sup>134</sup> **Redeem me from hu- / man oppression, that I may o- / bey your precepts.**

<sup>135</sup> Make your face shine / on your servant and teach me / your decrees.

<sup>136</sup> **Streams of tears flow / from my eyes, for your law is / not obeyed.**

(Please rise for the Gospel.)

S 188

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the thirteen chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord**

Gospel

Matthew 13: 31—33, 44—52

Pg. 1518

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

Sermon

(Please Stand)

Hymn # 622 "Neither Death nor Life"

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.

Leader or All

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*

L: Together with the whole church, we confess our faith:

**All: 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 ascended into heaven,  
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.**

### *The Prayers*

L: . . . Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

### *Peace*

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you!**

L: Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

### *Offering*

*Offering Hymn # 771*

*"God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens"*

1. God, who stretched the spangled heavens,  
infinite in time and place,  
flung the suns in burning radiance  
through the silent fields of space,  
we your children, in your likeness,  
share inventive powers with you.  
Great Creator, still creating,  
show us what we yet may do.
2. We have ventured worlds undreamed of  
since the childhood of our race;  
known the ecstasy of winging through  
untraveled realms of space;  
probed the secrets of the atom,  
yielding unimagined power,  
facing us with life's destruction  
or our most triumphant hour.
3. As each far horizon beckons, may it  
challenge us anew, children of creative  
purpose, serving others, honoring you.  
May our dreams prove rich with promise,  
each endeavor well begun.  
Great Creator, give us guidance till our  
goals and yours are one.

*Prayer*

L: O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

*The 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**

**SENDING**

*Blessing*

Hymn # 793            *"Be Thou My Vision"*

1. Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art  
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light
2. Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord  
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower,  
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my  
power
3. Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise  
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always  
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart  
Great God of Heaven, my treasure Thou art
4. Light of my soul, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever be fall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*Postlude*