

August 14, 2022

10th Sunday of Pentecost

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Mike Sheffield

Acolyte: Seth Bernthal

*grace*



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## **WELCOME**

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We welcome all in the name of Jesus Christ!

As we prepare to come before God this morning it is important that we ask ourselves why we came. Some folks come to the breakfast table because they are hungry, and they need to break the fast they have endured during the night. Others desire only a cup of coffee, a caffeine fix to get their motor going, which by itself is not sufficient nourishment and harmful to the heart. Still others may join family members at the breakfast table because that's what families do.

Why have you come? Regardless of your reason, the Word of your great Savior God is sufficient to fully satisfy your spiritual needs. The Word enlightens, chasing away the shades of night in our lives. The Word is spiritual food to sustain and strengthen your soul for the fight and walk of faith in this world. In addition, God's Word can lessen and prevent a number of social and physical ills. For instance, life expectancy at age 20 is significantly correlated with church attendance; religious worship seems to reduce the probability of divorce, of depression, and suicide; religious worship seems to make men better fathers.

St. Augustine famously said, "you have made us for thyself, O God, and our hearts are restless, until they rest in thee." Perhaps science can reinterpret this prayer as a hypothesis: Suppose it is true that our human hearts are restless until they rest in God. What kinds of evidence would be consistent with the "God hypothesis"?

Can you imagine evolutionists suggesting that we look for observable, scientific evidence of the existence of God because the human heart craves acceptance with God and experiences a life of trouble without Him? That would lead the evolutionist to take a fresh look at the evidence of God's existence in creation! Beginning with an objective look at creation, the evolutionist might even be brought to believe the wonderful truth stated by Paul to the Athenians: "God, who made the world and everything in it, . . . is Lord of heaven and earth, . . . gives to all life, breath, and all things. . . . And has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and have our being. . . ." (Acts 17:24-28a)

Were all this accomplished, and all the world came to acknowledge the existence of the Almighty, Creator-God, based on the testimony of psychologists and the entire scientific community, the "evidence" of God's existence and power would not save anyone nor cause anyone to love God. Only God's grace can teach us to love God because only His grace can save us. That is the singular beauty of our Savior, the King of Creation!

He came to save the "lost," and we count ourselves among the lost . . . and the found. God alone be praised for His gospel grace toward sinners. You are most

welcome to join us in the celebration of Him. If you are a visitor among us and have need of assistance during the service, please ask our ushers. Please sign our guest register and speak with the pastor if you would like for him to contact you. You are always welcome among us, your fellow sinners in need of God's grace and salvation!

## Order of Divine Worship

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**Hymn: TLH #657**

**"Beautiful Savior"**

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

**C** A - - - men.

**P** Pastor

**C** Congregation

### RESPONSIVE READING

*Psalms 84:1-2, 10-12*

**P** How lovely is Your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty! My soul yearns, even faints for the courts of the LORD.

**C** My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

**P** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere.

**C** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

**P** For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor.

**C** No good thing does He withhold from those whose walk is blameless.

**P** O LORD Almighty,

**C** Blessed is the man who trusts in you!

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### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

**P** Dear Friends, "This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." (1 Tim. 1:15)

**C** "If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 Jn 1:8-9)

**P** Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy for Jesus' sake.

**C** O Lord, Merciful God and Father in heaven, we are altogether sinful from birth. By thought, word, and deed, we have sinned against You. We know that we deserve nothing but punishment

**in this life and forever. Have mercy on us, O Lord, and cleanse us from our sins for the sake of Your Holy Son, Jesus Christ, Who lived under the Law, suffered the punishment of hell, and died in our place and for our sins. And grant us the power of Your Holy Spirit that we may change our ways -- crucifying the sinful desires of the flesh and serving You and our neighbor in holy love. Amen.**

**P** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child by faith in Jesus. May God give you strength to live according to His will, so that you may bring glory to His saving name.

**Hymn: TLH #360**

**“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”**

♪ See all your sins on Jesus laid; the Lamb of God was slain:  
His soul was once an offering made for every soul of man.

Glory to God, and praise, and love, be ever, ever given,  
By saints below and saints above, the Church in earth and heaven.

**P** The Lord be with you...

**C** And also with you.

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father, Without Whose grace we cannot be saved, and Whose strength is made perfect in our weakness: Drive away and kill all sin within us, and so strengthen us by Your grace, that by a constant faith and purity of life we may bring glory to Your saving name. We ask in the name of Your Son Jesus Christ,

**C** Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING – Daniel 9:15-19** And now, O Lord our God, who brought Your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and made Yourself a name, as it is this day—we have sinned, we have done wickedly! 16 “O Lord, according to all Your righteousness, I pray, let Your anger and Your fury be turned away from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain; because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Your people are a reproach to all those around us. 17 Now therefore, our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications, and for the Lord’s sake cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary, which is desolate. 18 O my God, incline Your ear

and hear; open Your eyes and see our desolations, and the city which is called by Your name; for we do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds, but because of Your great mercies. 19 O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and act! Do not delay for Your own sake, my God, for Your city and Your people are called by Your name.”

