

3rd Sunday after Pentecost
June 29, 2025

Opening Hymn #402
O God, Forsake Me Not

1. O God, forsake me not!
Thy gracious presence lend me;
Lead Thou Thy helpless child;
Thy Holy Spirit send me
That I my course may run.
Be Thou my Light, my Lot,
My Staff, my Rock, my Shield, --
O God, forsake me not!
2. O God, forsake me not!
Take not Thy Spirit from me
And suffer not the might
Of sin to overcome me.
Increase my feeble faith,
Which Thou Thyself hast wrought.
Be Thou my Strength and Power, --
O God, forsake me not!
3. O God, forsake me not!
Lord, hear my supplication!
In every evil hour
Help me o'ercome temptation;
And when the Prince of hell
My conscience seeks to blot,
Be Thou not far from me, --
O God, forsake me not!
4. O God, forsake me not!
Thy mercy I'm addressing;

O Father, God of Love,
Grant me Thy heavenly blessing
To do when duty calls
What'er Thou didst allot,
To do what pleaseth Thee, --
O God, forsake me not!

5. O God, forsake me not!
Lord, I am Thine forever.
Grant me true faith in Thee;
Grant that I leave Thee never.
Grant me a blessed end
When my good fight is fought;
Help me in life and death, --
O God, forsake me not!

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 – 1 Kings 19:9b-21

Behold, the word of the Lord came to [Elijah], and he said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away." ¹¹And he said, "Go out and stand on the mount before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the

rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. ¹²And after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. ¹³And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He said, "I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away." ¹⁵And the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria. ¹⁶And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place. ¹⁷And the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha put to death. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him." ¹⁹So he departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen in front of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and cast his cloak upon him. ²⁰And he left the oxen and ran after Elijah and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." And he said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?" ²¹And he returned from following him and took the yoke of oxen and sacrificed them and boiled their flesh with the yokes of the oxen and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and went after Elijah and assisted him.

Psalm of the Day- Psalm 16

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Antiphon – This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad! This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!

1 Preserve me, | O God,*
 for in you I take | refuge.

2 I say to the LORD, “You | are my Lord;*”
 I have no good a- | part from you.”

3 As for the saints | in the land,*
 they are the excellent ones, in whom is all | my delight.

4 The sorrows of those who run after another god shall | multiply;*”
 their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take
their names | on my lips.

5 The LORD is my chosen portion | and my cup;*”
 you | hold my lot.

6 The lines have fallen for me in pleasant | places;*”
 indeed, I have a beautiful in- | heritance.

7 I bless the LORD who gives me | counsel;*”
 in the night also my heart in- | structs me.

8 I have set the LORD always be- | fore me;*”
 because he is at my right hand, I shall not be | shaken.

9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being re- | joices;*”
 my flesh also | dwells secure.

10 For you will not abandon my soul | to Sheol,*
 or let your holy one see cor- | ruption.

11 You make known to me the | path of life;*”
 in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand
are pleasures for- | evermore.

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 – This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad! This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad!

The Second Lesson – Galatians 5:1, 13-25

¹For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. . . ¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁵But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another. ¹⁶But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

Verse of the Day – Luke 9:51

Alleluia. When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. Alleluia.

The Gospel – Luke 9:51-62

⁵¹When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for him. ⁵³But the people did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴And when his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to tell fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” ⁵⁵But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶And they went on to another village. ⁵⁷As they were

going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." ⁵⁹To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." ⁶⁰And Jesus said to him, "Leave the dead to bury their own dead. But as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." ⁶¹Yet another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." ⁶²Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

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 ***The Apostles' 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 #421
Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spake

1. Come, follow me, the Savior spake,
All in My way abiding;
Deny yourselves, the world forsake,
Obey My call and guiding.
Oh, bear the cross, whate'er betide,
Take my example for your guide.

2. I am the Light, I light the way,
A godly life displaying;
I bid you walk as in the day,
I keep your feet from straying.
I am the Way, and well I show
How you must sojourn here below.

3. My heart abounds in lowliness,
My soul with love is glowing,
And gracious words my lips express,
With meekness overflowing.
My heart, My mind, My strength, My all,
To God I yield, on Him I call.

4. I teach you how to shun and flee
What harms your soul's salvation,
Your heart from every guile to free,
From sin and its temptation.
I am the Refuge of the soul
And lead you to your heavenly goal.

