

THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, FALLS CHURCH, VA



PRELUDE

*Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*  
John Leavitt

WELCOME

ENTRANCE HYMN (Stand) #870

*Now That the Darkness Fills the Day*  
(Alternate tune: *Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*)

- 1 Now that the daylight fills the sky,  
We lift our hearts to God on high,  
That He, in all we do or say,  
Would keep us free from harm today;
- 2 Would guard our hearts and tongues from strife;  
From anger's din would shield our life;  
From evil sights would turn our eyes,  
And close our ears to vanities.
- 3 So we, when this new day is gone  
And night in turn is drawing on,  
With conscience by the world unstained  
Shall praise His name for vict'ry gained.
- 4 "All praise to You, creator Lord!  
All praise to You, eternal Word!  
All praise to You, O Spirit wise!"  
We sing as daylight fills the skies.

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice;  
**In the morning I prepare a sacrifice for You and watch.**

My mouth is filled with your praise,  
**And with Your glory all the day.**

Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,  
**And renew a right spirit within me.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

*(We observe a moment of silence for self-reflection.)*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**Amen.**

*KYRIE*

see p. 168 for music

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE*

p. 171

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

*THE PRAYER OF THE DAY*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Everlasting Father, source of every blessing,

**mercifully direct and govern us by Your Holy Spirit that we may complete the works You have prepared for us to do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST LESSON (Be seated)

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Now the rabble that was among [the children of Israel] had a strong craving. And the people of Israel also wept again and said, "Oh that we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we ate in Egypt that cost nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic. But now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at. . . ."

Moses heard the people weeping throughout their clans, everyone at the door of his tent. And the anger of the LORD blazed hotly, and Moses was displeased. Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you dealt ill with your servant? And why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give them birth, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a nursing child,' to the land that you swore to give their fathers? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they weep before me and say, 'Give us meat, that we may eat.' I am not able to carry all this people alone; the burden is too heavy for me. If you will treat me like this, kill me at once, if I find favor in your sight, that I may not see my wretchedness."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you. . . ."

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it.

Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the Spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, "My lord Moses, stop them." But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!"

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 104:24, 27-35 (Read responsively)

O LORD, how manifold are your works!  
**In wisdom have you made them all;**  
**the earth is full of your creatures.**

These all look to you,  
to give them their food in due season.

**When you give it to them, they gather it up;**  
**when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.**

When you hide your face, they are dismayed;  
when you take away their breath, they die  
and return to their dust.

**When you send forth your Spirit, they are created,**  
**and you renew the face of the ground.**

May the glory of the LORD endure forever;  
may the LORD rejoice in his works,  
**who looks on the earth and it trembles,  
who touches the mountains and they smoke!**

I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;  
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.  
**May my meditation be pleasing to him,  
for I rejoice in the LORD.**

Let sinners be consumed from the earth,  
and let the wicked be no more!  
**Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

*SECOND LESSON*

James 5:13-20

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*ALLELUIA VERSE (Stand)*

p. 173

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

*GOSPEL*

Mark 9:38-50

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter  
**Glory to You, O Lord.**

John said to [Jesus], "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. For the one who is not against us is for us. For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.

"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into

hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, 'where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.' For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

#### SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY (Stand) #749

*There is a Balm in Gilead*

#### *Refrain*

There is a balm in Gilead  
To make the wounded whole;  
There is a balm in Gilead  
To heal the sin-sick soul.

- 1 Sometimes I feel discouraged  
And think my work's in vain,  
But then the Holy Spirit  
Revives my soul again. *Refrain*
- 2 If you cannot preach like Peter,  
If you cannot pray like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus  
And say He died for all. *Refrain*
- 3 Don't ever feel discouraged,  
For Jesus is your friend;  
And if you lack for knowledge,  
He'll ne'er refuse to lend. *Refrain*

#### 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

#### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For daily bread, that God would provide what we need, and that we would not crave nor weep after what we do not have but be content with what God so graciously rains down upon us, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who prophesy according to God's Word, including our pastors and all who witness to the name of Jesus, that their words would give comfort, direction and peace to all who hear them, and that the Spirit would move all the Lord's people to be bold in proclaiming His salvation in their homes and neighborhoods, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our elders and church council, that God would bless them with the necessary gifts of His Spirit to serve the congregation, support its outreach efforts, and uphold the ministry of the Word amongst us, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For husbands and wives, parents and children, that our families would reflect the love of Christ in all things, and that they would confess their sins to one another and pray for one another so that they would be healed, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our governing authorities and all who bear the sword in our land as representatives of God's justice and protection, that sin and wickedness may be kept at bay and we may live peaceable lives in safety, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the suffering and those who are sick, [*especially \_\_\_\_\_*], that the Lord would save them, heal them and raise them up, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who come to the altar today to receive the heavenly manna of Christ's body and blood, that they would be well salted with repentance and faith and be at peace with one another, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. **Amen.**



*THE LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION*

*PREFACE TO HOLY COMMUNION* (Stand)

p. 178

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is truly good right and salutary...evermore praising You and saying:

*SANCTUS*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:**

**Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING*

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*THE 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 WORDS OF OUR LORD*

*PAX DOMINI*

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

*AGNUS DEI*

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

*DISTRIBUTION (Be seated)*

*The Communion Assistant will come forward to receive first, then those from the pulpit side – by order of pew, front to back. Communicants will come up the center aisle and return via the side aisle. When all from the pulpit side have communed, the baptismal font side will commune in the same manner. Distancing must be maintained between all communicants. Masks should be kept on except for the moment of consuming the elements. We ask that the wine be consumed away from the tray table. Empty cups should be dropped into the baskets.*

*COMMUNION MUSIC*

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*

John Leavitt

*NUNC DIMITTIS (Stand)*

p. 182

**Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace;**

**Your word has been fulfilled.**

**My own eyes have seen the salvation**

**which You have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:**

**A light to reveal You to the nations**

**and the glory of Your people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN #922

*Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

- 1 **Go, My children, with My blessing,  
Never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you;  
You are My own.  
In My love's baptismal river  
I have made you Mine forever.  
Go, My children, with My blessing—  
You are My own.**
  
- 2 **Go, My children, sins forgiven,  
At peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you,  
What I can cure.  
Here you heard My dear Son's story;  
Here you touched Him, saw His glory.  
Go, My children, sins forgiven,  
At peace and pure.**
  
- 3 **Go, My children, fed and nourished,  
Closer to Me;  
Grow in love and love by serving,  
Joyful and free.  
Here My Spirit's power filled you;  
Here His tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, My children, fed and nourished,  
Joyful and free.**
  
- 4 **I the Lord will bless and keep you  
And give you peace;  
I the Lord will smile upon you  
And give you peace:  
I the Lord will be your Father,  
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.  
Go, My children; I will keep you  
And give you peace.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Be seated)*

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

*Go, My Children, with My Blessing*  
John Leavitt



Those serving:

Sunday, September 26, 8:30 a.m.:

Greeter: Michael Chamberlain

Comm. assist: Dede Dixon

Reader: Aaron Siebrass

10:30 a.m.:

Greeter: Steve Janssen

Comm. assist: Jill Hecht

Reader: Bill Muller

#### Acknowledgments

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