

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

October 7, 2018

*Twentieth Sunday after
Pentecost*



Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, MOMENT, PRAYER PETITIONS, PRELUDE, REFLECTION, LIGHTING OF CANDLES

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the ✙ holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.

Source of all life, **we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free.**

We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation.

Amen.

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, ✙ God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

"Dearest Jesus, at Your Word", LBW 248



1 Dear - est Je - sus, at your word we have come a - gain to
2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight lie in deep - est dark - ness
3 Ra - dian - ce of God's glo - ry bright, Light of light from God pro -
4 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, praise to you and ad - o -



hear you; let our thoughts and hearts be stirred and in
shroud - ed till your Spir - it breaks the night, fill - ing
ceed - ing, Je - sus, send your bless - ed light; help our
ra - tion! Grant us what we need the most: your blest



glow - ing faith be near you as the prom - is - es here
us with light un - cloud - ed. All good thoughts and all good
hear - ing, speak - ing, heed - ing, that our prayers and songs may
gos - pel's con - so - la - tion, while we here on earth a -



giv - en draw us whol - ly up to heav - en.
liv - ing come but by your gra - cious giv - ing.
please you, as with grate - ful hearts we praise you.
wait you, till in heav'n with praise we greet you.

THE KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the LORD.

LORD, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the LORD.

LORD, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the LORD.

LORD, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the LORD.

LORD, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious LORD.

Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and LORD.

Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Genesis 2:18-24

¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken." ²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 8

¹O LORD our LORD, how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

²**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?**

⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:**

⁷all flocks and cattle, even the wild beasts of the field,

⁸**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

⁹**O LORD our LORD, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

THE SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat

down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? ⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, ⁸subjecting all things under their feet." Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them,⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

The Word of the LORD. **Thanks be to God.**

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



THE GOSPEL: Mark 10:2-16

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the tenth chapter.



²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" ³He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." ⁵But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' ⁷For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is too such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The Gospel of the LORD.



SERMON: *Pastor Jamie*

HYMN

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds", LBW 370



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our Fa - ther's throne we pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share our mu - tual woes, our mu - tual bur - dens bear,
4 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;



the u - ni - ty of heart and mind is like to that a - bove.
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
and of - ten for each oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
and per - fect love and friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father, almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our LORD. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

Longing for God's will to be fulfilled among us, we pray persistently for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, send your blessing out into the world through missionaries, evangelists, and servants of your church. Through them spread good news to all who need it (*as you did through Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, whom we commemorate today*). LORD, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We praise you for the animals of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and all the works of your hands. Let our care for all you have made reflect your desire for the health of all creation.

LORD, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Rule the nations of this world with the same grace you employ to align planets, stars, and moons. Where there is disorder, move us toward righteousness and justice. LORD, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Deliver your care to your children who feel unworthy of care. Bend down low to lift up people who struggle to find others who will embrace them in time of need. We pray especially for . . . LORD, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Bring reconciliation among this community. Heal relationships that are broken. When we face division, open our eyes to signs of new life. LORD, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Along with all the saints, form us into a holy and loving community in which people can find abundant compassion and peace. Through us bring others into your unbreakable covenant. LORD, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Enfold all things in your compassion, O God, and bring us into your life through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and LORD.

Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the LORD be with you always.

And also with you.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS AND OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The LORD be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the LORD.

