

The Days of Pentecost
“Lessons in Forgiveness”
September 6, 2020
8:15 a.m.

PRELUDE “Ellacombe” Carla Barrows, Organ
by Albert L. Travis

WELCOME Pastor Black

OPENING HYMN “Blessed Jesus, at Your Word” LSB 904

Blessèd Jesus, at Your Word We are gathered all to hear You.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred Now to seek and love and fear You,
By Your teachings, sweet and holy, Drawn from earth to love You solely.

All our knowledge, sense, and sight Lie in deepest darkness shrouded
Till Your Spirit breaks our night With the beams of truth unclouded.
You alone to God can win us; You must work all good within us.

Gracious Savior, good and kind, Light of Light, from God proceeding,
Open now our heart and mind; Help us by Your Spirit’s pleading.
Hear the cry Your Church now raises; Hear and bless our prayers and praises.

Father, Son, and Spirit, Lord, Praise to You and adoration!
Grant that we may trust Your Word, Confident of our salvation,
While we here below must wander, Till we sing Your praises yonder.

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

CONFESSION LSB 151

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **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.**

ABSOLUTION

P 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.

C Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE “Today Your Mercy Calls Us” LSB 915

All: Today Your mercy calls us To wash away our sin.
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been,
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.

All: Today Your gate is open, And all who enter in
Shall find a Father’s welcome And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv’n,
A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav’n.

Solo: Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits;
His blessed angels gather Around the heav’nly gates.
No question will be asked us How often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father’s home.

All: O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,
What should we do without You When heart and eye run o’er?
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Ezekiel 33:7-9

R The Old Testament Reading is from the 33rd Chapter of Ezekiel.

R ⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from My mouth, you shall give them warning from Me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.” (ESV)

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READINGRomans 13:1-10

R The Epistle Reading is from the 13th Chapter of Romans.

R ¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. (ESV)

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE LSB 156

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPELMatthew 18:1-20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th Chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

P ¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ²And calling to Him a child, He put Him in the midst of them ³and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

⁵“Whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

⁷“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

¹⁰“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of My Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

¹⁵“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in My name, there am I among them.” (ESV)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CONFESSION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed

C 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 \dagger everlasting. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Matt Meier

MESSAGE. “Forgiven and Forgiving God’s Way” Pastor Donald Black

MESSAGE RESPONSE “Where Charity and Love Prevail” LSB 845

All: Where charity and love prevail There God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ’s love By love are we thus bound.

Solo: With grateful joy and holy fear His charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and soul Now love Him in return.

All: Forgive we now each other’s faults As we our faults confess,
And let us love each other well In Christian holiness.

All: Let strife among us be unknown; Let all contention cease;
Be God’s the glory that we seek; Be ours His holy peace.

OFFERING

(Offerings may be submitted online to www.trinitydt.org, by mail to Trinity Downtown, 800 Houston Ave., Houston, TX 77007 or dropped off at the office, M-F, 8:30 - 2:30.)

MUSICAL OFFERING. . . “I Will Be a Child of Peace” by Elaine Hagenberg. Men’s Quartet

Oh Holy Father I will be a child of peace and purity
For well I know Thy hand will bless the seeker after righteousness.

Oh Holy Father I will be a child of peace and purity
For well I know Thy hand will bless the seeker after righteousness.

Oh Holy Father I will be a child of peace and purity
For well I know Thy hand will bless the seeker after righteousness

O Holy Father I will be a child of peace and purity
For well I know Thy hand will bless the seeker after righteousness.

For well I know Thy hand will bless the seeker after righteousness.

PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

BENEDICTION

P 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.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN. "Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness" LSB 849

Praise the One who breaks the darkness With a liberating light;
Praise the One who frees the pris'ners, Turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the Gospel, Healing ev'ry dread disease,
Calming storms, and feeding thousands With the very Bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the One who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water To the desert's burning sand;
From this Well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev'ry land.

Let us praise the Word Incarnate, Christ, who suffered in our place.
Jesus died and rose victorious That we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, Seeing what our God has done;
Let us praise the true Redeemer, Praise the One who makes us one.

POSTLUDE. "Hymn to Joy" Carla Barrows, Organ by Albert L. Travis

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Divine Service, Setting 1 from Lutheran Service Book

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