

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 2019



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP



To the friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to our first time guests we extend it most sincerely; and to those seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with the risen living Redeemer, membership in His Church, and citizenship in His eternal kingdom. Our message is as old as the Word of God to man and as new as the new life it brings: *Jesus Christ, crucified and risen to give eternal life to people everywhere.*

Guest Book: Before you leave today, please sign our guest book. It is located in the Narthex.

Style: For those not familiar with the historic liturgical worship style, the interactive nature of the service may seem quite different. We agree with the ancient church that this style allows us to receive the blessings of God's word and offer thanks in response.

Service of the Word: Today's service offers the congregation a form of worship that focuses on the proclamation of God's Word. Believers respond to this divine gift with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving.

Amplifiers: Personal sound enhancement receivers are available to help the hearing impaired. An usher will be happy to assist you.

Broadcast: Today's Service is being broadcast at www.peacewithgod.com. Click on the blue box labeled "Live Online Services." It can be viewed LIVE or any time from the collection of archived services.

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✘ ✘ ✘ Before participating in Communion ✘ ✘ ✘

We welcome all people to our services, those who are fully united with us in Christ's teachings as well as those who do not yet share our confession of the Faith. However, it is a sad consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to all Christians to receive Communion with us. Our Lord teaches (1 Cor. 10:17 and elsewhere) that Communion is an action of the celebrating community that declares their oneness in the Faith, life, and worship. Communing with Christians not in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS] or our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS], would imply a oneness that does not truly exist, but for which we pray. Our pastor will gladly talk with you about establishing communion fellowship here at Peace.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

TODAY'S THREAD: *Humbled by God's amazing mercy, we live to serve in love.*

STAND as directed

HYMN

God of Grace and God of Glory | 523

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of six staves of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of the sixth staff.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BE SEATED

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Proverbs 25:6-7b

Self-exaltation has no place in the life of God's child. It may get you places in the world, but it always places you in opposition to God, far away from him and headed for eventual and eternal humiliation.

⁶ Do not exalt yourself in the king's presence,
and do not claim a place among his great men;
⁷ it is better for him to say to you, "Come up here,"
than for him to humiliate you before his nobles.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

ALL THOSE WHO
EXALT
THEMSELVES WILL BE
humbled

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalms 112

All: Praise the LORD.

M: Blessed are those who fear the LORD,

C: **who find great delight in his commands.**

M: Their children will be mighty in the land;

C: **the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

M: Wealth and riches are in their houses,

C: **and their righteousness endures forever.**

M: Even in darkness light dawns for the upright,

C: **for those who are gracious and compassionate and righteous.**

M: Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely,

C: **who conduct their affairs with justice.**

M: Surely the righteous will never be shaken;

C: **they will be remembered forever.**

M: They will have no fear of bad news;

C: **their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the LORD.**

M: Their hearts are secure, they will have no fear;

C: **in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.**

M: They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor,
their righteousness endures forever;

C: **their horn will be lifted high in honor.**

M: The wicked will see and be vexed,

C: **they will gnash their teeth and waste away;
the longings of the wicked will come to nothing.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

SECOND LESSON

James 2:1-13

God has chosen the poor - those humbled by their circumstance of their fallen sinful state. God can't remake those who delight in their own glory. See people as God does - through eyes of mercy.

¹ My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. ² Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. ³ If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," ⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

⁵ Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷ Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

⁸ If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. ⁹ But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹ For he who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

¹² Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, ¹³ because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

STAND

THOSE WHO
humble
THEMSELVES WILL BE
EXALTED

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. Your words became a joy to me, and the delight of my heart. Alleluia. (Jeremiah 15:16 cf. RSV)

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL

Luke 14:1, 7-14

In Christ's kingdom, conventional thinking is turned upside down. Seek honor, praise and paybacks - you lose. Seek God's glory and the good of others - you'll be blessed purely by God's grace. Not karma!

M: The Gospel, Luke Chapter 14

¹ One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: ⁸“When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. ⁹If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, ‘Give this person your seat.’ Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, ‘Friend, move up to a better place.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. ¹¹For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹² Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

M: This is the Gospel.



BE SEATED

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Fount of Good, for All Your Love | 524

SERMON

Text: James 2:1-13

Love Looks to Give

Sermon written by Rev. Michael J. Seifert
Living Hope Lutheran Church, Midlothian, VA
Used by permission.

Ministering Elder: Mark Harris

STAND

APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there 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.**

BE SEATED

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING

STAND

OFFERING HYMN

We Give Thee but Thine Own | 485:1, 2, 5, 6



1 We give thee but thine own, What - e'er
2 May we thy boun - ties thus As stew -
3 Oh, hearts are bruised and dead, And homes
4 To com - fort and to bless, To find
5 The cap - tives to re - lease, To God



the gift may be; All that we have is
ards true re - ceive And glad - ly, as thou
are bare and cold, And lambs for whom the
a balm for woe, To tend the lone and
the lost to bring, To teach the way of



thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from thee.
bless - est us, To thee our first - fruits give.
shep - herd bled Are stray - ing from the fold,
fa - ther - less, Is an - gels' work be - low,
life and peace— It is a Christ - like thing.

6 And we believe thy Word
Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for thine we do, O Lord,
We do it unto thee.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR PENTECOST

M: O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

C: **We praise you for every grace and blessing.**

M: Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

C: **Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.**

M: We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

C: **Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.**

M: Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

C: **Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.**

M: Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

C: **Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.**

M: Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

C: **Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: ... Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

C: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

Blest Be the Tie that Binds | 494

Silent prayer

Announcements after the close of Service