

## EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

THEME: God blesses you so that you may be a blessing to others.

### WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

### OPENING BLESSING

P: We make our beginning in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen!**

### WE CONFESS OUR SINS...

P: As we gather to celebrate our wonderful God, we do well first to recognize our sins that separate us from God, and know that He graciously forgives us.....

**C: Dear Lord God, we come to you humbly,  
Admitting our sins, our lack of love, our arrogant ways.  
We confess today that we have, at times,  
    Seen ourselves as better than other people.  
We have looked down on those who do not know You,  
    Thinking that they do not deserve your mercy,  
    Thinking and acting as if they do not need your forgiveness.  
Forgive our pride and arrogance, and our limited understanding of your grace and mercy.  
Open the eyes of our hearts to see that you are powerfully at work in all creation  
    For the salvation of all people.  
Give us humble and gracious spirits,  
    To try to understand people that are different than us,  
So that we can share Your Grace with them,  
    Intercede on their behalf in prayer,  
    And partner with You in bringing them Your kingdom.**

Song of Confession: "Open Our Eyes" OSB 157

*Open our eyes, Lord,  
We want to see Jesus  
To reach out and touch Him  
And say that we love Him.  
Open our ears, Lord,  
Help us to listen  
Open our eyes, Lord,  
We want to see Jesus.*

### ...HEARING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

P: God knows our hearts, our arrogance and pride, and yet He loves us and forgives us for this sin and for all our sins, the evil things we've done and the good we've failed to do. Through His Son Jesus, I announce His grace to now to you. In the stead and by the command of Jesus, I forgive you all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

**C: Amen.**

### SONG OF PRAISE LBW #551 "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

*Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, Praising thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the gloom of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.*

*All thy works with joy surround thee, Earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around thee, Center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain Call us to rejoice in thee.*

*Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living, Ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, All who live in love are thine;  
Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine!*

### **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us pray: Lord God, you call us to work in your vineyard and leave no one standing idle. Set us to our tasks in the work of your kingdom, and help us to order our lives by your wisdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

#### THE SCRIPTURE LESSONS

##### The First Lesson: Amos 8:4-7

The Lord will remember the sins of those who do not repent.

*Hear this, you who trample on the needy  
and bring the poor of the land to an end,  
saying, "When will the new moon be over,  
that we may sell grain?  
And the Sabbath,  
that we may offer wheat for sale,*

*that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great  
and deal deceitfully with false balances,  
that we may buy the poor for silver  
and the needy for a pair of sandals  
and sell the chaff of the wheat?”  
The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:  
“Surely I will never forget any of their deeds*

[The Second Lesson: I Timothy 2:1-8](#)

There is only one God and mediator for us in this life: Jesus Christ our Lord!

*First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.*

*I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.*

[The Gospel Lesson: Luke 16: 1-13](#)

Jesus tells us that you cannot serve both God and money.

*He also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ So, summoning his*

*master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.' Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.' The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.*

*"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."*

*The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.*

### [CHOIR ANTHEM](#)

### [THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE](#)

### [SERMON HYMN](#) # 126 LBW "Where Charity and Love Prevail"

*Where charity and love prevail,  
There God is ever found;  
Brought here together by Christ's love,  
By love we thus are bound.*

*With grateful joy and holy fear,  
God's charity we learn;  
Let us with heart and mind and soul  
Now love God in return.*

*Let us recall that in our midst Dwells Christ,  
God's holy Son;  
As members of each body joined,  
In him we are made one.*

*Let strife among us be unknown;  
Let all contentions cease.  
Be God's the glory that we seek;  
Be his our only peace.*

*For love excludes no race or clan  
That names the Savior's name;  
His family embraces all  
Whose Father is the same.  
We now forgive each other's faults  
As we our own confess,  
That we may love each other well  
In Christian gentleness.*

#### [A READING FROM JONAH](#)

Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, "Arise, go to Ninevah, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me." But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish, away from the presence of the Lord.

But the Lord hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. So the captain came and said to him, "What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish."

And they said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. Then they said to him, "Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us. What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you? And he said to them, "I am a Hebrew, and I fear the Lord, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." Then the men were exceedingly afraid and said to him, "What is this that you have done!" For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the Lord, because he had told them.

Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?" For the sea grew more and more tempestuous. He said to them, "Pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you."

Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to get back to dry land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them. Therefore they called out to the Lord, "O Lord, let us not perish for this man's life, and lay not on us innocent blood for you, O Lord, have done as it pleased you" So they picked up Jonah and hurled him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows.

SERMON “We are Blessed to be a Blessing” Jonah 1

AFFIRMATION OF OUR FAITH

P: Let us affirm together the faith of the Church throughout the ages:

**C: 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.**

OFFERINGS

The offerings gathered are a sign of our whole lives  
Offered to God in humble gratitude for his greatest of all  
Offerings, his Son offered for our salvation.

SONG PREPARATION FOR PRAYER “Hear My Prayer”

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer,**

**When I call, answer me. O Lord hear my prayer,**

**O Lord hear my prayer, come and listen to me.**

THE PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God, and for all people according to their needs:

(after each prayer request)

P: Lord in your mercy

**C: Hear our prayer.**

P: Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

CLOSING HYMN "Savior, Again to Your Dear Name" (LBW 262)

*Savior, again to your dear name we raise  
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;  
Once more we bless you ere our worship cease,  
Then, lowly bending, wait your word of peace.*

*Grant us your peace upon our homeward way;  
With you began, with you shall end the day;  
Guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
That in this house have called upon your name.*

*Grant us your peace, Lord, through the coming night;  
For us transform its darkness into light.  
Keep us from harm and danger till the dawn;  
Your evening presence promise to your own.*

*Grant us your peace throughout our earthly life,  
Our balm in sorrow, and our stay in strife;  
Then, when your voice shall dib our conflict cease,  
Call us, O Lord, to your eternal peace.*

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

POST-SERVICE MUSIC