



**8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**July 14, 2024**

**Opening Hymn #393 (v. 1-3)**  
***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.

## Invocation

**P:** In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

## Confession and Absolution

**P:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**P:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

**C: Amen**

## Kyrie & Gloria in Excelsis – sing

Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord have mercy on us.

1. Glory to God, we give you thanks and praise;  
Of heav'nly joy and peace on earth we sing.  
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,  
Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King

2. Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,  
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.  
O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won,  
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within

3. Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,

At God's right hand in majesty most high:  
Who, with the Spirit worshiped and adored,  
With all the heav'nly host we glorify.

### **Prayer of the Day**

**P:** Let us pray...

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

**C: Amen**

### **The First Lesson – Amos 7:7-15**

<sup>7</sup>This is what [the Lord God] showed me: behold, the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "Behold, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass by them; <sup>9</sup>the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword." <sup>10</sup>Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to bear all his words. <sup>11</sup>For thus Amos has said, "Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land." <sup>12</sup>And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, and eat bread there, and prophesy there, <sup>13</sup>but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom." <sup>14</sup>Then Amos answered and said to Amaziah, "I was no prophet, nor a prophet's son, but I was a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore figs. <sup>15</sup>But the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

*Antiphon – Surely God’s salvation is near to those who fear Him.*

Lord, You have been favorable | to Your land;\*

**You have brought back the captivity of | Jacob.**

You have forgiven the iniquity of Your | people;\*

**You have covered | all their sin.**

You have taken away | all Your wrath;\*

**You have turned from the fierceness of Your | anger.**

*Antiphon – Surely God’s salvation is near to those who fear Him.*

Mercy and truth have met to- | gether;\*

**Righteousness and peace have kissed each | other.**

Truth shall spring out | of the earth,\*

**And righteousness shall look down from | heaven.**

Yes, the Lord will give | what is good;\*

**And our land will yield its | increase.**

Righteousness will go be- | fore Him,\*

**And shall make His footsteps our | pathway.**

**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 – Surely God’s salvation is near to those who fear Him.*

### **The Second Lesson – Ephesians 1:3-14**

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup>which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his

purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, <sup>12</sup>so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup>who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

### **Verse of the Day – Matthew 5:10**

Alleluia. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.

### **The Gospel – Mark 6:14-29**

<sup>14</sup>King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at work in him." <sup>15</sup>But others said, "He is Elijah." And others said, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." <sup>16</sup>But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." <sup>17</sup>For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because he had married her. <sup>18</sup>For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." <sup>19</sup>And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not, <sup>20</sup>for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly. <sup>21</sup>But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his nobles and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. <sup>22</sup>For when Herodias's daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you." <sup>23</sup>And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom." <sup>24</sup>And she went out and said to her mother, "For what

should I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist." <sup>25</sup>And she came in immediately with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." <sup>26</sup>And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. <sup>27</sup>And immediately the king sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison <sup>28</sup>and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother. <sup>29</sup>When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

**P:** Blessed are they that hear the Word of God and keep it.

### **The Alleluia – sing**

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

These words are written that we may believe

That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### **Confession of Faith – Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**

**From there 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.**

**Hymn of the Day #347 (v. 1-4)**  
*Jesus, Priceless Treasure*

1. Jesus, priceless Treasure,  
Fount of purest pleasure,  
Truest Friend to me.  
Ah, how long in anguish  
Shall my spirit languish,  
Yearning, Lord, for Thee?  
Thou art mine, O Lamb divine!  
I will suffer naught to hide Thee,  
Naught I ask beside Thee.

2. In Thine arms I rest me;  
Foes who would molest me  
Cannot reach me here.  
Though the earth be shaking,  
Every heart be quaking,  
Jesus calms my fear.  
Lightnings flash And thunders crash;  
Yet, though sin and hell assail me,  
Jesus will not fail me.

3. Satan, I defy thee;  
Death, I now decry thee;  
Fear, I bid thee cease.  
World, thou shalt not harm me  
Nor thy threats alarm me  
While I sing of peace.  
God's great power Guards every hour;

Earth and all its depths adore Him,  
Silent bow before Him.

4. Hence, all earthly treasure!  
Jesus is my Pleasure,  
Jesus is my Choice.  
Hence, all empty glory!  
Naught to me thy story  
Told with tempting voice.  
Pain or loss, Or shame or cross,  
Shall not from my Savior move me  
Since He deigns to love me.

