

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 20, 2024

PRELUDE, BELLS, WELCOME

HYMN “Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear” LSB 908

- 1 Lord, open now my heart to hear,
And through Your Word to me draw near;
Let me Your Word e’er pure retain;
Let me Your child and heir remain.
- 2 Your Word inspires my heart within;
Your Word grants healing from my sin;
Your Word has pow’r to guide and bless;
Your Word brings peace and happiness.
- 3 To God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three in One,
Shall glory, praise, and honor be
Now and throughout eternity.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; (sts. 1, 3): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Mark A. Jeske, 1952

Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff’s new gebessert, Wittenburg, 1543, ed. Joseph Klug; setting:
Wurtembergisches Neues Choralbuch, 1956

Text (sts. 1, 3) and tune: Public domain

Text (st. 2): © 1993 Mark A. Jeske. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003888

INVOCATION

- P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Hebrews 1:1–2, adapted

- P Almighty and eternal God, You see things from an eternal perspective,
C **and we see things from a limited human perspective.**

- P You are omniscient, knowing all;
C **we are but mortal.**

- P In many and various ways You spoke to Your people in the past, using the prophets as Your mouthpieces.
C **Your people often disobeyed and provoked Your wrath.**

- P When You bid them enter the Promised Land, they would not,
C **and You denied that generation any rest, sending them wandering for forty years.**

- P Today, in these last times, You have spoken to us through Your Son.
C **When we fail to believe in Him, and the message of the cross, we put ourselves in danger of missing out on the rest You desire to give us.**

- P We need rest from our enemies,
C **from the devil, all his works and ways, and from our own sinful flesh.**

P Forgive us for rebelling against You, Lord,
C **for the sins of thought, word, and deed. Forgive us; wash us clean in Holy Baptism and the blood of the cross.**

P I now ask you before God, who searches the heart: is this your sincere confession?
C **Yes, it is my sincere confession.**

P Upon this your confession, I bring you Good News from the King of kings Himself. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen. Thank You, Lord Jesus, for Your loving kindness and for Your forgiveness.**

PSALM 119:9–16

P How can a young man keep his way pure?
C **By guarding it according to Your word.**

P With my whole heart I seek You;
C **let me not wander from Your commandments!**

P I have stored up Your word in my heart,
C **that I might not sin against You.**

P Blessèd are You, O LORD; teach me Your statutes!
C **With my lips I declare all the just decrees of Your mouth.**

P In the way of Your testimonies I delight
C **as much as in all riches.**

P I will meditate on Your precepts and fix my eyes on Your ways.
C **I will delight in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word.**

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.
Almighty God, You created mankind not only to work but to rest as well. Yet we too often spend our energy and time seeking and working for those things that Satan has set as traps to destroy us. By the leading and guiding of Your Holy Spirit, turn us away from the things Satan has set as snares to take away our rest. Help us recall our true rest and hope is in You alone. This we ask in the name of Jesus, who came to give us rest, who with You and the Holy Spirit is one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ecclesiastes 5:10–20

Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless.

As goods increase, so do those who consume them. And what benefit are they to the owner except to feast his eyes on them?

The sleep of a laborer is sweet, whether he eats little or much, but the abundance of a rich man permits him no sleep.

I have seen a grievous evil under the sun: wealth hoarded to the harm of its owner, or wealth lost through some misfortune, so that when he has a son there is nothing left for him. Naked a man comes from his mother's womb, and as he comes, so he departs. He takes nothing from his labor that he can carry in his hand. This too is a grievous evil: As a man comes, so he departs, and what does he gain, since he toils for the wind? All his days he eats in darkness, with great frustration, affliction and anger. Then I realized that it is good and proper for a man to eat and drink, and to find satisfaction in his toilsome labor under the sun during the few days of life God has given him—for this is his lot. Moreover, when God gives any man wealth and possessions, and enables him to enjoy them, to accept his lot and be happy in his work—this is a gift of God. He seldom reflects on the days of his life, because God keeps him occupied with gladness of heart. (NIV)

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Hebrews 4

Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it. For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith. Now we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said, "So declared on oath in my anger, 'They shall never enter my rest.' " And yet his work has been finished since the creation of the world. For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in these words: "And on the seventh day God rested from all his work." And again in the passage above he says, "They shall never enter my rest." It still remains that some will enter that rest, and those who formerly had the gospel preached to them did not go in, because of their disobedience. Therefore God again set a certain day, calling it Today, when a long time later he spoke through David, as was said before: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts." For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day. There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience. For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. (NIV)

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 10:23–31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the tenth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!" The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God!

