

# SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## James: Wisdom for Life

September 8 & 9, 2018

5:00 pm & 8:15 am



### AS WE GATHER

Sometimes when a student does a good job on an assignment, the teacher will reward him or her with a gold star. A gold star is a symbol for a job well done. Yet, not every assignment that a student completes is handed back with a gold star on top. Not every test or paper is done well. Jesus, however, is different. The crowds in today's Gospel proclaim with astonishment, "He has done all things well" (Mark 7:37). The people are right: Jesus can do only good because He is God, and God is good! In His healing, preaching, and teaching, He does all things well. Even right up to the end as He cries out from the cross, "It is finished," Jesus does His Father's will with gold-star perfection. With His death, resurrection, and eventual return, Jesus has done, and will do, all things well.

### PRELUDE

**RINGING OF THE BELLS** - *We Prepare our hearts and minds for worship*



**WELCOME**

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

**OPENING HYMN** "Word of God, Come Down on Earth"

*LSB 545*

**Word of God, come down to earth, Living rain from heav'n descending;  
Touch our hearts and bring to birth Faith and hope and love unending.  
Word almighty, we revere You; Word made flesh, we long to hear You.**

**Word eternal, throned on high, Word that brought to life creation,  
Word that came from heav'n to die, Crucified for our salvation,  
Saving Word, the world restoring, Speak to us, Your love outpouring.**

**Word that caused blind eyes to see, Speak and heal our mortal blindness;  
Deaf we are: our healer be; Loose our tongues to tell Your kindness.  
Be our Word in pity spoken, Heal the world, by sin now broken.**

**Word that speaks God's tender love, One with God beyond all telling,  
Word that sends us from above, God the Spirit, with us dwelling,  
Word of truth, to all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.**

*(Please Stand)*

### OPENING SENTENCES

**Pastor:** If any of you lacks wisdom,  
**People:** **let him ask God, who gives generously**

**Pastor:** to all without reproach,  
**People:** **and it will be given him. (James 1:5)**



## INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*(If you would like private confession and absolution, please call the office at (314) 832-5600 to make an appointment with Pastor Clark)*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

People: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

**(OR)**

Seminary Student: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. *John 1:12, Philippians 1:6*

People: **Amen.**

### ✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

**HYMN OF PRAISE** "Praise to You and Adoration"

*LSB 692*

**Praise to You and adoration, Blessed Jesus, Son of God,  
Who to serve Your own creation, Came to share our flesh and blood.  
Guide me that I never may From Your fold or pastures stray,  
But with zeal and joy exceeding Follow where Your steps are leading.**

**Hold me ever in Your keeping; Comfort me in pain and strife.  
In my laughter and my weeping Be with me throughout my life.  
Give me greater love for You, And my faith and hope renew  
In Your birth, Your life, and passion, In Your death and resurrection.**

### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord, let Your merciful ears be open to the prayers of Your humble servants,  
People: **and grant that what they ask may be in accord with Your gracious will;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one  
God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

*(Please Be Seated)*



**OLD TESTAMENT** *Isaiah 35:4–7a* (The ears of the deaf will be unstopped.)

<sup>4</sup> Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.” <sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup> then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7</sup> the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**



**EPISTLE** *James 2:1–10, 14–18* (I will show you my faith by what I do.)

<sup>1</sup> My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. <sup>2</sup> For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, <sup>3</sup> and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” <sup>4</sup> have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup> Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup> But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup> Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called? <sup>8</sup> If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. <sup>9</sup> But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. <sup>10</sup> For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it. . . . . <sup>14</sup> What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? <sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, <sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? <sup>17</sup> So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. <sup>18</sup> But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

*(Please Stand)*

**ALLELUIA and VERSE**

*LSB 205*

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ,  
the Son of God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**



**HOLY GOSPEL** *Mark 7: 31–37* (The healing of the deaf and mute man)

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

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

<sup>31</sup>Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup>And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup>And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup>And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” <sup>35</sup>And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup>And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup>And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of Lord.

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



**APOSTLES' CREED**

*LSB 207*

**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.**

*(Please Be Seated)*



**CHILDREN'S TIME** “Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”

*LSB 707, v.1*

**Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep His statues still!  
Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do His will!**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

*LSB 528*

**Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace!**

**My gracious Master and my God, Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad, The honors of Thy name.**

**Jesus! The name that calms our fears, That bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.**

**He breaks the pow'r of canceled sin; He sets the pris'ner free.  
His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood avails for me.**

**Look unto Him, ye nations; own Your God, ye fallen race.  
Look and be saved through faith alone, Be justified by grace.**

**See all our sins on Jesus laid; the Lamb of God was slain.  
His soul was once an off'ring made For ev'ry soul of man.**

**To God all glory, praise and love Be now and ever giv'n  
By saints below and saints above, The Church in earth and heav'n.**



