
∞ EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ∞
ORDER OF WORSHIP • SEPTEMBER 22, 2024 • 9:00 AM
✠ *Indicates the congregation should stand as able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

✠ GATHERING HYM

LORD, WHOSE LOVE IN
HUMBLE SERVICE
LBW #423, STANZAS 1, 2 & 3

✠ INVOCATION

WL: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All: **Amen.**

✠ CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

WL: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

All: **Amen.**

WL: Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence for reflection

WL: Gracious God,

All: **have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WL: Beloved children of God, God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. Go now in faith to live as servants and boldly share the love of Christ.

All: **Amen.**

✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

WL: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

WL: Let us pray. O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Amen.

FIRST LESSON

JEREMIAH 11:18-20

R: Our first lesson on this Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost is from the eleventh chapter of Jeremiah.

Because the Lord revealed their plot to me, I knew it, for at that time he showed me what they were doing. I had been like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter; I did not realize that they had plotted against me, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree and its fruit;
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
that his name be remembered no more.”

But you, Lord Almighty, who judge righteously
and test the heart and mind,
let me see your vengeance on them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON

JAMES 3:13 – 4:10

R: The Second lesson is from the third chapter of James.

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don’t they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

You adulterous people, don’t you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us? But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

✠ VERSE
BY THE PARISH CHOIR

WHOEVER WOULD BE GREAT
AMONG YOU
BY RONALD A. NELSON

Whoever would be great among you must become your servant,
And whoever would be first among you, must serve the needs of all.

✠ HOLY GOSPEL

MARK 9:30-37

R: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

All: Glory to you, O Lord!

They left that place and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where they were, because he was teaching his disciples. He said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise." But they did not understand what he meant and were afraid to ask him about it.

They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.

Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all."

He took a little child whom he placed among them. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

TODAY'S MESSAGE

CHORAL ANTHEM

AS A LITTLE CHILD
BY JOSEPH M MARTIN

When the anthem is finished, the congregation stands to sing:

Jesus gave his life for all, asks each one to heed his call:

Live as servants, for the small are the greatest of us all.

We'll live as servants! Yes, live as servants!

We'll live as servants! With joy we'll heed God's call.

✠ PROFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

WL: Let us confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

All: **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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

GATHERING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERING MUSIC

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

✠ PREFACE

WL: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

WL: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

WL: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

✠ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

✠ THE LORD'S PRAYER

WL: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: **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.**

✠ PAX DOMINI

WL: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION HYMN

ALL ARE WELCOME

The melody and lyrics are printed on a separate sheet with the Weekly News.

**Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

**Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

✠ THE DISMISSAL

WL: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting.

All: Amen.

✠ CLOSING PRAYER

WL: Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth, renewed by the power of your Spirit, that we may live as humble servants, faithfully proclaim your redeeming love to the world, and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Amen.

✝ BLESSING

WL: 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.

All: **Amen.**

✝ SENDING HYMN

LORD, WHOSE LOVE IN
HUMBLE SERVICE
LBW #423, STANZA 4

✝ SENDING

WL: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God.**

TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY

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ALL ARE WELCOME, Text and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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PRINCE of PEACE
LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

1515 South Semoran Blvd, Orlando, Florida 32807

English: 407.277.3945 Español: 407.306.0909

staff@poporlando.com www.poporlando.com