It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God."

The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, "Who then can be saved?"

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God."

Peter said to him, "We have left everything to follow you!"

"I tell you the truth," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age (homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields--and with them, persecutions) and in the age to come, eternal life.

But many who are first will be last, and the last first." (NIV)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

**I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.**

HYMN “The Man Is Ever Blessed” LSB 705

- 1 The man is ever blessed
Who shuns the sinners’ ways,
Among their counsels never stands,
Nor takes the scorners’ place,
- 2 But makes the Law of God
His study and delight
Amid the labors of the day
And watches of the night.
- 3 He like a tree shall thrive,
With waters near the root;
Fresh as the leaf his name shall live,
His works are heav’nly fruit.
- 4 Not so the wicked race,
They no such blessings find;
Their hopes shall flee like empty chaff
Before the driving wind.
- 5 How will they bear to stand
Before the judgment seat
Where all the saints at Christ’s right hand
In full assembly meet?
- 6 He knows and He approves
The way the righteous go;
But sinners and their works shall meet
A dreadful overthrow.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941 Text and music: Public domain

SERMON *Is God's Word The Vital Part of Your Life?*

Text: Psalm 119:9-16

OFFERING

HYMN “We Give Thee But Thine Own” LSB 781

- 1 We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate’er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
- 2 May we Thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,
To Thee our firstfruits give!
- 3 Oh, hearts are bruised and dead,
And homes are bare and cold,
And lambs for whom the Shepherd bled
Are straying from the fold.

- 4 To comfort and to bless,
To find a balm for woe,
To tend the lone and fatherless
Is angels' work below.
- 5 The captive to release,
To God the lost to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace,
It is a Christ-like thing.
- 6 And we believe Thy Word,
Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,
We do it unto Thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–97

Tune: William H. Monk, 1823-89

Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P We pray for the whole people of God and for all people according to their needs and the will of God. Heavenly Father, we confess before You that just as Solomon pointed out, we get busy with life and struggle to rest.
- C **Help us on this day and always to find rest. Lord, according to Your will, hear our prayer.**
- P Almighty God, You cast aside a generation of Your people and gave them no rest because of their disobedience.
- C **By the aid of Your Holy Spirit, help us to seek to obey You rather than rebel against You. Lord, according to Your will, hear our prayer.**
- P Lord Jesus, look upon us with Your compassion.
- C **You know those among us who are sick, hurting physically, and who otherwise need Your healing hand.**
- P We commend into Your care those who are sick, [*including . . .*]. Restore them to health according to Your will.
- C **Lord, according to Your will, hear our prayer.**
- P We pray for our land and those You have put in charge of overseeing our government at every level.
- C **Grant Your Spirit to give them wisdom and guidance. Lord, according to Your will, hear our prayer.**
- P We lift those who struggle: the homeless, the orphans, the widowed, and those in poverty.
- C **We bring them to Your throne of grace, asking that You provide help for them in their time of need. Lord, according to Your will, hear our prayer.**
- P We bring before You the needs of Your saints, whether here or elsewhere,
- C **for Christian missionaries, for the persecuted, for those facing difficulty of any kind.**
- P Look at them, whose names we may not know but You do, and others, whose names we do know but are not named and known to You.
- C **Lord, according to Your will, hear our prayer.**

- P Into Your hands, Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy and that Your will shall be done; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with the Holy Spirit is one God, now and forevermore.
- C **Amen.**

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.**

PREFACE

- P The Lord be with you.
- C **And also with you.**
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a Second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.
- C **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

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 covenant in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

LSB 198

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.
Amen.**

HYMN “Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray” LSB 623

- 1 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray
That we may feast on You today;
Beneath these forms of bread and wine
Enrich us with Your grace divine.
- 2 Give us, who share this wondrous food,
Your body broken and Your blood,
The grateful peace of sins forgiv’n,
The certain joys of heirs of heav’n.
- 3 By faith Your Word has made us bold
To seize the gift of love retold;
All that You are we here receive,
And all we are to You we give.
- 4 One bread, one cup, one body, we,
Rejoicing in our unity,
Proclaim Your love until You come
To bring Your scattered loved ones home.
- 5 Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray:
O keep us steadfast till that day
When each will be Your welcomed guest
In heaven’s high and holy feast.