## **SERMON**

*(Please Stand)*



## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Shepherd of youth, Your Son welcomed children inviting, “let the little children come to me.” Bless parents and teachers, homes and schools as they teach the faith. Work through us so children and youth would grow in love for you and their neighbor. Encourage and strengthen our Word of Life families and teachers (including...) Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Gracious God, You are truly the One from whom all blessings flow. Make us faithful stewards of all with which You have blessed us for Your Word says, “Each person should do as he has decided in his heart—not reluctantly or out of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver.” By the power of your Spirit, inspire us to give generously and joyfully so that our congregation can share Christ vigorously, giving life now and for eternity. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Almighty God, You instruct us to “Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations.” Thank you for the privilege of supporting mission work both domestically and abroad. Remind us that the mission field exists not only in the far corners of the earth, but also in our own land, neighborhoods, and families. Equip us for witness and also strengthen those we support through Together in Mission, (including...). Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Merciful Lord, look with favor upon those who are sick and suffering. Assure them of Your mercy, and comfort them in their illness (especially...). If it pleases You, restore them to health as you give them courage and hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** Lord, You have established Your church as more than a place to go to, but a family to belong to. Continue to lead this family of faith here at Ascension to be united in mission as a people who are, “Loved by Christ, sharing Christ’s love.” Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **Hear our prayer.**

*(Special Petitions)*

**Pastor:** All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ.

**People:** **Amen!**

*(Please Be Seated)*



## GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

**GATHERING OF OFFERINGS 8:15 AM** “Seek Ye First” *Ascension Choir*

*(Please Stand)*



### ✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

*We believe Holy Communion is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christian to eat and to drink. If you are a communicant member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation, please feel free to commune with us. If not, please speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord’s Supper.*

### PREFACE

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

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.

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

**Pastor:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

### PROPER PREFACE

**Pastor:** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who as Your only begotten Son did Your will perfectly in His life, but also in His suffering and death. All that Jesus has done is good in Your eyes so that, through faith, we might be forgiven in Your eyes. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

**SANCTUS** — Holy, Holy, Holy *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

*LSB 208*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav’n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

### THE LORD’S PRAYER

*LSB 209*

**Pastor:** Hear us as we pray in His name as He has taught us:

**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

*LSB 209*

**PAX DOMINI** — *The Peace of the Lord* John 20:19

LSB 209

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

**AGNUS DEI** — *Lamb of God* John 1:29

LSB 210

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

*(Please Be Seated)*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS** “At the Lamb’s High Feast We Sing”

LSB 633

**At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to our victorious King,  
Who has washed us in the tide Flowing from His pierced side. Alleluia!**

**Praise we Him, whose love divine Gives His sacred blood for wine,  
Gives His body for the feast—Christ the victim, Christ the priest. Alleluia!**

**Where the paschal blood is poured, Death’s dread angel sheathes the sword;  
Israel’s hosts triumphant go Through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!**

**Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Paschal victim, paschal bread;  
With sincerity and love Eat we manna from above. Alleluia!**

**Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell’s fierce pow’rs beneath You lie;  
You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!**

**Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall;  
You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!**

**Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!**

**Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!**

“Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ”

LSB 769

**Eternal Spirit of the living Christ, I know not what to ask or what to say;  
I only know my need, as deep as life, And only You can teach me how to pray.**

**Come, pray in me the prayer I need this day; Help me to see Your purpose and Your will---  
Where I have failed, what I have done amiss; Held in forgiving love, let me be still.**

**Come with the strength I lack, bring vision clear Of human need; O give me eyes to see  
Fulfillment of my life in love outpoured, My life in You, O Christ; Your love in me.**

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

LSB 793

**Praise my soul, the King of heaven; To His feet your tribute bring;  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, Evermore His praises sing:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.**

**Praise Him for His grace and favor To His people in distress;  
Praise Him still the same as ever,  
Slow to chide and swift to bless:  
Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious in His faithfulness.**

**Fatherlike He tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame He knows;  
In His hand He gently bears us, Rescues us from all our foes.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows.**

**Angels, help us to adore Him; You behold Him face to face;  
Sun and moon, bow down before Him, All who dwell in time and space.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.**

*(Please Stand)*

**NUNC DIMITTIS 5:00 PM** "Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go" *LSB 854, v. 1-2*  
*(Sung to tune of the doxology)*

**Forth in The name, O Lord I go, My daily labor to pursue,  
Thee, only Thee, resolved to know In all I think or speak or do.**

**The task Thy wisdom has assigned, O let me cheerfully fulfill;  
In all my works Thy presence find, And prove Thy good and perfect will.**

**8:15 AM** "Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go" *Ascension Choir*



**BENEDICAMUS and BENEDICTION** *Psalm 103:1*

**Pastor:** Let us bless the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Pastor:** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

*Numbers 6:24-26*

**People:** **Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN 5:00 PM** “The Lord, My God, Be Praised” *LSB 794*

**The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heaven;  
My maker, who to me Has soul and body given;  
My Father, who will shield And keep me day by day  
And make each moment yield New blessings on my way.**

**The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heaven,  
The Father's own dear Son, Whose life for me was given,  
Who for my sin atoned With His most precious blood  
And gives to me by faith The highest heav'nly good.**

**The Lord, my God, be praised, My hope, my life from heaven,  
The Spirit, whom the Son In love to me has given.  
His grace revives my heart And gives my spirit pow'r,  
Help, comfort, and support In sorrow's gloomy hour.**

**The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the ever living;  
To whom the heav'nly host Their laud and praise are giving.  
The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,  
God Father, God the Son, And God the Holy Ghost.**

**8:15 AM** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*LSB 805*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## **POSTLUDE**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 3. Copyright © 2018 Concordia Publishing House.  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
Used by permission. LSBHymnLicense.net #100012046