
12th Sunday after Pentecost
August 31, 2025

Opening Hymn #741 WS
When Morning Gilds the Skies

1. When morning gilds the skies,
My heart awaking, cries,
"May Jesus Christ be praised!"
When evening shadows fall,
Then sounds my vesper call:
"May Jesus Christ be praised!"

2. When mirth for music longs,
This is my song of songs:
"May Jesus Christ be praised!"
God's holy house of prayer
Hath none that can compare
With "Jesus Christ be praised!"

3. Sing, sun and stars of space;
Sing, all who see His face;
Sing, "Jesus Christ be praised!"
God's whole creation o'er,
Today and evermore,
Sing, "Jesus Christ be praised!"

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

♪ 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 – Proverbs 25:2-10

²It is the glory of God to conceal things, but the glory of kings is to search things out. ³As the heavens for height, and the earth for depth, so the heart of kings is unsearchable. ⁴Take away the dross from the silver, and the smith has material for a vessel; ⁵take away the wicked from the presence of the king, and his throne will be established in righteousness. ⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, ⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble. What your eyes have seen ⁸do not hastily bring into court, for what will you do in the end, when your neighbor puts you to shame? ⁹Argue your case with your neighbor himself, and do not reveal another's secret, ¹⁰lest he who hears you bring shame upon you, and your ill repute have no end.

Psalm of the Day- Psalm 131

¹O Lord, my heart is not lifted up;
 my eyes are not raised too high;
I do not occupy myself with things
 too great and too marvelous for me.
²But I have calmed and quieted my soul,
 like a weaned child with its mother;
 like a weaned child is my soul within me.
³O Israel, hope in the Lord
 from this time forth and forevermore.

The Second Lesson – Hebrews 13:1-17

¹Let brotherly love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. ⁵Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” ⁶So we can confidently say, “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?” ⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ⁹Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings, for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited those devoted to them. ¹⁰We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. ¹¹For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy places by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. ¹²So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. ¹³Therefore let us go to him outside the camp and bear the reproach he endured. ¹⁴For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come. ¹⁵Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. ¹⁷Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Verse of the Day – Luke 14:11

Alleluia. Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted. Alleluia.

The Gospel – Luke 14:1-14

¹One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ²And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?” ⁴But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵And he said to them, “Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?” ⁶And they could not reply to these things. ⁷Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” ¹²He said also to the man who had invited him, “When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. ¹³But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”

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

The Alleluia

♪ 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.

**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 #403
Savior, Thy Dying Love

1. Savior, Thy dying love
Thou gavest me;
Nor should I aught withhold,
Dear Lord, from Thee.

In love my soul would bow,
My heart fulfil its vow,
Some offering bring Thee now,
Something for Thee.

2. O'er the blest mercy-seat,
Pleading for me,
My feeble faith looks up,
Jesus, to Thee.
Help me my cross to bear,
Thy wondrous love declare,
Some song to raise or prayer,
Something for Thee.

3. Give me a faithful heart,
Likeness to Thee,
That each departing day
Henceforth may see
Some work of love begun,
Some deed of kindness done,
Some wanderer sought and won,
Something for Thee.

4. All that I am and have,
Thy gifts so free,
In joy, in grief, through life,
Dear Lord, for Thee!
And when Thy face I see,
My ransomed soul shall be
Through all eternity
Something for Thee.

Sermon Text – Proverbs 25:2-10

We Are Humbled and Exalted by the Cross of Christ

Offertory

♪ 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: Heavenly Father, through the humiliation of Your Son, You have called us to a place at Your heavenly table. Teach us to treasure this place of honor and so to spurn the foolish honors of this world.

1. Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;

Here would I touch and handle things unseen;

Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace,

And all my weariness upon Thee lean.

P: O Lord, You have established the family and the home to be a place where we learn, care and extend Your love to one another. We come to You on behalf of Your people, asking that You would visit and bless our homes. Strengthen and restore our relationships through the healing power of forgiveness, that we may join in sacred assembly without bitterness or resentment.

2. Here would I feed upon the bread of God,

Here drink with Thee the royal wine of heav'n;

**Here would I lay aside each earthly load,
Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv'n.**

P: Almighty God, grant mercy to Your Holy Church here and throughout the world and to all who confess the Christ, that unity of the Church in doctrine and practice may abound.

**3. This is the hour of banquet and of song;
This is the heav'nly table spread for me;
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong
The brief bright hour of fellowship with thee.**

P: Righteous judge, bless our nation and those who lead us in this land, and guide those who serve on behalf of this people. Watch over all nations, that justice and peace may reign. Grant courage to Christians to endure in faith in times of test, trial and persecution.

**4. I have no help but Thine; nor do I need
Another arm but Thine to lean upon.
It is enough, my Lord, enough indeed;
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might alone.**

P: Merciful Lord, Your Son has come to us who have offended Him, called us to repentance and offered us His forgiveness. Teach us to trust His love whenever we offend Him and to go to His house to be forgiven by those called to forgive in His name.

**5. Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace;
Thy blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God.**

P: Gracious God, we commend to You all who pass through difficult circumstances: the lonely and the persecuted, the imprisoned and the addicted, those suffering from mental distress and those suffering from bodily affliction [*especially* _____]. Comfort them with Your promise that You will never leave or forsake them.

**7. Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.**

P: All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake Your Son, ****please stand**** Jesus Christ 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 #451

Stand Up! Stand Up for Jesus

1. Stand up!--stand up for Jesus,
Ye soldiers of the Cross!
Lift high His royal banner,
It must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry
His army shall He lead
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished
And Christ is Lord indeed.

2. Stand up!--stand up for Jesus!
The trumpet-call obey;
Forth to the mighty conflict
In this His glorious day!
Ye that are men, now serve Him
Against unnumbered foes;

Let courage rise with danger
And strength to strength oppose.

3. Stand up!--stand up for Jesus!
Stand in His strength alone;
The arm of flesh will fail you,
Ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the Gospel armor,
Each piece put on with prayer;
Where duty calls or danger,
Be never wanting there.

4. Stand up!--stand up for Jesus!
The strife will not be long;
This day the noise of battle,
The next, the victor's song.
To him that overcometh
A crown of life shall be;
He with the King of Glory
Shall reign eternally.

Silent Prayer

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