

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 21

God's Good Pleasure!

September 27, 2020



AS WE GATHER

It has become commonplace to speak of God as responsible for determining life and death for us. So we wonder where is God's justice when the innocent suffer or His mercy when tragedy strikes. But the Lord insists He has no pleasure in the death of anyone—not even the sinner who deserves his punishment. God's good and gracious will is that all would be saved and come to the knowledge of His Son. Think how differently we would approach the troubles and trials that affect us and the greater disasters of the world if we took the Lord at His Word and trusted in His will.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Jesus, Name Above All Names/ Glorify Thy Name

Jesus, name above all names,
Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us,
Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

Father, we love You,
We worship and adore You.
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

Jesus, we love You,
We worship and adore You.
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

Spirit, we love You,
We worship and adore You.
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 25:6–7; 147:6*

Pastor: The LORD lifts up the humble;

People: **He casts the wicked to the ground.**

Pastor: Remember Your mercy, O LORD, and Your steadfast love

People: **for they have been from of old.**

Pastor: Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

People: **according to Your steadfast love, remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O LORD!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

People: **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

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 unto 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** ☩

O Bless the Lord, My Soul LSB 814

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God of life and hope, You have given rescue to sinners in despair of their sins and to those marked for death. Turn our attention to Your mercy that we learn to rejoice in Your good will, that all would be saved and come to the knowledge of Christ our Savior; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *Philippians 2:1–18*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Matthew 28:18b*

Pastor: Alleluia. “All authority in heaven

People: and on earth has been given to Me.” Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 21:23–32*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first 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.

Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness LSB 563

SERMON

CREED *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

Create in Me LSB 956

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.

He is Exalted

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high;
I will praise Him. He is exalted,
Forever exalted and I will praise His name!
He is the Lord, forever his truth shall reign;
Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name.
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.

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