**GOSPEL READING – Luke 7:36-50** Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee’s house, and sat down to eat. 37 And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee’s house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, 38 and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil. 39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying, “This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner.” 40 And Jesus answered and said to him, “Simon, I have something to say to you.” So he said, “Teacher, say it.” 41 “There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. 42 And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?” 43 Simon answered and said, “I suppose the one whom he forgave more.” And He said to him, “You have rightly judged.” 44 Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head. 45 You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. 46 You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil. 47 Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little.” 48 Then He said to her, “Your sins are forgiven.” 49 And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, “Who is this who even forgives sins?” 50 Then He said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.”

**P** Here ends the reading of the Scripture lessons. Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and guard it.

**C** Amen.

## CONFESSION 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.

**Hymn: WS #759**

**"These Are the Facts"**

**SERMON – Titus 2:11-15** 11 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, 12 teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, 13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. 15 Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you.

### **GRACE IS REALLY SOMETHING!**

- I. Something that stoops.
- II. Something that substitutes.
- III. Something that saves.
- IV. Something that serves.

## OFFERTORY

- 🎵 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:*

**HYMN: WS #777**

**"Amazing Grace"**

**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.

**HYMN: WS #776 "Lord, 'Tis Not that I Did Choose You"**

**✠ Announcements ✠**

**Last Week:** WH – 42 Bible Class - 18 **Total Offering** = \$2098.25

General = \$1448.25 | ILC Sch. = \$50 | Rent = \$600

- ✠ **Aug 14** 8:00am Orlando and 10:15am WH
- ✠ **Aug 21** 10:15am WH Service
- ✠ **Aug 21** Church Council meeting after church
- ✠ **Aug 28** 8am Orlando 10:15am WH Education Sunday/Children Sing
- ✠ **Sept. 4** 9:15am Bible Class 10:15 am WH Communion

**Aug. 21** There will be a Church Council meeting after church on Sunday, August 21.

**Call** Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ: It is an honor to be considered for the work that the Lord has laid before you in the Winter Haven/Orlando area. Be assured that your call is receiving the prayerful attention it deserves. I solicit your prayers, as well, that the Lord provides wisdom and clarity of His

will. Thank you. In Christ, James Albrecht (507)351-8584

**Cleaner (8/20):** Naumann | **Acolyte (8/21):** Maxwell Kuehne

**Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; August 15 - August 20, '22**

**Mon Luke 12:49-53** Jesus prepares His disciples for a future that is not a bed of ease, either for Himself or for His followers. He must go through suffering to overcome sin, and they will suffer divisions and persecution like their Master. Yet as His "baptism of fire" will be accomplished (finished v50), so also will they be saved!

**Tues Hebrews 12:1-2** In view of the Salvation that Jesus has won for us and encouraged by the believers who came before us, we do not make peace with sin, but turn away from it as a weight that hinders us in our race to the goal. So our Savior also looked to the joy ahead to endure the cross and gain the prize.

**Wed Hebrews 12:3-13** God permits us to go through the fire of persecution to strengthen us in our walk with Him. Through the struggles of this life, He trims away those things which would turn us away from Him and cause us to fall. Like “bumpers” at a bowling alley, discipline hems us in and guides to the heavenly goal.

**Thurs Jeremiah 7:1-7** God’s prophet Jeremiah speaks to people who go to the “Temple of the Lord,” but their lives continue to serve not God, but themselves. They are deceived by a false comfort which calms their consciences while they go through the motions of worship, but lets them give up the struggle against sin and go after other gods. That kind of “peace” God does not want us to have, but would call us to repent and enjoy His forgiveness.

**Fri Jeremiah 7:8-15** God reaches out to the faithless ones, calling upon them to see their sin and repent. If they make the house that is called by His name the gathering place (hideout?) of a bunch of robbers, do they think that He will not let that house be destroyed? Then they should go look at what happened to Shiloh, the one-time residence of God’s tabernacle. So God will knock down false comfort to make way for His loving forgiveness.

**Sat Acts 14:8-20** The apostle Paul on his very first missionary journey already encountered many struggles, both from “friends” who wanted to worship the messengers, and from enemies who would destroy the messengers of the living God. Through all of these trials God continued to bless His missionaries and those who heard them.