

The Eighth Sunday after Trinity + THE SUNDAY OF THE GOOD AND BAD TREES + July 21, 2024

BEWARE OF FALSE PROPHETS

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves" (Matt. 7:15). Deceit has its strength in masquerading as the truth. False prophets speak a vision of their own heart, not from the mouth of the Lord (Jer. 23:16–29). They deny the judgment of the Lord, speaking peace to the unrepentant, when in truth there is condemnation and wrath. "You will recognize them by their fruits" (Matt. 7:20). The "fruits" of a true prophet are not outward righteousness or success but faithfulness in proclaiming the Word of the Lord. This is the will of the Father in heaven, that pastors take heed to the flock, the Father's adopted ones (Rom. 8:12–17), warning them against the wolves and their lies, and shepherding the Church of God which He purchased with His own blood (Acts 20:27–38). For indeed, the cross is that good tree bearing good fruit – namely, the body and blood of Christ, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

Communing at this Altar

The Lord's Supper is celebrated and offered here every Lord's day! *Guests wishing to join our confession and receive this Holy Sacrament now, and in the future, are asked to meet with the pastor before communing.

Because we consider communing at this altar a public declaration of fellowship in what our church believes, teaches, and confesses, we welcome to commune those who:

- ✤ are baptized into the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Mt 28:19);
- ✤ confess Jesus Christ as their personal Savior from sin;
- discern the Lord's Body and Blood as truly present, together with the bread and wine (1 Cor 11:29), as taught by The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in the Small Catechism;
- ♥ examine themselves and repent, as instructed in the Scriptures (1 Cor 11:28);

believe the words of Jesus, "*Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins*" (Mt 26:28); If this is *not* your confession, or you're seeking a church home and wish to learn more about Trinity, our Pastor will gladly meet with you after the service. In the meantime, we welcome you forward for a blessing during the distribution. Simply come forward and, when kneeling, *cross your arms over your chest*, indicating that you'd like to receive a blessing.

As you commune, select either the individual cup or the common chalice. Communicants who cannot easily come to the altar will be communed in the pew. *Please notify an usher or the Pastor beforehand if you need such assistance.*

To help prepare yourself to receive the Lord's Body and Blood you may read "<u>Christian</u> <u>Questions with Their Answers</u>" found on pages 329 and 330 of the hymnal.



+ THE DIVINE SERVICE +

Setting Three, Lutheran Service Book, p.184

HYMN OF INVOCATION ~ Almighty God Your Word is Cast

 \triangle *Please stand and face the cross as it enters.*

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

INVOCATION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.
- Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- 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.
- P 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.
- C Amen.

INTROIT

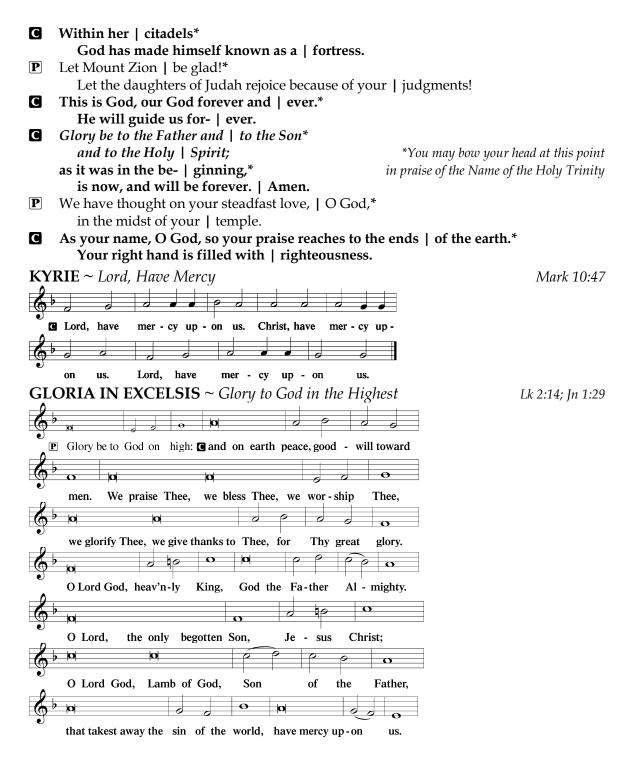
+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

Ps. 48:1, 3, 11, 14; antiphon: Ps. 48:9–10

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- We have thought on your steadfast love, | O God,* in the midst of your | temple.
- **C** As your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends | of the earth.* Your right hand is filled with | righteousness.
- Great is the Lord and greatly | to be praised* in the city of our God, his holy | mountain.





P Let us pray.

Sit

Grant to us, Lord, the Spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may be enabled by You to live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 23:16-29

¹⁶Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD. ¹⁷They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, 'It shall be well with you'; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, 'No disaster shall come upon you.'" ¹⁸For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened? ¹⁹Behold, the storm of the LORD! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. ²⁰The anger of the LORD will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly. ²¹"I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied. ²²But if they had stood in my council, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds. ²³" Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD. ²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' ²⁶How

long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, ²⁷who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD. ²⁹Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?"

