

# THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 28, 2016

## Worship Focus

**THE BELIEVER HEARS JESUS' WARNINGS...**  
**The first will be last...humble yourselves.**



L U K E 14 : 10 - 11

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# THE ORDER OF SERVICE

## Service of the Word

Christian Worship, p. 38

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## OPENING HYMN

362 - Lord Jesus Christ, My Savior Blest



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, My Sav - ior blest,  
2 Lord, as you will, So lead me still;  
3 I have your Word, Christ Je - sus, Lord;  
4 Now hence - forth must I put my trust  
5 Grant, Lord, I pray, Your grace each day,



My Hope and my Sal - va - tion! Lord, hear my  
Your mer - cy fails me nev - er. My God, I  
You nev - er will for - sake me! This will I  
In you, O dear - est Sav - ior. Your gra - cious  
That I, your name re - ver - ing, Your glo - ry



plea: De - liv - er me From mis - er - y!  
pray: Teach me your way To my last day;  
plead In time of need. Oh, help with speed  
choice, Your Word and voice, Make me re - joice  
see And hap - py be E - ter - nal - ly,



Your Word brings con - so - la - tion.  
From e - vil keep me ev - er.  
When trou - bles o - ver - take me!  
Though sin - ful my be - hav - ior.  
Be - fore your throne ap - pear - ing.

Text: Hans C. Sthen, b. c. 1540, abr.; tr. Harriet R. K. Spaeth, 1845-1925, alt.  
Tune: HERRE JESU KRIST (447 444 7) Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812-87.

## INVOCATION

**Minister**            The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**Congregation**    **And also with you.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**M** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C** **Merciful 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: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**M** 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. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C** **Amen.**



## PRAYER AND PRAISE

**M** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M** Let us pray. O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: A - - - men.



## THE WORD

### **FIRST LESSON** Proverbs 25:6,7

Sinful pride can be one's undoing. Better is humility in the presence of the king than humiliation in his court.

PROVERBS 25:6 Do not exalt yourself in the king's presence,  
and do not claim a place among great men;

<sup>7</sup> it is better for him to say to you, "Come up here,"  
than for him to humiliate you before a nobleman.

**HUMBLE  
YOURSELVES**



# PSALM

# Psalm 122

Refrain Tune: Richard Proulx. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL,  
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*Pastor will sing the first two lines of each verse. The congregation is asked to sing the last two lines of the verses, the refrain, and the Gloria.*



I rejoiced with those who | said to me,  
“Let us go to the house | of the LORD.”  
**Our feet are standing | in your gates,  
O Je | rusalem.**

## *Refrain*

Pray for the peace of Je | rusalem:  
“May those who love you | be secure.  
**May there be peace with | in your walls  
and security within your | citadels.”**

## *Refrain*

For the sake of my brothers | and friends,  
I will say, “Peace be with | in you.”  
**For the sake of the house of the | LORD our God,  
I will seek your pros | perity.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son  
and to the Holy | Spirit,  
as it was in the be | ginning,  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

## *Refrain*

## **SECOND LESSON Hebrews 13:1-8**

Sad to say, humble service to those in need is not only rare in our society, it often results in surprise, even suspicion, at the unexpected kindness poured out by the heart of faith.

HEBREWS 13:1 <sup>1</sup> Keep on loving each other as brothers. <sup>2</sup> Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it. <sup>3</sup> Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

<sup>4</sup> Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. <sup>5</sup> Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said,

“Never will I leave you;  
never will I forsake you.”

<sup>6</sup> So we say with confidence,

“The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.  
What can man do to me?”

<sup>7</sup> Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. <sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

## **VERSE OF THE DAY**

**O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God,  
Lead us to love your sacred Word;  
The holy flame of love impart,  
That kindness may inspire each heart,  
O Spirit of life, O Spirit of God. (186:4)**

## GOSPEL Luke 14:1, 7-14

The King calls on us to humbly serve those in need. This is not for personal gain. Rather, humble service to the citizens of his kingdom is a display of humble service to the King.

LUKE 14:1 One Sabbath, when Jesus went to eat in the house of a prominent Pharisee, he was being carefully watched.

<sup>7</sup> When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: <sup>8</sup> “When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. <sup>9</sup> If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, ‘Give this man your seat.’ Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. <sup>10</sup> But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, ‘Friend, move up to a better place.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all your fellow guests.

<sup>11</sup> For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

<sup>12</sup> Then Jesus said to his host, “When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, <sup>14</sup> and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



When your host  
sees you,  
he will say,



*Friend*  
move up higher.

Luke 14:10



HYMN OF THE DAY

486 - Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us



1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us With your  
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you Glad - ly,  
 3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en To our  
 4 Yes, the sor - row and the suf - f'ring Which on  
 5 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us With your



life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the  
 free - ly, of your own. With the sun - shine of your  
 hum - blest char - i - ty In your own mys - te - rious  
 ev - 'ry hand we view Chan - nels are for gifts and  
 life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the



lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice,  
 good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone  
 sen - tence, "You have done it un - to me."  
 of - f'ring Due by sol - emn right to you,  
 lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.



