

July 31, 2022

8th Sunday of Pentecost

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Paul Seger

Acolyte: Maxwell Kuehne

# BEING A USEFUL *Vessel* FOR GOD



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Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! 2Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! 3Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. 4Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! 5For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

## Order of Divine Worship

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**Hymn: TLH #466**

**"Christ, Thou Art the Sure Foundation"**

**P** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C**  A --- men.

### CONFESION AND ABSOLUTION:

**P** Pastor

**C** Congregation

**P** 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. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**C**  Who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

**C**  And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

**P** Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**P** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He gives power to become

the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

**C** ♫ A --- men.

**INTROIT**

*Psalm 49:7-8,13-14*

- P** Hear this, all peoples! Give ear, all inhabitants of the world, both low and high, rich and poor together!
- C** **Truly no man can ransom another, or give to God the price of his life, for the ransom of their life is costly and can never suffice.**
- P** This is the path of those who have foolish confidence; yet after them people approve of their boasts.
- C** **Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol; death shall be their shepherd.**
- P** But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol, for he will receive me.

**GLORIA PATRI**

*Latin for "Glory be to the Father"*

**C** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

*Colossians 3:23-24*

Alleluia. Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. Alleluia.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

TLH #237:1

**C** All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended. God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!

**P** O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures You have stored up for us in heaven, that we may never despair but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of Your grace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A --- men.

**NEW TESTAMENT READING – 1 Peter 5:1-11** The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: 2 Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; 3 nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; 4 and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away. 5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.” 6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. 8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. 9 Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. 10 But may the God of all

grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. 11 To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

**GOSPEL READING – Matthew 7:13-29** “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it. 15 “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. 16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? 17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them. 21 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. 22 Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ 23 And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’ 24 “Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: 25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. 26 “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: 27 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.” 28 And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, 29 for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

#### **CONFESION OF FAITH**

*The Apostles' Creed*

- I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
- I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

**SERMON – 2 Timothy 2:19-26** Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity." But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work. Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart. But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife. And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.

### **VESSELS USEFUL FOR THE MASTER**

#### **OFFERTORY**

- C** *♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.*

#### **- OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS –**

*Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed below:*

#### **OFFERING: TLH #442:2      "Lord of Glory, Who Hast Bought Us"**

- C** *♪ Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to yield Thee- Gladly, freely, of Thine own; With the sunshine of Thy goodness Melt our thankless hearts of stone Till our cold and selfish natures, Warmed by Thee, at length believe That more happy and more blessed 'Tis to give than to receive.*

#### **PRAYERS & the BENEDICTION**

*Numbers 6:24-26*

- P** The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

**C** ♫ Amen, amen, a – men.

**HYMN: TLH #52**

**"Almighty Father, Bless the Word"**

## † Announcements †

**Last Week:** WH – 19 Orlando - 8 **Total Offering = \$772.25**

General = \$242.25 | Conference = \$530

- † **July 31** 10:15am WH service
- † **Aug 7** 9:15am Bible Class  
10:15 Communion WH service
- † **Aug 7** Elders' Meeting
- † **Aug 7** Back to School Party and parent meeting
- † **Aug 10** First day of school
- † **Aug 14** 8:00am Orlando and 10:15am WH

**Aug. 7** Pastor Fossum will be conducting Bible Class on August 7 at 9:15 am. He will be conducting the communion service at 10:15 am as well.

**Voters' Meeting** On Sunday, August 7 we will be having a voters' meeting after church. We will be calling again for a full-time pastor. Please pray for the Lord's guidance.

**Update** Please continue to pray for Ed Morris and his family. He has been transferred to Opis Lakeland Highlands Center. We pray the Lord continues to give Ed and Carol strength of faith and patience to make it through this time of testing.

**Cleaner (8/6):** Berenthal | **Acolyte (8/7):** Grant Berenthal

### Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; August 1 - August 6, '22

**Mon Luke 12:13-15** How often Jesus' followers are tempted in matters of inheritance! Jesus does not say whether or not the inheritance should be divided, but warns against the unholy desire for earthly possessions (covetousness). Focusing on possessions can make one blind to the true source of Life and the greater gifts of God.

**Tues Ecclesiastes 1:1-2, 12-14** If our life consisted in the abundance of our possessions, even the wealthiest would be poor, because all earthly things are temporal (for a time). "All is vanity," the Preacher says, as empty as a breath of air. Only Christ gives us the Life that outlasts the entire universe.

**Wed Colossians 3:1-4** The apostle echoes his Lord when he reminds us not to "set our minds" on things that are on the earth, but rather on things that are above. Since Christ died in our place, we died with Him, and with

Him we have been raised! Our life is now with Him, although hidden until His return. Nevertheless it is He who makes us “rich toward God” (Lk12:21).

**Thurs Luke 12:16-21** By means of a parable Jesus puts earthly riches in perspective. It was not the rich man’s wealth or savings that made his end so sad, but the fact that he was not rich toward God. Precious little could all his barns and RV’s do for him when he stood before his Maker.

**Fri Ecclesiastes 2:18-26** Without a parable, the Preacher also taught in the Old Testament that the results of our life’s work must be left for others. “This also is vanity” (v23). Recognizing that our toil and the results of it are all gifts from God, may we enjoy them as such, and look to Him for our Life, “our wisdom and knowledge and joy” (v26). May He also use us to leave the richer spiritual gifts for those who come after us.

**Sat Colossians 3:5-11** Here the covetousness which Jesus warned us about is labeled for the idolatry that it is and placed in the list of self-serving wickedness which we who are risen with Christ should leave behind in the tomb. The “new self” (v10) is the creation of the Spirit and is *renewed* in knowledge after the image of its creator (cpGn1:27).