

# **THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Saturday, September 5, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.**

**St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
4101 Washington Street NE  
Columbia Heights, MN 55421**

**+ CONNECT +**

## **INVOCATION:**

**L:** Our worship begins the way our lives in Christ begin in baptism: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

## **CONFESSION OF OUR SINS & PSALM OF THE WEEK: Psalm 32, part 1**

**L:** Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the LORD does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.

**C:** **When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.**

**L:** Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity.

**C:** **I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” And you forgave the guilt of my sin.**

## **SONG OF CONFESSION: “Lord Jesus, Think On Me”**

**Lord Jesus, think on me And purge away my sin;  
From selfish passions set me free And make me pure within.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me, By anxious thoughts oppressed;  
Let me your loving servant be And taste your promised rest.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me, Nor let me go astray;  
Through darkness and perplexity Point out your chosen way.**

**Lord Jesus, think on me That, when the flood is past,  
I may th’eternal brightness see And share your joy at last.**

**L:** Lord Jesus, you call me to worship you through a life of service; to serve you in caring for the vulnerable, the lost, and the sinner. Forgive me when I do not make such service a priority. Restore me, and work through me to be an agent of spiritual encouragement in this world in which you have placed me. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

## **PSALM OF THE WEEK, part 2:**

**L:** Therefore let all the faithful pray to you while you may be found; surely the rising of the mighty waters will not reach them.

**C:** **You are my hiding place; you will protect me from trouble and surround me with songs of deliverance.**

**L:** I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you.

**C:** **Do not be like the horse or the mule, which have no understanding but must be controlled by bit and bridle or they will not come to you.**

**L:** Many are the woes of the wicked, but the LORD’S unfailing love surrounds the one who trusts in him.

## **FORGIVENESS IS ANNOUNCED**

**PSALM OF THE WEEK, part 3:**

**P:** Rejoice in the LORD and be glad, you righteous;

**C:** **Sing, all you who are upright in heart!**

**SONG OF PRAISE: "This Is the Day"**

**This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made, That the Lord hath made**

**We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.**

**This is the day that the Lord hath made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

**This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made. (Repeat song)**

*("This Is the Day" by Les Garrett, copyright 1967, 1980 Scripture in Song, admin. By Marantha! Music, CCLI Lic. #941494.)*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

**L:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.**

**L:** Let us pray.

**C:** **Lord Jesus, mold our will to your will. Make us your servants, to care for the vulnerable, the lost, and the guilty among us; to lead them to live by grace, through faith, for works of service. For you live and reign with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now, through all eternity. Amen**

**+ NURTURE +**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Ezekiel 33:7-9**

"Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. When I say to the wicked, 'You wicked person, you will surely die,' and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved."

**L:** The Word of the Lord.

**C:** **Lord, have mercy!**

**EPISTLE LESSON: Romans 13:1-10**

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience. This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not covet," and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no harm to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

**L:** The Word of the Lord.

**C:** **Thanks be to God!**

**HOLY GOSPEL:**

**L:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, chapter 18.

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

At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. And he said: "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me. If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea. Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to stumble! Such things must come, but woe to the person through whom they come! If your hand or your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell. See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven. What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should perish. If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ!

**SONG OF THE DAY: "O Holy Love, that God Would Give"**

Voice



O ho - ly love, that God would give His will to  
O tra - gic loss: we do not keep The law, but  
O grace di - vine! That we may love The Judge who  
O bles - sing sweet, that we can show His love to  
6  
guide us how to live. Those blest com - mands: a mer - cy  
dwell in e - vil deep, And yet the Son we could not  
reigns en - throned a - bove. For - giv - en, we can give Him  
12  
all with us be - low And point to Him, His glo - ries  
true To give us joy in all we do.  
be Did all, paid all, and set us free,  
praise Who makes us blame - less all our days.  
shine Ful - fill - ing law with love di - vine.

*("O Holy Love, That God Would Give", text by Lisa M. Clark, copyright 2020 Concordia Publishing House, all rights reserved. Used by permission. Lutheran Service Book Hymn License #100014518)*

**MESSAGE** – Pastor Keith Brutlag

**CONFESSION OF FAITH: 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 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

+ EMPOWER +

#### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH:

*(Prayer response – P: Lord, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.)*

**P:** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND BENEDICTION

#### CLOSING HYMN: “Forth In the Peace of Christ We Go”

Forth in the peace of Christ we go; Christ to the world with joy we bring;  
Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips, Christ in our hearts, the world’s true king.

King of our hearts, Christ makes us kings; Kingship with him his servants gain;  
With Christ the Servant-Lord of all, Christ’s world we serve to share Christ’s reign.

Priests of the world, Christ sends us forth This world of time to consecrate,  
This world of sin by grace to heal, Christ’s world in Christ to recreate.

Christ’s are our lips, his Word we speak, Prophets are we whose deeds proclaim  
Christ’s truth in love that we may be Christ in the world, to spread Christ’s name.

We are the Church; Christ bids us show That in his Church all nations find  
Their hearth and home where Christ restores True peace, true love to all mankind.

*(“Forth In the Peace of Christ We Go”, text copyright 1969 James Quinn, SJ, printed by permission of Geoffrey Chapman, a division of Cassell Ltd. Lutheran Service Hymn License #100014518)*

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#### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

**Lay Minister:** Bob Nehring

**Altar Guild:** Neaderhiser Family