

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 29, 2021



Lord of Love Lutheran Church (ELCA)

10405 Fort St., Omaha, NE 68134

“Celebrating and sharing God’s Love in a welcoming community of faith, while serving others”

Worship 9:00 a.m.

Bold type indicates Congregational responses

Introduction

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God’s law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us “the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life” (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

Prelude

Announcements

Ringling of the Bell

***Gathering Song: "O Christ, Our Hope"..... ELW 604**

1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's
 2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den
 3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som
 4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us
 5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry

might - y Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by
 of our sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to
 has been paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in
 of our pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by
 ev - er be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through

ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:
 make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.
 robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.
 mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.
 all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, adapt.
 Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

****Greeting***

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

****Kyrie***

P: Let us pray to God with peace in our hearts:

God of love, have mercy.

For the peace from above, let us pray to our God:

God of love, have mercy.

For the peace of the world, for the health of the church, and for the unity of all people, let us pray to our God:

God of love, have mercy.

For the people of God and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to our God:

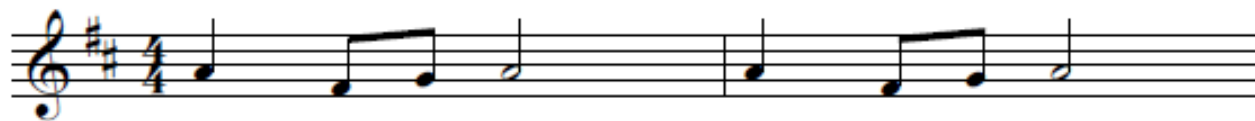
God of love, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious God.

Amen.

***Hymn of Praise**

Refrain



(Women) Glo - ry to God! (Men) Glo - ry to God!



(All) Glo - ry to God in the high - est: Glo - ry, glo - ry,



Glo - ry to God a - bove. Glo - ry to God in the



Fine

high - est: Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry to the God of Love.

Verse



1. Wor - thy is Christ the Lamb who was slain whose
 2. Pow - er rich - es wis - dom and strength and
 3. Sing with all the peo - ple of God and
 4. Bless - ing and hon - or glo - ry and praise be to



D.C.

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
 ho - nor and bless - ing and glo - ry are God's.
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion.
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

***Prayer of the Day**

L: Let us pray.

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

L: So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: James 1:17-27

L: Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

Al - le-lu - ia Al-le - lu - ia Al - le-lu - ia Al-le - lu - ia

Al - le-lu - ia Al-le - lu - ia Al - le-lu - ia Al-le - lu - ia

***Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 7th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Children’s Sermon Rev. Dr. Chris Alexander

Sermon Rev. Dr. Chris Alexander

Hymn of the Day: "Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters"..... ELW 445



1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.
2 We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.
3 Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!



Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!



Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born.



Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.
One with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844

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****The Apostle's Creed***

L: God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

****Prayers of Intercession***

L: Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church, that it is a safe haven for all who seek your presence. Fill it with pastors, deacons, and leaders who echo your expansive and generous welcome.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for the whole of creation, that plants and animals have the habitat and resources to thrive and flourish. Inspire us to protect threatened habitats and ensure a sustainable future for generations to come. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for individuals in positions of authority. Raise up wise and discerning leaders in federal, state, and local governments and guide them to seek the benefit of every person. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are in need. Support and encourage those who are unemployed, underemployed, or experiencing poverty. Bring food, shelter, clothes, and stability for daily life. We especially pray for your healing presence to be with those on our prayer list and those we lift up to you in our hearts now... Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for this congregation, especially those beginning a new school year. Empower teachers and school administrators. Guide students in their learning and development. Accompany parents, foster parents, and caregivers who provide encouragement and love. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We give thanks for the faithful departed who showed us how to honor God with our heart. Inspire us by their example and renew our faith, trusting that we will be united with them in glory. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Please be seated.

Offering

L: We are called to reflect on how we are giving back to God for all the blessings God has given us. This includes continuing to financially support the church and its mission, along with considering how we might be called to give and use our time and talents to further God’s kingdom here on earth.

Offertory



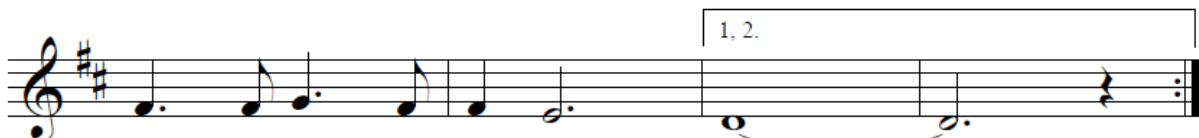
1. What have we to of - fer? What have we to share?
 2. What have we to of - fer? What have we to bring?
 3. What have we to of - fer? What have we to give?



Coins _____ from the cof - fer Hearts _____ filled with care.
 Love, _____ ripe with laugh - ter, Hope that we can sing.
 Eyes that are wide o - pen, Lies that we won't live.



God _____ will not fal - ter If _____ we will dare
 Dreams of what we're af - ter, Pro - mis - es of when
 Truth that must be spo - ken, Just - tice some - how



Lay it at the al - tar there. _____
 Lay it at the al - tar then. _____
 Lay it at the al - tar

3.
now. _____ What have we to of - fer? What have we to
give? Lives _____ we will live. _____

****Offertory Prayer***

P: Merciful God: We return to you the gifts that you have given: our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your graciousness and love. Receive them and use them for the sake of the one who died for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

****The Great Thanksgiving***

P: The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

****Words of Institution***

On the night he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: Take and eat: this is my body given for you. Do this for remembrance of me.

