



9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 30, 2023

Opening Hymn #4

God Himself is Present

1. God Himself is present:

Let us now adore Him

And with awe appear before Him.

God is in His temple--

All within keep silence,

Prostrate lie with deepest reverence.

Him alone God we own,

Him, our God and Savior;

Praise His name forever.

2. God Himself is present:

Hear the harps resounding;

See the hosts the throne surrounding!

"Holy, holy, holy"--

Hear the hymn ascending,

Songs of saints and angels blending.

Bow Thine ear To us here:

Hear, O Christ, the praises

That Thy Church now raises.

3. O Thou Fount of blessing,

Purify my spirit,

Trusting only in Thy merit.

Like the holy angels,

Who behold Thy glory,

May I ceaselessly adore Thee.

Let Thy will Ever still
Rule Thy Church terrestrial
As the hosts celestial.

Invocation

P We worship today in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C ♪ **Amen.**

Confession & Absolution

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C ♪ **Who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord

C ♪ **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sins.**

P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto Thee that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against Thee by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Thine infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Thy grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P & C O most merciful God, who has given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, hath had mercy upon us and hath given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgiveth us all our sins. To them that believe on His name He giveth power to become the sons of God and hath promised them

His Holy Spirit. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.
Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C ♪ Amen.

Introit

P: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;

C: make known his deeds among the peoples!

P: Sing to him, sing praises to him;

C: tell of all his wondrous works!

P: Glory in his holy name;

C: let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

P: Seek the LORD and his strength;

C: seek his presence continually!

P: Remember the wondrous works that he has done,

C: his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

P: O offspring of Abraham, his servant,

C: children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

P: Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;

C: make known his deeds among the peoples!

Gloria Patri

C ♪ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Kyrie

C ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis – (Hymn #238 v.1)

All glory be to God alone,
Forevermore the Highest One,
Who doth our sinful race befriend,
And grace and peace to us extend.
Among mankind may His good will
All hearts with deep thanksgiving fill.

P The Lord be with you
C ♪ **And with thy spirit.**

The Collect for the Day

P Let us pray..... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C ♪ **Amen.**

The First Lesson – Deuteronomy 7:6-9

⁶“You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.”

Psalm of the Day – Psalm 125 **Antiphon – WS p. 42**

Antiphon - Keep me, keep me as the apple of Your eye. Hide me, hide me in the shadow of Your wings.

1 Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount | Zion,*
which cannot be moved, but abides for- | ever.

2 As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his | people,*
from this time forth and for- | evermore.

3 For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the | righteous,*
lest the righteous stretch out their hands to | do wrong.

4 Do good, O LORD, to those | who are good,*
and to those who are upright | in their hearts!

5 But those who turn aside to their crooked ways the LORD will
lead away with evil- | doers!*

Peace be upon | Israel!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

*Antiphon - Keep me, keep me as the apple of Your eye. Hide me,
hide me in the shadow of Your wings.*

The Second Lesson – Romans 8:28-39

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things

to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Gradual

P: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

C: How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

P: For from him and through him and to him are all things.

C: To him be glory forever. Amen. Hallelujah!

Triple Hallelujah

The Gospel – Matthew 13:44-52

⁴⁴[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹“Have you understood all these things?” They said to him, “Yes.” ⁵²And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

Confession of Faith ***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 Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Christian Church, the communion of saints The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day #393
From God Shall Naught Divide Me

1. From God shall naught divide me,
For He is true for aye
And on my path will guide me,
Who else should often stray.
His right hand holdeth me;
For me He truly careth,
My burdens ever beareth
Wherever I may be.

2. When man's help and affection
Shall unavailing prove,
God grants me His protection
And shows His pow'r and love.
He helps in ev'ry need,
From sin and shame redeems me,
From chains and bonds reclaims me,
Yea, e'en from death I'm freed.

3. God shall be my Reliance
In sorrow's darkest night;

Its dread I bid defiance
When He is at my right.
I unto Him commend
My body, soul, and spirit--
They are His own by merit--
All's well then at the end.

