

THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 8, 2019

Worship Focus

THE BELIEVER HEARS JESUS' WARNINGS...

The Word doesn't bring peace, but division.



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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Common Service

Christian Worship, p. 15

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OPENING HYMN

474 - Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus



1 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Ye sol - diers of
2 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus! The trum - pet call
3 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus! Stand in his strength
4 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus! The strife will not



the cross! Lift high his roy - al ban - ner; It
o - bey; Forth to the might - y con - flict In
a - lone. The arm of flesh will fail you; Ye
be long; This day the noise of bat - tle, The



must not suf - fer loss. From vic - t'ry un - to vic -
this his glo - rious day! Ye that are brave, now serve
dare not trust your own. Put on the gos - pel ar -
next, the vic - tor's song. To him that o - ver - com -



t'ry His ar - my shall he lead Till ev - 'ry
him A - gainst un - num - bered foes; Let cour - age
mor; Each piece put on with prayer; Where du - ty
eth A crown of life shall be; He with the



foe is van - quished And Christ is Lord in - deed.
rise with dan - ger And strength to strength op - pose.
calls or dan - ger, Be nev - er want - ing there.
King of glo - ry Shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: George Duffield Jr., 1818-88, abr., alt.
Tune: WEBB (76 76 D) George J. Webb, 1803-87.

INVOCATION

Minister In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.



Congregation A - - men.

M Beloved in the Lord: Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord have mercy on me a sinner.**

LORD HAVE MERCY (*Kyrie*)



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



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

ABSOLUTION

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - - men.

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord:

(245:1,3)

1 Sing a new song to the Lord, He to whom
3 Sing a new song and re-joice! Pub-lish his
won-ders be-long! Re-joice in his
prais-es a-broad! Let voic-es in
tri-umph and tell of his pow'r! Oh,
cho-rus, with trum-pet and horn, Re -
sing to the Lord a new song!
sound for the joy of the Lord!

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926. © 1973 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.
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Tune: CANTATE DOMINO (77 11 8) David G. Wilson, b. 1940. © 1973 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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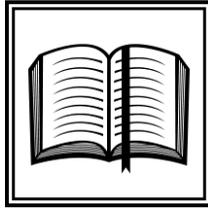
PRAYER OF THE DAY

M The Lord be with you.

C: And al - so with you.

M Let us pray. Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; 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.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Jeremiah 23:23-29

With the Kingdom of Judah moving ever closer to judgment, Jeremiah proclaims the Lord's condemnation of false prophets.

JEREMIAH 23:23 “Am I only a God nearby,”

declares the LORD,

“and not a God far away?

²⁴ Can anyone hide in secret places
so that I cannot see him?”

declares the LORD.

“Do not I fill heaven and earth?”

declares the LORD.

²⁵ “I have heard what the prophets say who prophesy lies in my name. They say, ‘I had a dream! I had a dream!’ ²⁶ How long will this continue in the hearts of these lying prophets, who prophesy the delusions of their own minds? ²⁷ They think the dreams they tell one another will make my people forget my name, just as their fathers forgot my name through Baal worship. ²⁸ Let the prophet who has a dream tell his dream, but let the one who has my word speak it faithfully. For what has straw to do with grain?” declares the LORD. ²⁹ “Is not my word like fire,” declares the LORD, “and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?”



“IS NOT
MY WORD
LIKE FIRE?” DECLARES
THE LORD. JEREMIAH 23:29

PSALM

Psalm 139a

Refrain Tune: Marty Haugen. © 1983 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL,
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All will sing the refrain and the Gloria.

Men will sing the first line of each verse, and women respond with the 2nd line.

Refrain



To you, O Lord, I lift my soul; in you I trust, my God.

Psalm tone



(Men) O LORD, you have searched me and you | know me;*

(Women) you perceive my thoughts | from afar.

(Men) You discern my going out and my | lying down;*

(Women) you are familiar with | all my ways.

Refrain

(Men) Where can I go from your | Spirit?*

(Women) Where can I flee from your | presence?

(Men) If I go up to the heavens, | you are there;*

(Women) if I make my bed in the depths, | you are there.

(Men) If I rise on the wings | of the dawn,*

(Women) if I settle on the far side | of the sea,

(Men) even there your hand will | guide me,*

(Women) your right hand will | hold me fast.

