



“SUMMER SERIES: PSALM 23”

Sunday, July 12, 2020 9:00AM

Worship Service

AS WE GATHER

When it comes to summarizing the Psalms, Luther probably said it best, “The Psalter out to be a precious and beloved book, if for no other reason than this: It promises Christ’s death and resurrection so clearly – and pictures His Kingdom and the condition and nature of all Christendom – that it might well be called a little Bible.” We continue our look this day at arguably the most well-known Psalm – Psalm 23.

Sit

OPENING HYMN

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

LSB 807

- 1 When morning gilds the skies,
My heart, awaking, cries,
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”
When evening shadows fall,
This rings my curfew call:
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”
- 2 When mirth for music longs,
This is my song of songs:
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”
God’s holy house of prayer
Hath none that can compare
With “Jesus Christ be praised!”
- 3 No lovelier antiphon
In all high heav’n is known
Than “Jesus Christ be praised!”
There to the_ eternal Word
The_ eternal psalm is heard:
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”
- 4 Ye nations of mankind,
In this your concord find:
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”
Let all the earth around
Ring joyous with the sound:
“May Jesus Christ be praised!”
- 5 Sing, suns and stars of space,
Sing, ye that see His face,
Sing, “Jesus Christ be praised!”
God’s whole creation o’er,
Both now and evermore
Shall Jesus Christ be praised!

Text: Public domain

INVOCATION

[P] In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION (*Isaiah 55:11–12; Psalm 32:5; 124:8; Matthew 13:23; Romans 8:16*)

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P In the today's Epistle, Paul reminds us that "the Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God." Let us therefore go to our gracious heavenly Father, confessing our sins.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P In the Old Testament Reading, God promises, "My word . . . shall not return to Me empty; it shall accomplish . . . and shall succeed."

C But we do not trust You in all things. We have sinned in thought, word, and deed. Forgive us, heavenly Father.

P Then God tells us, "You shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace."

C But we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. Hear us, free us, and lead us in paths pleasing to You, heavenly Father.

P In the Gospel, our Lord explains that "the one who hears the word and understands it . . . bears fruit." By the grace of God, we believe and understand that Jesus, the Word of God in the flesh, succeeded in destroying death and rising victorious for us. For His sake, God forgives us and uses us to bear fruit for Him. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. May the Word planted inside you produce a great harvest for our gracious Lord.

C Amen. Thanks be to God!

HYMN of PRAISE

"Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing"

LSB 584

1 Faith and truth and life bestowing,
Open now the Scriptures, Lord,
Seed to life eternal sowing,
Scattered on the wind abroad.
Let not hearts, Your Word receiving,
Like a barren field be found,
Choked with thorns and unbelieving,
Shallow earth or stony ground.

2 May the Spirit's pow'r unceasing
Bring to life the hidden grain,
Daily in our hearts increasing,
Bearing fruit that shall remain.
So in Scripture, song, and story,
Savior, may Your voice be heard.
Till our eyes behold Your glory
Give us ears to hear Your Word.

KYRIE

P O Lord,
C have mercy on us.

P O Christ,
C have mercy on us.

P O Lord,
C have mercy on us, and give us Your peace. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning,

C grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them

P that we may embrace and ever hold fast

C the blessed hope of everlasting life;

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

C Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:10–13

¹⁰“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²“For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Romans 8:12–17

¹²So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who

are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: “A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear. . . .

¹⁸“Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CATECHISM

Explanation of the Third Article

C I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

Sit

HYMN of the DAY

“Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast”

LSB 577

1 Almighty God, Your Word is cast
Like seed into the ground;

Now let the dew of heav'n descend
And righteous fruits abound.

- 2 Let not the sly satanic foe
This holy seed remove,
But give it root in ev'ry heart
To bring forth fruits of love.
- 3 Let not the world's deceitful cares
The rising plant destroy,
But let it yield a hundredfold
The fruits of peace and joy.
- 4 So when the precious seed is sown,
Life-giving grace bestow
That all whose souls the truth receive
Its saving pow'r may know.

Text: Public domain

SERMON

"He Restores Me!"

Psalm 23

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P We pray for the Church around the world and all people in their various circumstance.

David writes, "O You who hears prayer, to You shall all flesh come." Let us pray for those near and dear to us, [*especially* . . .], who call to God in their distress.

C Heavenly Father, visit, relieve, restore, and console them in Your mercy, and use us to help meet their needs.

P David writes, "When iniquities prevail against me, You atone for our transgressions." Let us pray for all who are wrongly accused or imprisoned by corrupt court systems.

C Lord of the nations, give them justice, clear their names, and free them; move governments to make reforms where they are needed.

P And let us pray for those who have acted rashly, destroyed relationships, or run afoul of civil laws.

C Lord Jesus, provide them opportunities and faithful counselors that they hear of Your mercy, repent, and repair their broken lives.

P David writes, "We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, the holiness of Your temple." Let us pray for the Church here and around the world.

C O Holy Spirit, bless, protect, and guide Your people as they proclaim the Gospel, and invite one and all to the joys of Your mercy, forgiveness, and love.

P David writes, "By awesome deeds You answer us with righteousness." Let us pray for all who make, administer, and adjudicate their nation's laws and seek peace across borders, and for all who serve their communities and nations by putting themselves in harm's way.

C Lord Jesus, raise up good and righteous people in positions of power, and give protection and courage to those having to make sudden decisions.

P David writes, "You visit the earth and water it; You greatly enrich it." Let us pray for all who tend the soil, transport crops, and distribute food where it is needed.

- C** Gracious God, send rain and sun to farms, protection to pilots and drivers, and guidance for those who manage markets; through their efforts grant that all the hungry be fed.
- P** David writes, “You crown the year with Your bounty.” Let us pray for those who are unemployed or underemployed, those who lack adequate clothing or shelter, and all burdened with financial debt.
- C** O Holy Spirit, open doors of opportunity so that they may provide for themselves and their families, rejoicing in all Your good gifts.
- P** Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

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.

BENEDICTION

- P** 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.
- C** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“On What Has Now Been Sown”

LSB 921

- 1 On what has now been sown
 Thy blessing, Lord, bestow;
 The pow’r is Thine alone
 To make it sprout and grow.
 Do Thou in grace the harvest raise,
 And Thou alone shalt have the praise!
- 2 To Thee our wants are known,
 From Thee are all our pow’rs;
 Accept what is Thine own
 And pardon what is ours.
 Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive,
 And to Thy Word a blessing give.
- 3 O grant that each of us,
 Now met before Thee here,

May meet together thus
When Thou and Thine appear
And follow Thee to heav'n, our home.
E'en so, amen, Lord Jesus, come!

Text: Public domain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 3. Copyright © 2020 Concordia Publishing House.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV[®] Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version[®]), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2018 Concordia Publishing House.