

18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 4, 2020



St. Paul Lutheran Church

(Iglesia Luterana San Pablo)

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The Ringing of the Bells and The Welcome

Opening Hymn: #507 (vs. 1-3), "Holy, Holy, Holy"

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,

Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,

Which wert and art and evermore shall be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,

Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,

Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,

Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Invocation

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

People: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: Señor, ten piedad de nosotros.

People: Señor, ten piedad de nosotros.

Pastor: Cristo, ten piedad de nosotros.

People: Cristo, ten piedad de nosotros.

Pastor: Señor, ten piedad de nosotros.

People: Señor, ten piedad de nosotros.

(Moment of Silent Prayer) (Momento de Oración Personal)

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.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God:

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. 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.

The Prayer of the Day

Almighty, eternal God, all good things come from you, and every new day reveals your glory. Receive our worship, and enable us also to reveal your glory in each step we take as we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus. Amen.

Scripture Readings *(After each reading:)*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Psalm 118:21-29

²¹ I will give you thanks, O Lord, for you answered me; you have become my salvation. ²² The stone the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone; ²³ the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes. ²⁴ This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. ²⁵ O LORD, save us; O LORD, grant us success. ²⁶ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD. From the house of the LORD we bless you. ²⁷ The LORD is God, and he has made his light shine upon us. With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession up to the horns of the altar. ²⁸ You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you. ²⁹ Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures

forever.

Philippians 3:4b-14

⁴ If anyone thinks they can trust in human credentials, I have even more reason to feel that way. ⁵ I was circumcised when I was a week old. I am an Israelite by birth, of the tribe of Benjamin, a pure-blooded Hebrew. As far as keeping the Jewish Law is concerned, I was a Pharisee, ⁶ and I was so zealous that I persecuted the church. As far as a person can be righteous by obeying the commands of the Law, I was without fault. ⁷ But all those things that I once counted as important I now consider as worthless for Christ's sake. ⁸ Not only those things; I consider everything as worthless when compared with what is so much more valuable, knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have thrown everything away; I consider it all as mere garbage, so that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be united with him. I no longer have a righteousness of my own, the kind that is gained by obeying the Law. I now have the righteousness that is given through faith in Christ, the righteousness that comes from God and is based on faith. ¹⁰ All I want is to know Christ and to experience the power of his resurrection, to share in his sufferings and become like him in his death, ¹¹ in the hope that I myself will be raised from death to life. ¹² I do not claim that I have already succeeded or have already become perfect. But I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Of course, my brothers and sisters, I really do not think that I have already taken hold of it; the one thing I do, however, is to forget what is behind me and strain forward towards what is ahead. ¹⁴ So I run straight towards the goal in order to win the prize, which is God's call through Christ Jesus to the life above.

Matthew 21:33-46

³³ "Listen to another parable," Jesus said. "There was once a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a hole for the winepress, and built a watchtower. Then he let out the vineyard to tenants and went on a journey. ³⁴ When the time came to gather the grapes, he sent his servants to the tenants to receive his share of the harvest. ³⁵ The tenants seized his servants, beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again the man sent other servants, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the

same way. ³⁷Last of all he sent his son to them. 'Surely they will respect my son,' he said. ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the owner's son. Come on, let's kill him, and we will get his property!' ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰"Now, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" Jesus asked. ⁴¹"He will certainly kill those evil men," they answered, "and let the vineyard out to other tenants, who will give him his share of the harvest at the right time." ⁴²Jesus said to them, "Haven't you ever read what the Scriptures say? 'The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all. This was done by the Lord; what a wonderful sight it is!' ⁴³"And so I tell you," added Jesus, "the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce the proper fruits." ⁴⁵The chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables and knew that he was talking about them, ⁴⁶so they tried to arrest him. But they were afraid of the crowds, who considered Jesus to be a prophet.

The Apostle's 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.

KID SERMON

HYMN: "O God, You Are My God"

(by Beaker, c. 1991 Kid Brothers of St. Frank Publishing, with permission, CCLI #535024)

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.

I will seek you in the morning, and I will learn to walk in your ways;

And step by step you lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

And I will follow you all of my days,

*And I will follow you all of my days,
And step by step you lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.*

Sermon

A PRAYER SONG: "¿Que Sería de Mi?"/"What Would Be of My Life?"

(by Jesús Adrián Romero, c. 1998, Vástago Music)

¿Que sería de mí si no me hubieras alcanzado?

¿Donde estaría hoy si no me hubieras perdonado?

Tendría un vacío en mi corazón.

Vagaría sin rumbo, sin dirección.

Si no fuera por tu gracia y por tu amor.

Si no fuera por tu gracia y por tu amor.

Sería como pájaro herido que se muere en el suelo.

Sería como ciervo que brama por agua en el desierto.

Si no fuera por tu gracia y por tu amor.

Si no fuera por tu gracia y por tu amor.

What would be of my life if you had never come to love me?

Where would I be right now if you had never forgiven me?

My heart would be filled with an empty space,

And my life with no aim and no hope would race....

If it wasn't for your grace and your love for me!

If it wasn't for your grace and your love for me!

I'd be like a wounded bird lying helpless on the ground.

I'd be like a deer seeking water where none can be found.

If it wasn't for your grace and your love for me!

If it wasn't for your grace and your love for me!

The Prayers

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

Service of the Sacrament

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

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 indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should always sing of your glory, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. For you are the hope of the nations, the builder of the city that is to come. Your love made visible in Jesus Christ brings home the lost, restores the sinner and gives dignity to the despised. In his face your light shines out, flooding lives with goodness and truth, and making us all, a divided and broken humanity, forever one in your kingdom.

People: **Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy, we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us to faithfully eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us to in His own testament. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate, with all the faithful, the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone be all glory, honor, and worship, now and forever. Amen.

Lamb of God

*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.*

Consecration & Distribution

Post Communion Song

*Thank the Lord and sing His praise;
tell everyone what He has done.*

*Let everyone who seeks 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

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You, that of Your mercy, You would strengthen us in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Closing Hymn: "My Hope is Built..." (# 575)

*My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim but wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

[Refrain] *On Christ the solid rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

*When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within he veil. [Refrain]*

*His oath, his covenant, his blood sustain me in the raging flood;
When all supports are washed away,
He then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]*

*When he shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in him be found,
Clothed in his righteousness alone,
Redeemed to stand before the throne! [Refrain]*

The Blessing