(All) 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 12:1-13

Running the race of life requires perseverance because the Word of God brings division and persecution and violence.

HEBREWS 12:1¹Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. ²Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

⁴In your struggle against sin, you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. ⁵And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons:

“My son, do not make light of the Lord’s discipline,
and do not lose heart when he rebukes you,

⁶because the Lord disciplines those he loves,
and he punishes everyone he accepts as a son.”

⁷Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? ⁸If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. ⁹Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live! ¹⁰Our fathers disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in his holiness. ¹¹No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.

¹²Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees. ¹³“Make level paths for your feet,” so that the lame may not be disabled, but rather healed.

VERSE OF THE DAY

**Praise the one who blessed the children With a strong, yet gentle, word;
Praise the one who drove out demons With the piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the one who brings cool water To the desert’s burning sand;
From this well comes living water, Quenching thirst in ev’ry land. (353:2)**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the announcement of the Gospel the congregation responds:



C: Glo - ry be to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL Luke 12:49-53

Jesus warns that his fire will bring division between believer and unbeliever, even within that most intimate of human relationships, the family.

LUKE 12:49 “I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is completed! ⁵¹Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. ⁵²From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. ⁵³They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the reading of the Gospel the congregation responds:



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!



*I came to bring
fire to the earth...*

LUKE 12:49, NRSV

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.**



HYMN OF THE DAY

457 - Fight the Good Fight



1 Fight the good fight With all your might;
2 Run the straight race Through God's good grace;
3 Cast care a - side, Lean on your guide;
4 Faint not nor fear; His arms are near.



Christ is your strength and Christ your light.
Lift up your eyes and seek his face.
His bound - less mer - cy will pro - vide.
He chang - es not, and you are dear.



Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Life with its way be - fore us lies;
Lean, and the trust - ing soul shall prove
On - ly be - lieve, and you will see



Your joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.
Christ is the path and Christ the prize.
Christ is its life and Christ its love.
That Christ is Lord e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-75, alt.

Tune: MENDON (448 88) *The Methodist Harmonist*, New York, 1821.

SERMON

Hebrews 11:5

Walk the Walk of Faith

PRAISE AND PRAYER

RESPONSE TO THE WORD



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from your pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re-store un - to me the joy of your sal - va -
tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER and GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray to the Lord on behalf of His Church, our nation, the causes of peace and justice, the needs of the sick, and all people as they have need.

Brief silence

You have granted us great privilege and mercy, O Lord, that we should be called Your people. Work in us by Your Spirit, that we may love what is good and obey Your command cheerfully. Keep us from an easy faith that costs us nothing, and preserve us that we may be the salt of the earth and light in the darkness of a world that does not know You. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give Your aid, O Lord, to all public officials, especially our president, the Congress of these United States, our governor, the legislature of this state, and all who serve us in Your name in government. Grant peace to the nations, and prosper to the benefit of all people the cause of justice. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Keep us, O Lord, from growing weary of doing good, and give us loving hearts to show kindness to all people. Be with those who suffer any need, especially the poor, unemployed and homeless. Grant Your mercy to them and to all the household of Your people, that we shall be steadfast of heart and kept safe in every trial. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant to all the sick, O Lord, the riches of Your mercy to sustain them in their afflictions, deliver them according to Your will, comfort them with Your presence, and build them up in the hope of new and everlasting life. Be especially with _____ and those we name in our hearts before You. Give them a cheerful countenance and a grateful heart for all Your mercies to them in their time of need. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You know, Lord, the secrets of our hearts and what would entice us to fall away. Equip us by Your grace to love You with all that we are and all that we have. Accept, we pray, the tithes and offerings we bring, with the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving, which is our duty and delight. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring to our remembrance, O Lord, those who have loved and served You, who now rest from their labors, that we may be encouraged by their witness, follow their example as they followed Christ, and be kept holy and blameless until we stand with their number on that day when Christ shall return in His glory as judge and king of all. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Preserve us, O Lord, from all temptation, and grant us faith, that we may rest all our prayers and the desires of our hearts in Your merciful arms, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **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

