

August 7, 2022

9th Sunday of Pentecost

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Mike Sheffield

Acolyte: Grant Bernthal

Ebenezer

THUS FAR THE

Lord

HAS HELPED US!



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PRE-SERVICE WELCOME

“But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.” (Ephesians 2:13)

“And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.” (1 John 2:2)

Welcome, Dear Friends and Visitors, in the Name of Jesus, God’s own Son, Who was condemned as a sinner in our places

and died,

so that His righteousness might be counted as if it were ours

and we may live.

Order of Divine Worship

Hymn: TLH #246 “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty”

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

C Amen.

P Pastor

C Congregation

INTROIT

P Behold, God is my Helper:

C **The Lord is with those who uphold my soul.**

P He shall reward evil unto my enemies:

C **Cut them off in Your truth, O LORD.**

P Save me, O God, by Your Name:

C **and judge me by Your strength.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

P Dear Friends, We have come into the presence of God. We are seeking spiritual refreshment and life from the living water that only He can provide. We have brought our sins with us too, because of Jesus’ invitation: “come to Me all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Therefore, let us confess our sins to God our Father and plead for mercy because of His Son.

C **Merciful God and Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray that You would have mercy on me according to Your unfailing grace and love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt for Jesus’ sake. 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.

LORD, HAVE MERCY and GLORY TO GOD



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy



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



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
 3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
 You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
 At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
 O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
 Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
 Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
 With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

THE SALUTATION:

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Almighty God, the Father of all who call upon You in the name of Your Son, help us to grow in the knowledge of Your grace and love toward us in Jesus Christ, especially when we are under attack by our enemies, that

we may know the perfect peace that settles the anxious heart and learn to rejoice in our Savior always.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Psalm 37:1-6 Do not fret because of evildoers, Nor be envious of the workers of iniquity. 2 For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, And wither as the green herb. 3 Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. 4 Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart. 5 Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass. 6 He shall bring forth your righteousness as the light, And your justice as the noonday.

EPISTLE READING – Philippians 3:17-21 Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. 18 For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: 19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame—who set their mind on earthly things. 20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

GOSPEL READING – Matthew 19:23-29 Then Jesus said to His disciples, “Assuredly, I say to you that it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. 24 And again I say to you, 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.” 25 When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, “Who then can be saved?” 26 But Jesus looked at them and said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” 27 Then Peter answered and said to Him, “See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?” 28 So Jesus said to them, “Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. 29 And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother [a]or wife or children or [b]lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.

C 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: TLH #449

“My Soul, Be on Thy Guard”

SERMON – 1Samuel 7:5-12 And Samuel said, “Gather all Israel to Mizpah, and I will pray to the Lord for you.” 6 So they gathered together at Mizpah, drew water, and poured it out before the Lord. And they fasted that day, and said there, “We have sinned against the Lord.” And Samuel judged the children of Israel at Mizpah. 7 Now when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel had gathered together at Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard of it, they were afraid of the Philistines. 8 So the children of Israel said to Samuel, “Do not cease to cry out to the Lord our God for us, that He may save us from the hand of the Philistines.” 9 And Samuel took a suckling lamb and offered it as a whole burnt offering to the Lord. Then Samuel cried out to the Lord for Israel, and the Lord answered him. 10 Now as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel. But the Lord thundered with a loud thunder upon the Philistines that day, and so confused them that they were overcome before Israel. 11 And

the men of Israel went out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines, and drove them back as far as below Beth Car. 12 Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen, and called its name Ebenezer, saying, “Thus far the Lord has helped us.”

WHAT SHOULD YOU EXPECT AS YOU SERVE THE LORD ONLY?

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.

HYMN: WS #738

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

– OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS –

Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed below:



OFFERING HYMN: TLH #788:1 “Lord, You Love...”

- C**  Lord, You love the cheerful giver Who with open heart and hand Blesses freely, as a river That refreshes all the land. Grant us, then, the grace of giving With a spirit large and true That our life and all our living We may consecrate to You.

GENERAL PRAYER and the LORD’S PRAYER

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts!

C We lift them up to the Lord!

P It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God: Who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

The Order of Holy Communion



C ♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabbaoth, adored; Heaven and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Lk. 22:19-20; Mt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and 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 whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me." And the peace of the Lord will be with you always!

Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, you'll want to find out if our church teaches what the Bible does! The pastor would be happy to discuss this with you at your convenience!