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

A Be a rock of ref- | uge for me,* a strong fortress to | save me!

C In you, O Lord, do I take | refuge;* let me never be | put to shame.

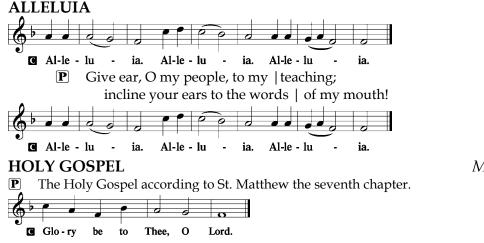
EPISTLE READING

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



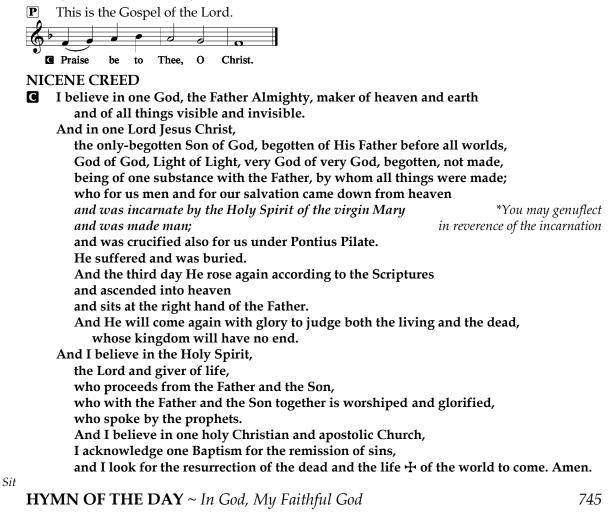
¹⁵[Jesus said:] "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit.

Ps. 31:2b, 1a

Romans 8:12-17

Matthew 7:15-23

¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Thus you will recognize them by their fruits. ²¹"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²²On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' ²³And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'



SERMON



OFFERING

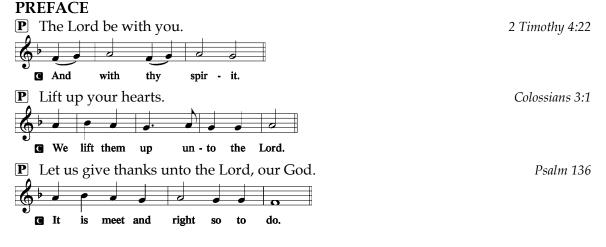
The offering is a joyful response of faith. It should be free, generous, and offered with thanksgiving to God. The offering today goes toward the work and mission of the Church. **Guests, especially, should not feel obliged to** *give.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

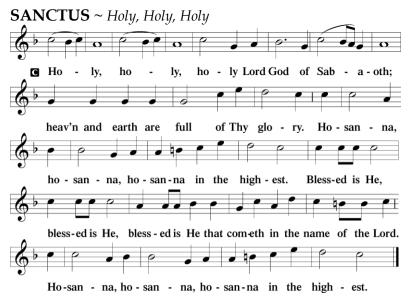
After each petition respond: "Hear our prayer."

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +



Psalm 51:10-12

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25
 Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
 In the same way also He took the cup after supper and when He had given thanks. He gave

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Matthew 6:9-13

Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9

PAX DOMINI ~ The Peace of the Lord



John 20:19

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

Please take a moment and read 'COMMUNING AT THIS ALTAR' in the front cover of the bulletin. Guests are invited to please speak with the Pastor before communing for the first time.

Prayer Before Reception of Holy Communion

O Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof; but speak only Your Word, and my soul will be healed. I will take the Bread of Heaven and call upon the Name of the Lord. What shall I give to the Lord for all that He has given to me? I will take the Cup of Salvation and call upon the Name of the Lord. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS ~

Preach You The Word, And Plant It Home	586
"As Surely As I Live," God Said	614
O God, O Lord Of Heaven And Earth	834
Children Of The Heavenly Father	725

Prayer After Reception of Holy Communion

I live, and yet not I, but Christ lives in me. What we have received with our mouths, O Lord, let us keep with faithful hearts, that this Gift given us in earthly time may bring us to eternal salvation. Amen.

Additional prayers to prepare for receiving the Sacrament are found in the front cover of the hymnal.

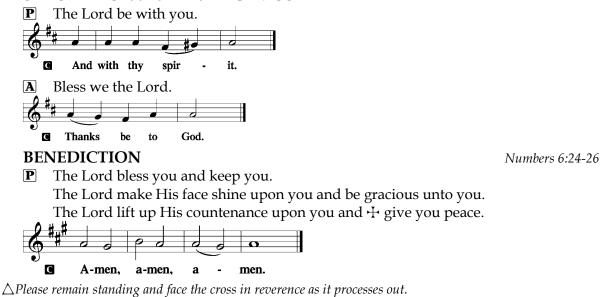


A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS



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CLOSING HYMN ~ *Oh That The Lord Would Guide My Ways*

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