5. Then let us follow Christ, our Lord,
And take the cross appointed
And, firmly clinging to His Word,
In suffering be undaunted.

For who bears not the battle's strain
The crown of life shall not obtain.

Sermon Text – Luke 9:51-62

Sermon

Christ's Messengers Proclaim His Kingdom

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: God of rest, though we are sojourners upon this earth, we pray that You would grant us safety and strength in all our travels and most especially for the journey of this mortal life. Until that day when we rest in Your presence and know the fullness of Your promise, when all things will be brought to their perfect consummation and bliss, keep us in Christ, holy and blameless.

**1. Spread, oh, spread, thou mighty Word,
Spread the kingdom of the Lord,
Wheresoe'er His breath has giv'n
Life to beings meant for heav'n.**

P: God of holiness, You graft into our hearts the love of Your name. As You create new hearts within us, bless us with the fruit of the Spirit, that our love for You might be expressed for our neighbor's good.

**1. Spread the reign of God the Lord,
Spoken, written, mighty Word;**

**Ev'rywhere His creatures call
To His heav'nly banquet hall.**

P: Almighty God, give Your grace and Spirit to the nations and those who lead them, especially our nation's president and Congress; our governor and legislature; and all who make, administer and judge our laws. Teach us to wisely contend for the faith within the public square so that Your voice may be heard by all people. Inspire and equip us by Your Spirit, that we may be led to every virtue in character and holiness of life.

**2. Tell how God the Father's will
Made the world, upholds it still,
How His own dear Son He gave
Us from sin and death to save.**

P: God of refuge, Your salvation draws near to all who trust in You. Grant peace to Your people, and show us Your salvation. Hear our petitions for healing, strength and comfort for [_____ and] all for whom we pray. Be near them as the refuge of the weary and the God who preserves His people.

**3. Tell of our Redeemer's grace,
Who, to save our human race
And to pay rebellion's price,
Gave Himself as sacrifice.**

P: God of the living, You set us free from bondage to the works of the flesh, that we may live and walk by the Spirit. Bring forth the fruits of the same in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

**4. Tell of God the Spirit giv'n
Now to guide us on to heav'n,
Strong and holy, just and true,
Working both to will and do.**

P: God of the Church, You give pastors and church workers to proclaim Your steadfast love, to announce freedom from the yoke of slavery to sin, and to point all toward the cross of Christ. Bless their faithful work, that their labor in the Lord may never be in vain.

**5. Enter, mighty Word, the field;
Ripe the promise of its yield.
But the reapers, oh, how few
For the work there is to do!**

P: God of our salvation, when Your Son set His face to go to Jerusalem and the cross, His zeal would not be deterred. Grant us to pray with the same fervor and boldness, trusting that You hear us for the sake of the Son of Man.

**6. Lord of harvest, great and kind,
Rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gath'ring nations all
See Your light and heed Your call.**

P: O Lord, keep us in repentance and faith, that we may not depart from Christ, the way, the truth and the life. Bring to repentance all enemies of Your Church and those who do not yet know You, that by faith they may with us confess Jesus Christ as Lord and amend their lives by the power of Your gracious Spirit. Give us courage for the path set before us, that we may not faint or grow weary but endure to the day of Christ's coming and receive the blessed "Well done!" of Your favor; through the same ***please stand*** Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, 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 #483

God of the Prophets, Bless the Prophets' Sons

1. God of the prophets, bless the prophet's sons;
Elijah's mantle o'er Elisha cast.
Each age its solemn task may claim by once;
Make each one nobler, stronger, than the last.

2. Anoint them prophets. Make their ears attent
To Thy divinest speech, their hearts awake
To human need, their lips make eloquent
To gird the right and every evil break.

3. Anoint them priests. Strong intercessors, they,
For pardon and for charity and peace.
Ah, if with them the world might, now astray,
Find in our Lord from all its woes release!

4. Anoint them kings; aye, kingly kings, O Lord.
Anoint them with the Spirit of Thy Son.

Theirs not a jeweled crown, a blood-stained sword;
Theirs, by sweet love, for Christ a kingdom won.

5. Make them apostles, heralds of Thy Cross;
Forth may they go to tell all realms Thy grace.
Inspired of Thee, may they count all but loss
And stand at last with joy before Thy face.

Silent Prayer

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