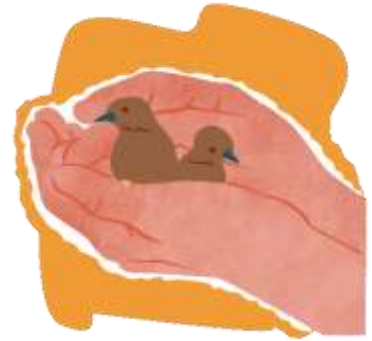


THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 7

The Praise of a Trapped Prophet
June 21, 2020



AS WE GATHER

It is great during good times to believe that God is on your side with His blessings. Have you ever seen an old black-and-white photograph of a church's Divine Service during or just after World War II? Extra chairs were added in the aisles for the great number of worshipers in dedicated attendance! Seventy-five years later, look around. Today Christianity has not only become more unpopular but is even seen by some as the enemy, the oppressor of freedom, the uninvited critic of a society that no longer labels anything as sinful. As it was for the prophet Jeremiah, to remain faithful to God means for now to be shunned, even persecuted. But the truth of God's Word does not change. It is like a fire that reveals and destroys sin but at the same time inspires and gives strength in the very bones of all who believe.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word *LSB 904*

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: We come before the Lord this day to be strengthened in faith and to be witnesses of righteousness and truth before a hostile world. Let us first confess our own sinfulness, that we receive mercy, grace, and forgiveness from God.

People: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

☩ WORD ☩

Introit *Ps. 56:3–4, 10–11; antiphon: Ps. 56:13*

Pastor: For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling,

People: that I may walk before God in the light of life.

Pastor: When I am afraid,

People: I put my trust in you.

Pastor: In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.

People: What can flesh do to me?

Pastor: In God, whose word I praise,

People: in the LORD, whose word I praise,

Pastor: in God I trust; I shall not be afraid.

People: What can man do to me?

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.

Pastor: For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling,

People: that I may walk before God in the light of life.

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow *LSB 805*

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Loving God, since You have called us by the light of Your truth to let that light shine through us to the world, give us the boldness, love, and strength to be Your faithful witnesses, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Jeremiah 20:7–13* (Jeremiah's complaint)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Romans 6:12–23*(Slaves to righteousness)

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Matthew 10:32*

Pastor: Alleluia. Everyone who acknowledges Me before men,

People: **I also will acknowledge before My Father who is in heaven. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 10:5a, 21–33* (Do not be afraid.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

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

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

From God Can Nothing Move Me *LSB 713*

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

People: **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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Lord, in Your Mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

People: 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.

OFFERTORY

Now Thank We All Our God *LSB 895*

BENEDICTION

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.

People: Amen.

Lift High the Cross *LSB 837*

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