And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings  
 Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by  
 Can it be, O gra - cious Mas - ter, That you  
 Right of which we may not rob you, Debt we  
 Give us faith to trust you bold - ly, Hope, to



count - less as the sand To th' un - thank - ful and the  
 you, at length be - lieve That more hap - py and more  
 need what we can do, Say - ing by your poor and  
 may not choose but pay Lest that face of love and  
 stay our souls on you; But, oh, best of all your



e - vil With your own un - spar - ing hand.  
bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.  
need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you"  
pit - y Turn from us a - noth - er day.  
gra - ces, With your love our love re - new.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818-89, alt.  
Tune: HYFRYDOL (87 87 D) Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-87.

## SERMON

Luke 14:11-14

### **The Christian Life Calls for Humility**

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**C 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.**

## FRIENDSHIP REGISTER and GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

### MUSICAL OFFERTORY

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray to our Father in heaven with all boldness and confidence in our Lord, Jesus Christ, who humbled Himself to death on the cross and was exalted in His resurrection.

*Brief silence*

Lord God, heavenly Father, as You deal graciously with us in Jesus Christ, Your Son, and have promised never to leave us or forsake us, so establish Your kingdom among us in righteousness. Protect and defend Your Church against all tribulation and danger, and strengthen us and all our fellow Christians to set our hope fully on You, to humble ourselves and exalt our neighbors, and to persist in doing good to the glory of Your name. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O gracious God and Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ, preserve all pastors and ministers of Your Church in the true knowledge of Your Word and in holiness of life. Pour out Your Holy Spirit on their lips to praise and acknowledge Your name at all times and in all places. And as they keep watch over the souls entrusted to their care, enable them to comfort and help the weak-hearted and distressed, to raise up the fallen and to strengthen those who stand. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty Lord God, who breaks the power of the oppressor, stir up Your great strength and help us by Your might. Scatter the counsels of all those who devise mischief, and bring the dealings of the violent to nothing. Cast down the unjust from high places, and cause the unruly to cease from troubling. Put far away from us all envious and malicious passions and subdue all haters and evildoers, that the land may have rest before You, and that all the people may praise Your holy name. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord our God, the Fount of wisdom, by Your Holy Spirit enlighten those who teach and those who learn, that, rejoicing in the knowledge of Your truth, they may worship You and serve You in their callings. As they return to their studies in this new academic year, grant them to grow in useful knowledge and Christian virtue, always seeking the city that is to come. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father in heaven, as You sent Your own dear Son to save us by His cross and resurrection, so also send laborers into Your harvest in every generation. Be with those who even now prepare to serve Your Church on earth in a variety of offices, that they aspire to such noble works of love with humility and patience, seeking not the praise and honor of men but the opportunity to care for those who are not able to repay them. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, as You have called the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind to enter Your kingdom through Jesus Christ, Your Son, deal compassionately with Your servants who suffer the afflictions and infirmities of this mortal life, [*especially \_\_\_\_\_,*] that none may despair of Your grace or be overcome by adversity, but that all persevere in faith and praise Your name. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Finally, O Father in heaven, as we are all strangers and pilgrims on earth, help us by true faith and a godly life to prepare for the world to come, doing the work You have given us to do while it is day, until the night comes when no one can work. And when our last hour comes, support us by Your power and receive us into Your everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**C 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.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

# SERMON HYMN

491 - O Master of the Loving Heart



1 O Mas - ter of the lov - ing heart, The  
2 Your days were full of kind - ly acts; Your  
3 Your face was warm with sym - pa - thy; Your  
4 Oh, grant us hearts like yours, dear Lord, So



friend of all in need, We pray that we may  
speech was true and plain; Of those who ev - er  
hand God's strength re - vealed; Who saw your face or  
joy - ous, free, and true, That all your chil - dren,



be like you In thought and word and deed.  
sought you, Lord, None came to you in vain.  
felt your touch Were com - fort - ed and healed.  
ev - 'ry - where, Be drawn by us to you.

Text: Calvin W. Laufer, 1874–1938, alt.  
Tune: AZMON (CM) Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829, alt.

## PRAYER

**M** O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - - men.

## BLESSING

**M** Brothers and sisters, go in peace.  
Live in harmony with one another.  
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



## CLOSING HYMN

458 - May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill

1 May we your precepts, Lord, fulfill And do on  
2 So may we join your name to bless, Your grace a-  
3 Spir - it of life, of love, and peace, U - nite our  
earth our Fa - ther's will As an - gels do a - bove,  
dore, your pow'r con - fess, To flee from sin and strife.  
hearts, our joy in - crease, Your gra - cious help sup - ply.  
Still walk in Christ, the liv - ing way, With all your  
One is our call - ing, one our name, The end of  
To each of us the bless - ing give In Chris - tian  
chil - dren, and o - bey The law of Chris - tian love,  
all our hopes the same: A glo - rious crown of life,  
fel - low - ship to live, In joy - ful hope to die.

Text: Edward Osler, 1798–1863, alt.  
Tune: MERIBAH (886 886) Lowell Mason, 1792–1872.

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H u m b l e  
y o u r s e l v e s  
b e f o r e  
t h e L o r d,  
a n d h e w i l l  
l i f t y o u u p.



James 4:10

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**HUMBLE  
YOURSELVES  
THEREFORE  
UNDER THE  
MIGHTY HAND  
OF GOD, SO  
THAT HE MAY  
EXALT YOU  
IN DUE TIME.**

**1 PETER 5:6, NRSV**

