

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

James: Wisdom for Life

September 9, 2018

11:00 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.

PRE-SERVICE "In Christ Alone"

Instrumental



WELCOME

✠ **PREPARATION** ✠

OPENING SONG

Lancer Singers

(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, Philipians 1:6*

People: Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

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.)

⁴Say 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.” ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then 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; ⁷the 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.)

¹My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ²For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³and 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,” ⁴have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, 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? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? ⁷Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called? ⁸If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. ⁹But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For

whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it.¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food,¹⁶ 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?¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.¹⁸ 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)



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.**

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

**Our God is a consuming fire
A burning holy flame with glory and freedom
Our God is the only righteous judge
Ruling over us with kindness and wisdom**

**PRECHORUS 1: And we will keep our eyes on You
We will keep our eyes on You**

**CHORUS: A mighty fortress is our God
A sacred refuge is Your name
Your Kingdom is unshakable
With You forever we will reign**

**Our God is jealous for His own
None could comprehend His love and His mercy
Our God is exalted on His throne
High above the heavens forever He is worthy PRE CHORUS 1, CHORUS X2**

Instrumental

**PRECHORUS 2: We will keep our eyes on You
We will keep our eyes on You
So we can set our hearts on You
Lord we will set our hearts on You CHORUS**

**With You forever we will reign
With You forever we will reign**

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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

OFFERTORY

Lancer Singers

(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.

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”

Maichel

**Lamb of God, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world.
Lamb of God, Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world.
And have mercy on us. Have mercy on us and grant us your peace. Grant us your peace.
Have Mercy on us, O Lamb of God. Grant us your peace we pray.**

(Please Be Seated)

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

Lancer Singers

“My Victory”

Mulligan/Crowder/Cash/Bentley

**You came for criminals And ev'ry Pharisee
You came for hypocrites Even one like me**

**You carried sin and shame The guilt of ev'ry man
The weight of all I've done Nailed into Your hands**

**CHORUS: Oh Your love bled for me
Oh Your blood in crimson streams
Oh Your death is Hell's defeat
A cross meant to kill is my victory**

**Oh Your amazing grace I've seen and tasted it
It's running through my veins I can't escape its grip
In You my soul is safe You cover ev'rything CHORUS**

**Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away our sin Who takes away our sin
The holy Lamb of God Makes us alive again Makes us alive again
REPEAT BRIDGE, CHORUS**

Oh a cross meant to kill is my victory

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(Please Stand)



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 SONG “Awesome Is The Lord Most High” *Pierce/Tomlin/Reeves/Abel*

**Great are You Lord mighty in strength, You are faithful, and You will ever be.
We will praise You all of our days, It's for Your glory we offer ev'rything.**

Raise your hands all you nations, shout to God all creation, How awesome is the Lord most high.

**Where You send us, God, we will go. You're the answer we want the world to know.
We will trust You when You call our name. Where You lead us we'll follow all the way.**

**Raise your hands all you nations, shout to God all creation, How awesome, is the Lord most high.
We will praise You together, for now and forever. How awesome is the Lord most high.**

**Hallelujah, hallelujah, how awesome is the Lord most high.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, how awesome is the Lord most high.**

**Raise your hands all you nations, shout to God all creation, How awesome, is the Lord most high.
We will praise You together, for now and forever. How awesome is the Lord most high. X2**

Hallelujah Hallelujah.Hallelujah.

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POSTLUDE

Instrumental Music

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