O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose
blood, once shed, true life re - stored, Im -
part Your joy, our faith in - crease. Sus -
tain with Your mer - cy and grant us Your peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION

Please remain seated.

P Take and eat. This is the true body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Take and drink. This cup is the true blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. May this body and blood strengthen and preserve you in the true faith, unto life everlasting. Depart in peace. Amen.

C: 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace: A
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One; For
light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

C: My heart has now be - come Your dwell - ing, O bless - ed,
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Your prais - es
 tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly. Lord, may Your
 bod - y and Your blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

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!

HYMN: WS #763

"At the Name of Jesus"

✠ Announcements ✠

Last Week: WH – 31 **Total Offering = \$1957.55**

- ✠ **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 21** 10:15am WH Service
- ✠ **Aug 28** 8am Orlando
10:15am WH Education
Sunday/Children Sing

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

School Tonight is the Back-to-School Party and Parent Open House at 6:00 p.m. School starts on Wednesday. Please keep your school, teachers, and students in your prayers. Thank you.

Prayers 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 (8/13): Bernthal | **Acolyte (8/14):** Grant Bernthal

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; August 8 - August 13, '22

Mon Luke 12:22-31 After speaking about covetousness, Jesus also warns His disciples about anxiety. This unproductive concern also afflicts people in connection with earthly possessions: food, clothing, etc. Here, too, the answer is the assurance of your heavenly Father's care. We can surely trust our Maker, who provides so well for plants and animals, to clothe and feed us even better. May His will be done!

Tues Luke 12:32-34 Remembering that through Christ we have heavenly riches is what keeps us from setting our hearts on earthly possessions. Because the King of heaven watches out for us now and gives us eternal riches forever, we can afford to be generous with earthly wealth instead of coveting it or being anxious about it.

Wed Genesis 15:1-6 Abraham had just conquered kings to rescue Lot and now the LORD comes to Him and says, "Fear not!" What might he fear? That He would remain childless and the blessing for all nations would not come! But God persuades him again that He will provide both the earthly heir and the promised Savior. "And he believed the LORD" (v6).

Thurs Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-12 When God persuades us to trust His Word, we come to know about our future (which cannot be seen) and about the past which we cannot see, the creation of the world. As we saw in yesterday's reading, Abraham also lived not by what he could see, but by trusting what he was promised by God.

Fri Hebrews 11:13-16 All the faithful patriarchs of the Old Testament lived by the same faith as we do. Their heart was not fixed on the things of this earth, but on a heavenly country to which they journeyed through life. This is how God has always provided for His children on earth.

Sat Jeremiah 23:23-29 The faith of Abraham, Sarah, and all the Old Testament believers was sparked and nurtured by the Word of the LORD which came to them. Thus it is not a matter of pride for the LORD to be so concerned that people receive His true Word and no counterfeit, but it is a matter of life and death for us.

“The Master’s Minute”

(Radio broadcast – Columbia, SC 8/18/08)

Welcome to the Master’s Minute! From the opening ceremony to the grand “bird’s nest” stadium, the Chinese hosts of the 2008 Summer Olympics created a great spectacle for the human eye! But what also meets the eye of many Americans and Christians is not so great.

Three hundred and thirty-seven beautiful Chinese girls, serving the athletes as ushers and waitresses were something to see on first glance! They all had to weigh between 110 and 120 pounds; all had to be 5'6" to 5'8" tall, and all were required to have a smile that shows 6-8 teeth! All these girls were trained for months to smile, speak, and walk in lock-step fashion. We saw Chinese children who had been taken from their families as small children to be trained for the Olympics and permitted to see their parents only once a year!

All this portrays China’s power to deny the freedoms we Americans enjoy. What is not seen at the Olympics in China is the power of the Gospel of Christ to bring the greatest freedom of all to the Chinese. The Communist party has tried to stamp out Christianity. Chinese Christians may belong to a Christian church, but they are forbidden by the government to talk about Jesus outside the church.

Still, they go about quietly speaking of their Savior in hushed tones, because He has set them free from their greatest enemies – Satan, sin, and the power of hell. As Jesus said: “If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (Jn. 8:31)

The real heroes in China today are not its politically enslaved Olympic athletes, but those quiet Christians who “abide in Christ’s word” and freely confess His saving name. Theirs is no game, but the fight of faith. We salute them and pray for their victory in Jesus Christ!