Text: Henry E. Jacobs, 1844–1932, alt.

Tune: Cationale Germanicum, Gochsheim, 1628; setting: Service Book and Hymnal, 1958

Text and music: Public domain

HYMN “Jesus, Priceless Treasure” LSB 743

- 1 Jesus, priceless treasure,
Fount of purest pleasure,
Truest friend to me,
Ah, how long in anguish
Shall my spirit languish,
Yearning, Lord, for Thee?
Thou art mine,
O Lamb divine!
I will suffer naught to hide Thee;
Naught I ask beside Thee.

2 In Thine arms I rest me;
Foes who would molest me Cannot reach me here.
Though the earth be shaking,
Ev'ry heart be quaking,
 Jesus calms my fear.
 Lightnings flash
 And thunders crash;
Yet, though sin and hell assail me,
Jesus will not fail me.

3 Satan, I defy thee;
Death, I now decry thee; Fear, I bid thee cease.
World, thou shalt not harm me
Nor thy threats alarm me
 While I sing of peace.
 God's great pow'r
 Guards ev'ry hour;
Earth and all its depths adore Him,
Silent bow before Him.

4 Hence, all earthly treasure!
Jesus is my pleasure, Jesus is my choice.
Hence, all empty glory!
Naught to me thy story
 Told with tempting voice.
 Pain or loss,
 Or shame or cross,
Shall not from my Savior move me
Since He deigns to love me.

5 Evil world, I leave thee;
Thou canst not deceive me, Thine appeal is vain.
Sin that once did blind me,
Get thee far behind me,
 Come not forth again.
 Past thy hour,
 O pride and pow'r;
Sinful life, thy bonds I sever,
Leave thee now forever.

6 Hence, all fear and sadness!
For the Lord of gladness, Jesus, enters in.
Those who love the Father,
Though the storms may gather,
 Still have peace within.
 Yea, whate'er
 I here must bear,
Thou art still my purest pleasure,
Jesus, priceless treasure!

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Johann Cruger, 1598-1662; setting: Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978

Text and music: Public domain

HYMN “Amazing Grace” LSB 744

sts. 1–5

- 1 Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind but now I see!
- 2 The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures.
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares
I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far,
His grace will lead me home.
- 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail
And mortal life shall cease,
Amazing grace shall then prevail
In heaven’s joy and peace.
- 5 When we’ve been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise
Than when we’d first begun.

Text (sts. 1–4): John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; (st. 5): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, Richmond
Tune: Columbian Harmony, Cincinatti, 1829; setting: Joseph Herl, b. 1959
Text and tune: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- P** Let us pray.
Almighty God, in this feast, You give us a foretaste of what is to come when Your kingdom comes in full—forgiveness of our sins, life, and salvation. We ask that as You gave Israel rest from their enemies when they obeyed You, that You would give us respite from our enemies here: the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh, that we may serve You in peace and quietness here and have a foretaste of the rest You promise. We ask this, Father, in the name of Jesus, who with You and the Holy Spirit is one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

- P** 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.
- C** **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace to serve the Lord and one another so the world might believe.
- C** **Thank You, Lord, for Your forgiveness and peace!**

HYMN “Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways” LSB 707

1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
To keep His statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace
To know and do His will!

2 Order my footsteps by Thy Word
And make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord,
But keep my conscience clear.

3 Assist my soul, too apt to stray,
A stricter watch to keep;
And should I e'er forget Thy way,
Restore Thy wand'ring sheep.

4 Make me to walk in Thy commands—
'Tis a delightful road—
Nor let my head or heart or hands
Offend against my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793-1870; setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Text and music: Public domain

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