### **Sermon Text – Amos 7:7-15**

#### **Sermon**

***The Lord Jesus Brings His People through Death into Life by  
the Preaching of Repentance***

#### **Offertory – sing**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not your Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

#### **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: Preserve Your Church, O Lord, for Your name's sake. Answer us in Your righteousness and in Your faithfulness. Since You have sent us forth in this world to testify to Your Word, let us find conviction and confidence in our confession that salvation is found in the forgiveness of sins through Christ Jesus alone.

**1 Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide,  
For round us falls the eventide;  
O let Your Word, that saving light,**



## **Shine forth undimmed into the night.**

P: You have blessed us, O Father, in Your beloved Son, in whom we have redemption through His blood: the forgiveness of our trespasses. As You have sealed us with the promised Holy Spirit for an eternal inheritance in Him, bring us now in repentance and faith to ~~receive His Sacrament and~~ be strengthened to life everlasting.

**2. In these last days of great distress  
Grant us, dear Lord, true steadfastness  
That we keep pure till life is spent,  
Your holy Word and Sacrament.**

P: Emboldened by our adoption through Jesus Christ, O Father, we bring before You every need of body and soul. Lavish the riches of Your grace on all of us (*especially* \_\_\_\_\_).

**The cause is Yours, the glory, too  
So hear us, Lord, and keep us true.  
Your Word alone is our defense,  
The Church's glorious confidence.**

P: You, O Lord, are King over all the earth. You bring ruin on wicked nations and their rulers and are no respecter of persons. Spare our nation and its leaders, O Lord. Let the conduct of our civil servants and of our people be wise, just and honorable in accord with Your revealed will. For the sake of Christ, be merciful to those who oppose You and remember that You desire all to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

**3. To hope grown dim, to hearts turned cold  
Speak tongues of fire and make us bold  
To shine Your Word of saving grace  
Into each dark and loveless place.**

P: Lord of the Church, we commend to You all ministers of Your Word. Make them zealous and faithful, that through their service Your kingdom would grow. Turn the hearts of all who hear from the

love of sin to the love of You. Remember in mercy Pastor Michael Wilke, our Synod's president; and Pastor Nathan Pfeiffer, our Visitor. Grant them wisdom in their work and joy in their calling. Send laborers into Your harvest.

**4. May glorious truths that we have heard,  
The bright sword of Your mighty Word,  
Spurn Satan that Your Church be strong,  
Bold unified in act and song.**

P: Preserve Your blessed estate of marriage, O Lord. Let chastity be prized among Your Christians and honored also in the world. Bind husband and wife together in love and forgiveness. Equip them by Your Spirit with every good gift to care for and teach the children You give.

**5. Restrain, O Lord, the human pride  
That seeks to thrust Your truth aside  
Or with some man-made thoughts or things  
Would dim the word Your Spirit sings.**

P: Author of life, as the disciples of John laid his body in a tomb in expectation of the resurrection of the dead, so lead us to respect the bodies of the saints in life and death, at all times confessing by word and deed our confidence in the resurrection.

**6 Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true;  
Preserve our faith our whole life through--  
Your Word alone our heart's defense,  
The Church's glorious confidence.**

P: O Lord, heavenly Father, join these, our prayers and praises, with those of Your faithful people in every time and in every place. Unite them in the ceaseless petitions of our great High Priest until He comes again on the Last Day. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor and worship, along with the Holy Spirit, and the Son who taught us to pray:

## 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.

## The Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen

## Closing Hymn #390

### *Drawn to the Cross, which Thou hast Blest*

1. Drawn to the Cross, which Thou hast blest  
With healing gifts for souls distress,  
To find in Thee my life, my rest,  
Christ Crucified, I come.
2. Thou knowest all my griefs and fears,  
Thy grace abused, my misspent years;  
Yet now to Thee with contrite tears,  
Christ Crucified, I come.
3. Wash me and take away each stain;

Let nothing of my sin remain.  
For cleansing, though it be through pain,  
Christ Crucified, I come.

4. And then for work to do for Thee,  
Which shall so sweet a service be  
That angels well might envy me,  
Christ Crucified, I come.

## **Silent Prayer**

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