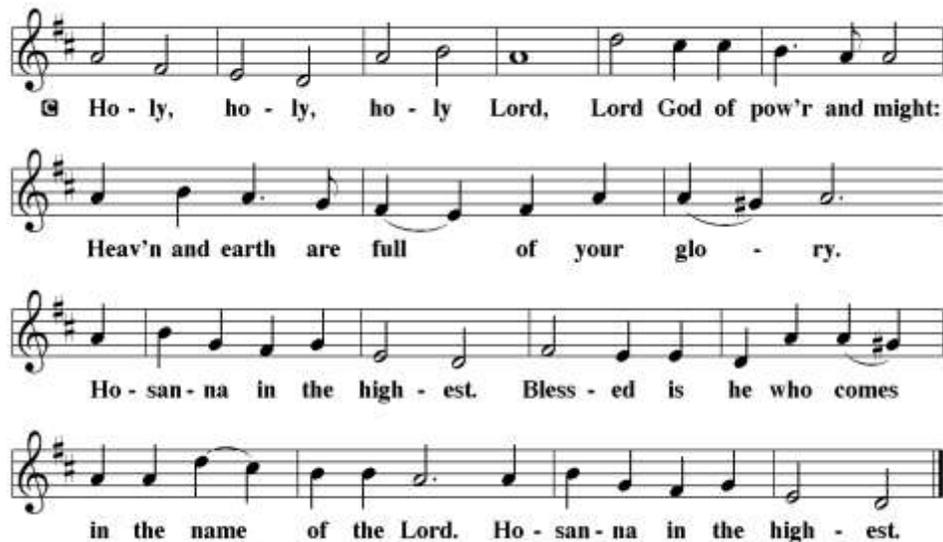
Let us give thanks to the LORD our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

THE PREFACE (Pastor)

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our LORD. Therefore we praise you, join in our

voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our LORD Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup we proclaim the LORD's death until he comes.

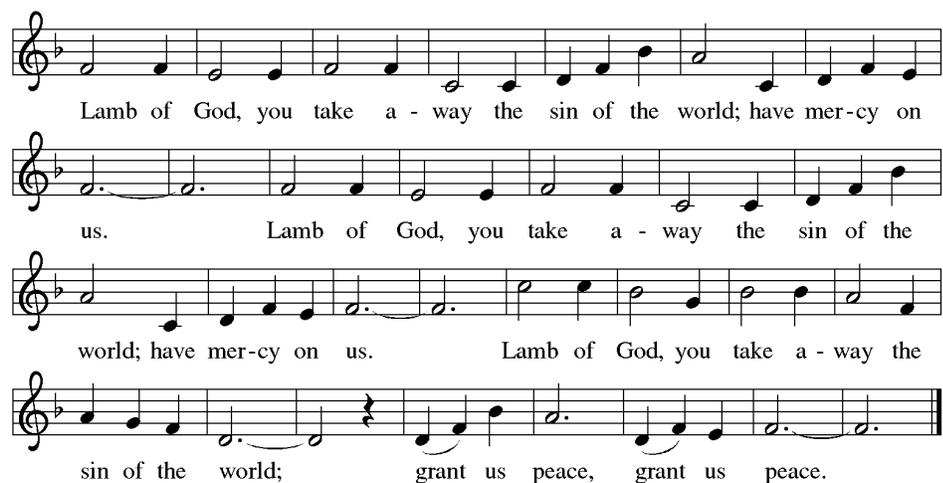
THE LORD'S PRAYER

LORD, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Please sit

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMNS

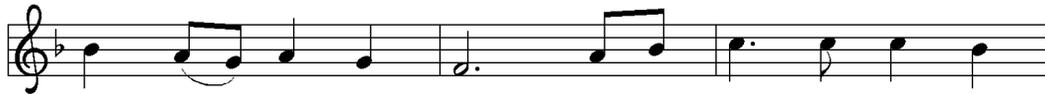
"All Are Welcome", ELW 641



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
claim the faith of Je - sus:
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
end to fear and dan - ger:
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

"Now We Join in Celebration", LBW 203



1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,
2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, fill our hearts with ho - ly rap - ture!
3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren,



dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;
For this bread and cup of bless - ing are for us the sure pos - sess - ing
rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, one in you with God our Fa - ther.



for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,
of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,
Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,



stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.
pledge of your un - fail - ing pres - ence, fore - taste here of heav' - n - ly glad - ness.
seek - ing jus - tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

The body and blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen



☩ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev - 'ry - one what he has done.



Let ev - 'ry - one who seeks the Lord re - joice and proud - ly bear his name.



He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

THE PRAYER

Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The LORD lift up the light of his countenance upon you and give you peace.

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

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"For the Beauty of the Earth", LBW 561



- 1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
- 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
- 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
- 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
- 5 For your - self, best gift di - vine to the world so free - ly giv'n;



for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
a - gent of God's grand de - sign, peace on earth and joy in heav'n:



Christ, our Lord, to you we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Sound the good news.

Thanks be to God.