

WELCOME!

We are glad to welcome you today as we gather together to worship God! Please be sure you complete the salmon insert inside your bulletin and turn it in to the usher at the time of communion.

This bulletin will assist you in participating in worship. All parts spoken by the congregation are listed in **bold print and preceded by "C:"**

There are also instructions printed in *italics* that will indicate other helpful descriptions of the service. Large Print Hymns are available. Please see an usher.

Thank you for turning off your cell phones or putting them on "silent" during the service.



*We are committed to **invite** and **welcome** all to Jesus Christ, to **equip** all with an active faith that works in real life, and together go into the world to **serve** in Jesus' name.*

ORGAN PRELUDE Just As I Am

arr. by Dale Wood

Please stand

HYMN 879 "For the Beauty of the Earth"

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

P: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you. You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

R: The Word of The Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans

and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

R: The Word of The Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

S205a



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

P: The Holy Gospel according to the seventh chapter of Mark.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition." Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from

the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

P: The Gospel of The Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN 592 "Just as I Am, Without One Plea

SERMON

Pastor Seth Jersild

APOSTLES' CREED

C: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: P: ...Lord in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...

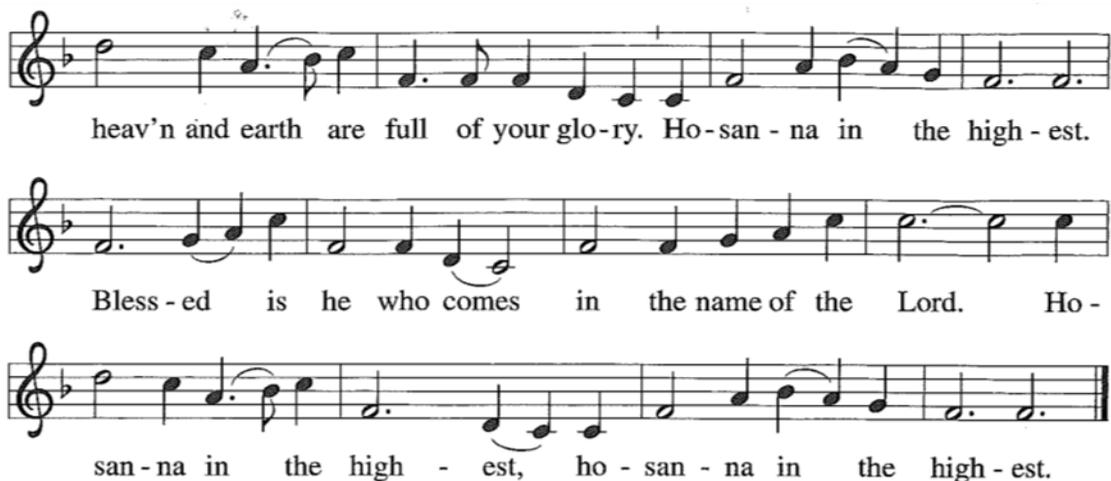
...and join their unending hymn:

HOI.Y. HOI.Y. HOI.Y



S207

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.**

DISTRIBUTION

Please follow the instructions from the pastor for distribution.

Believing in the real presence of Christ's body and blood in the bread and wine of the Holy Communion for the forgiveness of sin, we practice Eucharistic hospitality. All baptized persons are welcomed to the Lord's Table.

BLESSING, PRAYER and BENEDICTION

HYMN 686 "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

ORGAN POSTLUDE Fugue

Johann Pachelbel

Listening for the Promise

Weekly Devotional

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost – August 29, 2021

“Put on the whole armor of God...” (Ephesians 6:11)

The apostle Paul said, “I have been crucified with Christ....and I live in the flesh by faith in the Son of God” (Gal. 2:20). Whoever belongs to Christ crucifies the flesh. But because we have not yet died, we still sin. We still get angry, feel envy, impatience, and sexual desire. But these feelings are not carried out because the flesh is crucified by repressing it with spiritual disciplines and by walking with the Spirit. We are instructed, encouraged, and comforted by the Word of God, by faith, and by prayer, which helps us to refuse to yield to our desires. When we resist, we nail our flesh, passions, desires, and our sins to the cross of Christ, with Christ, who takes them as his own. Though our “flesh” is still alive, it cannot accomplish what it wishes because it is nailed to the cross by its hands and feet.

We dress ourselves with faith, hope, and the sword of the Spirit. We fight back at the flesh; and with these nails it is fastened to the cross, so that against its will it is forced to be subject to the Spirit. Eventually, when we die, we will put it off completely, forever. In the resurrection we will have new flesh that is pure, without any passions, evil desires, or sin. We have gone from sinner to saint.

We put on the breastplate of righteousness so the chest is protected against flaming darts (vs. 16). This gives us courage and a good conscience, which is righteous because we rely on God’s armor. When we are attacked by the flaming darts, we feel guilt and disgrace. The shield helps us from becoming fearful by putting our trust in God alone.

We need the helmet of the Savior, Jesus Christ. He made himself into a helmet when he said to us, “Remember the word that I said to you” (John 15:20). A helmet gives the head protection and we can feel secure and peaceful when thinking of the things that are happening to us also happened to Jesus.

We take the sword (not the sheath!), which is the word of God, and strike out against the flaming darts with the sharp blade of spiritual understanding. We have the word of God deep inside our hearts, protected under the breastplate, and we strike at the slings and arrows that are attacking us. Thanks be to God! Amen.