

***Risen Christ Lutheran Church
Arvada, Colorado
Sunday Family Devotion in Absence
Tenth Sunday after Trinity - August 16, 2020
The Lutheran Hymnal (TLH)***

OPENING HYMN *TLH 473 “The Church’s One Foundation”*

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

INTROIT *Psalm 55:1, 4-5, 16, 17b, 18a, 22a*

I call to God, and he hears my voice;

he redeems my soul in safety.

Cast your burden on the LORD,

and he will sustain you.

Give ear to my prayer, O God,

and hide not yourself from my plea for mercy!

My heart is in anguish within me;

the terrors of death have fallen upon me.

Fear and trembling come upon me,

and horror overwhelms me.

But I call to God,

and the LORD will save me.

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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, You declare Your almighty power above all in showing mercy and pity. Mercifully grant us such a measure of Your grace that we may obtain Your gracious promises and be made partakers of Your heavenly treasures; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

OLD TESTAMENT *Jeremiah 7:1-11*

¹ The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ² “Stand in the gate of the LORD’s house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the LORD, all you men of Judah who enter these gates to worship the LORD. ³ Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your deeds, and I will let you dwell in this place. ⁴ Do not trust in these deceptive words: ‘This is the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD.’ ⁵ “For if you truly amend your ways and your deeds, if you truly execute justice one with another, ⁶ if you do not oppress the sojourner, the fatherless, or the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own harm, ⁷ then I will let you dwell in this place, in the land that I gave of old to your fathers forever. ⁸ “Behold, you trust in deceptive

words to no avail. ⁹ Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, make offerings to Baal, and go after other gods that you have not known, ¹⁰ and then come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, ‘We are delivered!’—only to go on doing all these abominations? ¹¹ Has this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your eyes? Behold, I myself have seen it, declares the LORD. (ESV)

GRADUAL *Psalm 17:8, 2*

Keep me as the apple of your eye;
hide me in the shadow of your wings.
From your presence let my vindication come!
Let your eyes behold the right!

EPISTLE *Romans 9:30—10:4*

^{9:30} What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; ³¹ but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. ³² Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, ³³ as it is written, “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ^{10:1} Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. ² For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. ³ For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. ⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. (ESV)

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 19:41-48*

⁴¹ And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, ⁴² saying, “Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side ⁴⁴ and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you. And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation.” ⁴⁵ And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold, ⁴⁶ saying to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a den of robbers.” ⁴⁷ And he was teaching daily in the temple. The chief priests and the scribes and the principal men of the people were seeking to destroy him, ⁴⁸ but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were hanging on his words. (ESV)

SERMON HYMN *TLH 419 “O'er Jerusalem Thou Weepest”*

SERMON

Luke says in the Gospel reading for today, “all the people were hanging on [Jesus’] words.” Oh that we would do the same! If we would listen to the voice of our Savior, if we would intently take in his words, if we would have our minds *and* our hearts transformed by the Word of God, the Holy Scriptures, then what great blessings we would have. If we could be as interested in God’s Word as those early Christians, then the Holy Spirit would work his fruits within us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, trustworthiness, gentleness, goodness, and self control. But we are easily distracted from “hanging on” to the Word of God. Minds wander

during the sermon at church. Bible class is often skipped. More time is spent on social media or fiction novels or news sources than reading and thinking about the Scriptures. No wonder that many people who profess to be Christians today are filled with the opposite of the Spirit's fruits: hate and indifference, misery, conflict, impatience, meanness, unreliability, brutality, wickedness, and no self control. On top of that is a lack of trust in God and his Word; there is fear and anxiety; there is self-centeredness, selfishness, and self-focused ambition. Oh that all of us would hang on Jesus' words!

Dear Christian friends, in this life we will all continue to struggle with our sin, unbelief, and lack of trust in God. As we do so, let us not lose focus of Christ and his Word and all of the Word of God in the Holy Scriptures. Through the preaching and teaching of the Holy Scriptures and our meditation on them our minds and hearts – yes, even our physical lives – are transformed. The Word of God is powerful and effective in bringing Christ to us and us to Christ. Through the Word, the Holy Spirit conceived us into Christ. Through the water and the Word in Holy Baptism, the Holy Spirit gave us new birth into Christ. Through the Word of Holy Absolution, the Holy Spirit restores us to and preserves us in our Christian life as a forgiven sinner. Through the Word of our Lord's institution of his sacred meal, the Holy Spirit feeds us with the Body and Blood of Christ to keep us in communion with the Holy Father in the Holy Son. In this crazy world, and especially during this crazy time, let us continually turn away from walking the path of the sinful flesh in order to live according to the Holy Spirit as we ever more intently listen to the words of our Savior. Let us hang on to his Word, to the Holy Scriptures, and to the certain hope of eternal life that our gracious Triune God promises to us in his Holy Word. Amen!

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER HYMN TLH 618 "Jerusalem, My Happy Home"

COLLECT FOR THE WORD

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life,

through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

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.

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless us and keep us.

The Lord make his face shine on us and be gracious to us.

The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *TLH 613 “Jerusalem the Golden”*

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Genesis 4:1-15; Ephesians 2:1-10;
Luke 18:9-14.

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