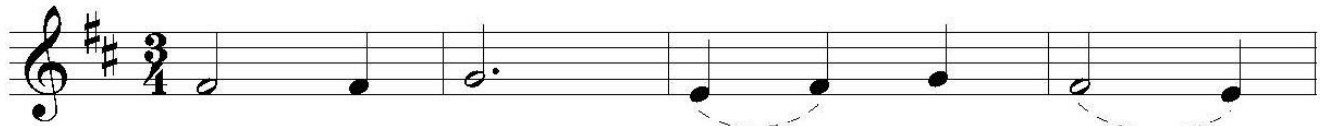
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for remembrance of me.

****The Lord's Prayer***

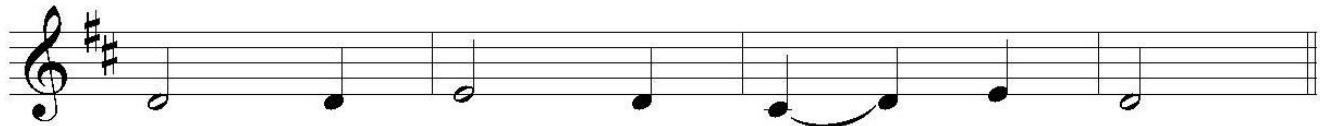
P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

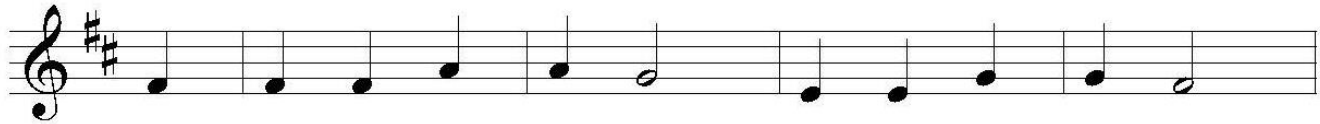
Lamb of God



1. Lamb of God, who takes a - way the
 2. Lamb of God, who'd give your soul to
 3. Lamb of God, ris - en Lord, _____
 4. Lamb of God, ho - ly Son, _____
 5. Lamb of God, who takes a - way the

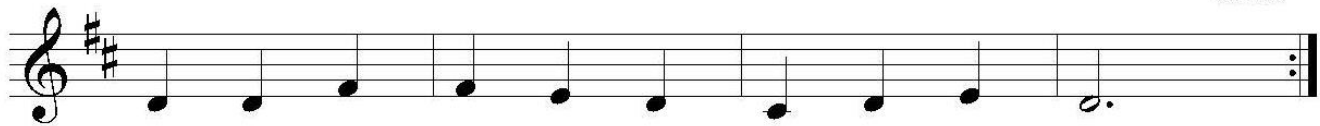


sin of all the world _____ to - day,
 see a brok - en world _____ made whole,
 heal us with your liv - ing word,
 bring us peace when day _____ is done,
 sin of all the world _____ to - day,



Have mer - cy up - on us, mer - cy up - on us,

Fine



mer - cy up - on us and give us your peace.

Communion

***Table Blessing**

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

Amen.

***Post-Communion Prayer**

P: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

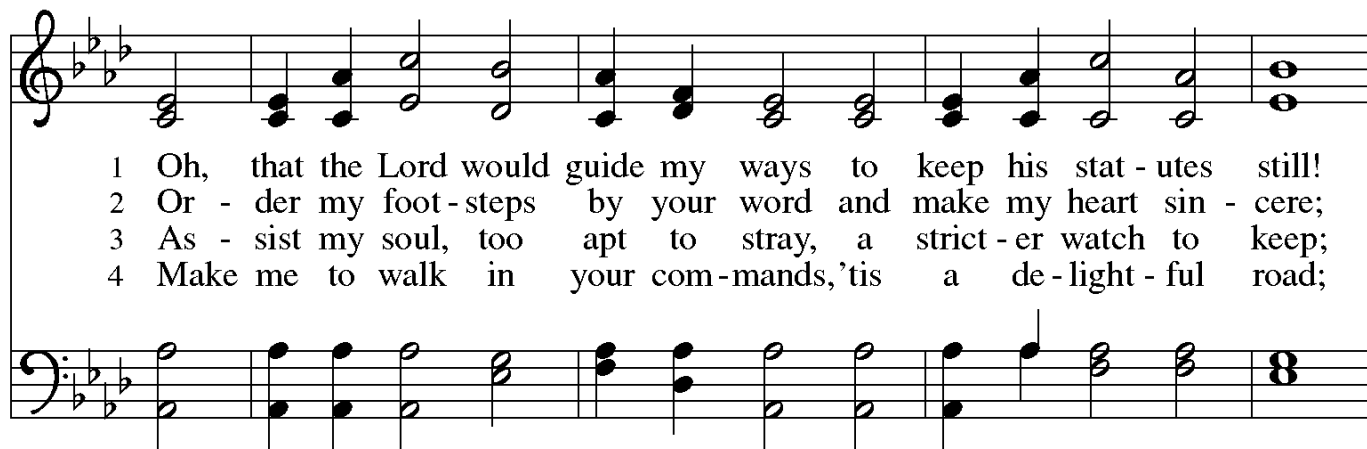
Amen.

***Benediction**

P: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, † be upon you now and forever.

Amen.

***Sending Song: "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways" ELW 821**



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands, 'tis a de - light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

***Dismissal**

L: Go forth in joy and in peace, and serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

Ringing of the Bell

Postlude

Makeover Liturgy

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