537 - Onward, Christian Soldiers



1 On - ward, Chris-tian sol - diers, March-ing as to war,
 2 Like a might - y ar - my Moves the Church of God;
 3 Crowns and thrones may per - ish, King - doms rise and wane,
 4 On - ward, then, ye faith - ful; Join the hap - py throng,



With the cross of Je - sus Go - ing on be - fore.
 Broth - ers, we are tread - ing Where the saints have trod.
 But the Church of Je - sus Con - stant will re - main.
 Blend with ours your voic - es In the tri - umph song:



Christ, the roy - al mas - ter, Leads a - gainst the foe;
 We are not di - vid - ed, All one bod - y we,
 Gates of hell can nev - er 'Gainst that Church pre - vail;
 Glo - ry, laud, and hon - or Un - to Christ the King;



For - ward in - to bat - tle See his ban - ners go!
 One in hope and doc - trine, One in char - i - ty.
 We have Christ's own prom - ise, And that can - not fail.
 This through count - less a - ges Saints and an - gels sing.

Refrain



On - ward, Chris-tian sol - diers, March-ing as to war,



With the cross of Je - sus Go - ing on be - fore.

Text: Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924, abr., alt.
 Tune: ST. GERTRUDE (65 65 D with Refrain) Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900.

PRAYER AND BLESSING

M Blessed Lord, you have given us your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart, that being strengthened and comforted by your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

M 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.



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

CLOSING HYMN

755 – Your Kingdom, O God

The congregation is invited to sing along with the small group.



1 Your king-dom, O God, is my glo - ri - ous trea - sure, My
2 Your king-dom, O God, is a - live with the pow - er Your
3 Your king-dom, O God, is a field for the grow - ing Of



pearl of in - com - p'ra - ble worth. Its
Word and your Spir - it be - stow. Like
seeds that your mer - cy has sown, But



val - ue ex - ceeds ev - 'ry stand - ard of mea - sure, Sur -
yeast, they af - fect the whole mea - sure of flour, En -
still in our midst is the en - e - my sow - ing The



pass - ing the wealth of the earth. Lord,
a - bling your king - dom to grow. Em -
weeds that im - per - il your own. Sus -



give me your grace and the pow'r of the Spir - it To
pow - er me, Lord, as I live your com - mis - sion, Though
tain me, O Lord, till your day of re - turn - ing And



val - ue this trea - sure a - right That,
hum - ble my ser - vice may be, And
har - vest me home - ward at last, To



nev - er al - lured by the world, I in - her - it Your
bring ev - 'ry plant - ing to per - fect fru - i - tion, A
shine in the home - land that qui - ets all yearn - ing, Where

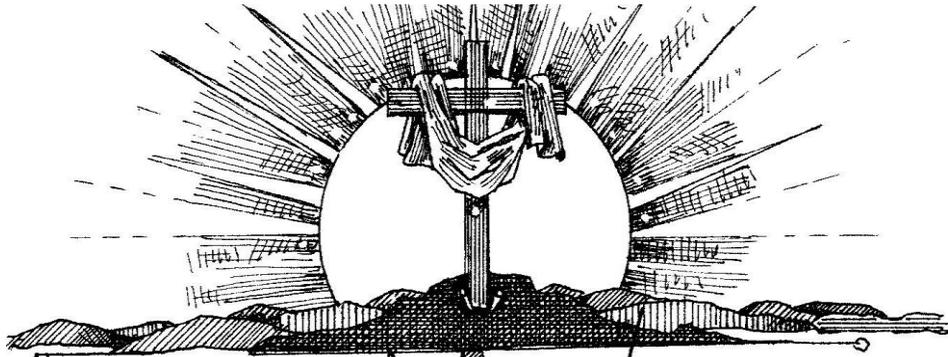


king - dom of glo - ry and light.
mus - tard seed grown to a tree.
sor - row and dan - ger are past.

Based on Jesus' parables in Matthew 13, this hymn expresses the Christian's great joy in discovering the glorious and eternal treasures that only the gospel of forgiveness offers.

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Tune: GLORIOUS TREASURE (12 8 12 8 D) Joseph Herl, b. 1959 © 2003 Joseph Herl. All rights reserved. Used by permission.



RUN WITH

PERSEVERANCE

the **RACE**

**MARKED
OUT**

HEBREWS 12:1

FOR US