



# ✠ First Sunday After Easter ✠

April 8, 2018

## **Pre-Service Meditation – Psalm 19:7-14**

<sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; <sup>8</sup> The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; <sup>9</sup> The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. <sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. <sup>11</sup> Moreover by them Your servant is warned, And in keeping them there is great reward. <sup>12</sup> Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. <sup>13</sup> Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression. <sup>14</sup> Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.

## **Hymn #207 – Like the Golden Sun Ascending**

### **Invocation – WS p. 12**

*[We invoke (call upon) the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit]*

### **Confession & Absolution – WS p. 12**

*[We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness]*

### **The Kyrie – WS p. 13**

*[Greek for “O Lord” ~ We approach our Lord with a cry for help and mercy]*

### **Gloria in Excelsis – WS p. 13**

*[Latin for “Glory in the Highest” ~ A hymn glorifying and praising our God]*

### **The Prayer of the Day – WS p. 14**

*[The main thoughts for the day are “collected” together in this prayer]*

### **Epistle Reading – Ephesians 2:11-18**

<sup>11</sup> Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands— <sup>12</sup> that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

<sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, <sup>15</sup> having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup> and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. <sup>17</sup> And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. <sup>18</sup> For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.

## Psalm of the Day – Psalm 145:8-21

*[A liturgical response of Scripture verses.]*

- P** The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
**C** **Slow to anger and great in mercy.**  
**P** The LORD is good to all,  
**C** **And His tender mercies are over all His works.**  
**P** All Your works shall praise You, O LORD,  
**C** **And Your saints shall bless You.**  
**P** They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom,  
**C** **And talk of Your power,**  
**P** To make known to the sons of men His mighty acts,  
**C** **And the glorious majesty of His kingdom.**  
**P** Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,  
**C** **And Your dominion endures throughout all generations.**  
**P** The LORD upholds all who fall,  
**C** **And raises up all who are bowed down.**  
**P** The eyes of all look expectantly to You,  
**C** **And You give them their food in due season.**  
**P** You open Your hand  
**C** **And satisfy the desire of every living thing.**  
**P** The LORD is righteous in all His ways,  
**C** **Gracious in all His works.**  
**P** The LORD is near to all who call upon Him,  
**C** **To all who call upon Him in truth.**  
**P** He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him;  
**C** **He also will hear their cry and save them.**  
**P** The LORD preserves all who love Him,  
**C** **But all the wicked He will destroy.**  
**P** My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD,  
**C** **And all flesh shall bless His holy name Forever and ever.**

## **Gospel Reading – Matthew 12:38-42**

<sup>38</sup> Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, “Teacher, we want to see a sign from You.” <sup>39</sup> But He answered and said to them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. <sup>40</sup> “For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. <sup>41</sup> “The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here. <sup>42</sup> “The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here.

## **Confession of Faith – Apostle’s Creed – TLH p. 12**

*[We boldly confess what we believe]*

## **Hymn #327 – Out of the Deep I Call**

### **Sermon Text – 2 Samuel 12:1-13**

<sup>1</sup> Then the LORD sent Nathan to David. And he came to him, and said to him: “There were two men in one city, one rich and the other poor. <sup>2</sup> “The rich man had exceedingly many flocks and herds. <sup>3</sup> “But the poor man had nothing, except one little ewe lamb which he had bought and nourished; and it grew up together with him and with his children. It ate of his own food and drank from his own cup and lay in his bosom; and it was like a daughter to him. <sup>4</sup> “And a traveler came to the rich man, who refused to take from his own flock and from his own herd to prepare one for the wayfaring man who had come to him; but he took the poor man’s lamb and prepared it for the man who had come to him.” <sup>5</sup> So David’s anger was greatly aroused against the man, and he said to Nathan, “As the LORD lives, the man who has done this shall surely die! <sup>6</sup> “And he shall restore fourfold for the lamb, because he did this thing and because he had no pity.” <sup>7</sup> Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man! Thus says the LORD God of Israel: ‘I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. <sup>8</sup> ‘I gave you your master’s house and your master’s wives into your keeping, and gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if that had been too little, I also would have given you much more! <sup>9</sup> ‘Why have you despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in His sight? You have killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword; you have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the people of Ammon. <sup>10</sup> ‘Now therefore, the sword shall

never depart from your house, because you have despised Me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.’<sup>11</sup> “Thus says the LORD: ‘Behold, I will raise up adversity against you from your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun.’<sup>12</sup> ‘For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, before the sun.’ ”<sup>13</sup> So David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the LORD.” And Nathan said to David, “The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die.

## **Sermon – The Imponderable Question**

### **Offertory – WS p. 16**

*[In this prayer we offer God our hearts, asking Him for the best of all gifts: the Holy Spirit]*

### **Offering of Thankful Hearts**

*[With thankful hearts, we offer our gifts to God]*

## **General Prayer & Lord's Prayer – WS pp. 16-17**

*[We offer our petitions and thanks to God]*

## **Hymn #340 – Awake, My Soul, to Joyful Lays**

### **Prayer for the Church**

*[We ask God to bless what we have heard and learned today]*

### **The Benediction – WS p. 21**

*[We receive God's blessing for another week]*

## **Hymn #188 – Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!**

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## ✠ Announcements ✠

**Quarterly Voters' Meeting** – We will have our Quarterly Voters' Meeting today following the worship service. A fellowship meal will follow.

**Midweek Bible Class** – There is no Midweek Bible class this week as Pastor Sauers will be in Eau Claire attending Mission Board meetings and Coordinating Council. Classes will resume on April 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. We are planning to begin a new study on “Heaven and Hell.”

Fruits of Faith: 4/1/18

Worship Attendance: 28

Communion Attendance 23

Bethel Home: \$250.00

Parking Lot: \$1000.00

CLC Budget: \$1170.00

ILC PB: \$50.00