4. Oh, praise Him, for He never
Forgets our daily need;
Oh, blest the hour whenever
To Him our thoughts can speed;
Yea, all the time we spend
Without Him is but wasted,
Till we His joy have tasted,
The joy that hath no end.

5. Yea, when the world shall perish
With all its pride and power,
Whatever worldlings cherish
Shall vanish in that hour.
But though in death they make
The deepest grave our cover,
When there our sleep is over,
Our God will us awake.

6. What though I here must suffer
Distress and trials sore,
I merit ways still rougher;
And yet there is in store
For me eternal bliss,
Yea, pleasures without measure,
Since Christ is now my Treasure
And shall be evermore.

Sermon Text – Romans 8:28-39

Sermon

***The Son of God Has Redeemed Us for Himself with His Holy
and Precious Blood***

Offertory

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Prayer of the Church

P: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P: Heavenly Father, You have revealed to us the true treasure of Christ's cross and resurrection. Grant that we may pursue Your kingdom with all our hearts, souls, minds and bodies.

**Your kingdom, O God, is my glorious treasure,
My pearl of incomp'able worth.**

P: Heavenly Father, You have redeemed us out of Your steadfast love. Grant that the Gospel may go forth unhindered and Your Spirit bring many into this fellowship of the redeemed.

**Its value exceeds ev'ry standard of measure,
Surpassing the wealth of the earth.**

P: Heavenly Father, bestow Your comfort upon all who are burdened by sickness and affliction [*especially* _____]. Grant that they may await healing and deliverance in the firm conviction that nothing can separate them from Your love in Christ Jesus.

**Lord, give me Your grace and the pow'r of the Spirit
To value this treasure aright,**

P: Heavenly Father, You justify us for the sake of Christ. Comfort any who are troubled by the memory of past sins or visited by the temptation to believe they cannot be forgiven. Give them confidence in Christ, that He died for them and still intercedes for them.

**That, never allured by the world, I inherit
Your kingdom of glory and light.**

P: Heavenly Father, grant wisdom to our president; our governor; and all who make, administer and judge our laws, that they may seek what is best for all in accordance with Your will.

**Sustain me, O Lord, till Your day of returning
And harvest me homeward at last,**

P: Heavenly Father, You have given us various offices in our lives. Grant us faithfulness in these callings, that we may see them as gifts through which we serve You and our neighbors, until we reach our heavenly home where there is no longer any need.

**To shine in the homeland that quiets all yearnings,
Where sorrow and danger are past.**

P: Lord God, heavenly Father, it is not for the sake of our numbers or strength or birth that You preserve us, but for the sake of Your faithfulness and steadfast love. As You preserved Your ancient people of Israel for the sake of Your promises, so now keep Your Holy Church on earth, and preserve our Synod, for the sake of the name of Christ, our Lord, who redeemed us and taught us to pray:

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.**

Sermon Hymn #437
Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode

1. Who trusts in God a strong abode
In heaven and earth possesses;
Who looks in love to Christ above,
No fear his heart oppresses.
In Thee alone, dear Lord, we own
Sweet hope and consolation,
Our Shield from foes, our Balm for woes,
Our great and sure Salvation.

2. Though Satan's wrath beset our path
And worldly scorn assail us,
While Thou art near, we will not fear;
Thy strength shall never fail us.
Thy rod and staff shall keep us safe
And guide our steps forever;
Nor shades of death nor hell beneath
Our souls from Thee shall sever.

3. In all the strife of mortal life
Our feet shall stand securely;
Temptation's hour shall lose its power,
For Thou shalt guard us surely.
O God, renew with heavenly dew
Our body, soul, and spirit
Until we stand at Thy right hand
Through Jesus' saving merit.

Prayer & The Benediction

Closing Hymn #800 WS
Go, My Children, with My Blessing

1. Go, my children, with My blessing, Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are My own.
In My love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone.

2. Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.
Here you heard My dear Son's story; Here you touched
Him, saw His glory.
Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.

3. Go, my children, fed and nourished, Closer to Me;
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.
Here My Spirit's power filled you; Here His tender comfort
stilled you.
Go, My children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.

4. I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace:
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My children; I will keep you And give you peace.

Silent Prayer

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