



8th Sunday after Pentecost

+ Sunday, July 26, 2020 +

Invocation

L: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Psalmody

Psalm 125

L: Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever.

C: As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his people, from this time forth and forevermore.

L: For the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous,

C: lest the righteous stretch out their hands to do wrong.

L: Do good, O LORD, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts!

C: But those who turn aside to their crooked ways the LORD will lead away with evildoers!

L: Peace be upon Israel!

C: Glory be to Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever.

Amen.

- [1] Father most holy, merciful, and tender;
Jesus, our Savior, with the Father reigning;
Spirit of comfort, advocate, defender,
Light never waning;
- [2] Trinity blessed, unity unshaken,
Goodness unbounded, very God of heaven,
Light of the angels, joy of those forsaken,
Hope of all living,
- [3] Maker of all things
All Thy creatures praise Thee;
All from Thy worship were and are created;
Now, as we also worship Thee devoutly,
Hear Thou our voices.
- [4] Lord God Almighty, unto Thee be glory,
One in three persons, over all exalted!
Glory we offer, praise Thee and adore Thee,
Now and forever.

Old Testament**Deuteronomy 7:6-9**

For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the

LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 8:28-39

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.” No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor

life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Matthew 13:44-52

Jesus said: "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all these things?" They said to him, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

L: O Lord, have mercy on us.

C: Thanks be to God.

Hymn

#724

[1] If God Himself be for me,
I may a host defy;
For when I pray, before me
My foes, confounded, fly.

If Christ, my head and master,
Befriend me from above,
What foe or what disaster
Can drive me from His love?

[2] I build on this foundation,
That Jesus and His blood
Alone are my salvation,
My true, eternal good.
Without Him all that pleases
Is valueless on earth;
The gifts I have from Jesus
Alone have priceless worth.

[3] Christ Jesus is my splendor,
My sun, my light, alone;
Were He not my defender
Before God's judgment throne,
I never should find favor
And mercy in His sight,
But be destroyed forever
As darkness by the light.

[4] He canceled my offenses,
Delivered me from death;
He is the Lord who cleanses
My soul from sin through faith.
In Him I can be cheerful,
Courageous on my way;
In Him I am not fearful
Of God's great Judgment Day.

[5] For no one can condemn me
Or set my hope aside;
Now hell no more can claim me:
Its fury I deride.
No sentence now reproves me,
No guilt destroys my peace;
For Christ, my Savior, loves me
And shields me with His grace.

[6] Who clings with resolution
To Him who Satan hates
Must look for persecution;
For him the burden waits
Of mock'ry, shame, and losses
Heaped on his blameless head;
A thousand plagues and crosses
Will be his daily bread.

[7] From me this is not hidden,
Yet I am not afraid;
I leave my cares, as bidden,
To whom my vows were paid.
Though life from me be taken
And ev'rything I own,
I trust in You unshaken
And cleave to You alone.

[8] No danger, thirst, or hunger,
No pain or poverty,
No earthly tyrant's anger
Shall ever vanquish me.
Though earth should break asunder,

My fortress You shall be;
No fire or sword or thunder
Shall sever You from me.

[9] No angel and no gladness,
No throne, no pomp, no show,
No love, no hate, no badness,
No pain, no depth of woe,
No scheming, no contrivance,
No subtle thing or great
Shall draw me from Your guidance
Nor from You separate.

[10] My heart with joy is springing;
I am no longer sad.
My soul is filled with singing;
Your sunshine makes me glad.
The sun that cheers my spirit
Is Jesus Christ, my King;
The heav'n I shall inherit
Makes me rejoice and sing.

Sermon (video available at <https://youtu.be/p40975cwL7k>)

Apostles' Creed

C: 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.

Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

Collect

L: Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what you have promised, we may love what you have commanded; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

L: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: Amen.

- [1] Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most
glorious, O Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy
great name we praise.
- [2] Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Not wanting nor wasting,
Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains
high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains
of goodness and love.
- [3] To all life Thou givest--to
both great and small--
In all life Thou livest, the true Life of all;
We blossom and flourish
as leaves on the tree
And wither and perish--but
naught changes Thee.
- [4] Great Father of glory,
pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee,
all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render: O lead us to see
'Tis only the splendor
of light that hides Thee