

# THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

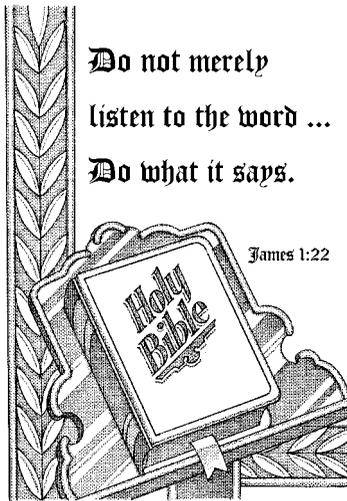
September 9, 2018

## Worship Focus

**A Faith that Works – Listening and Doing**

*Do not merely  
listen to the word ...  
Do what it says.*

*James 1:22*



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# THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Common Service

Christian Worship, p. 15

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## OPENING HYMN

226 - To Your Temple I Draw Near



1 To your tem - ple I draw near;  
2 I through Christ am rec - on - ciled;  
3 While your glo - rious praise is sung,  
4 While the prayers of saints as - cend,  
5 While I lis - ten to your law,



Lord, I love to wor - ship here.  
I through Christ be - come your child.  
Touch my lips, un - loose my tongue,  
God of love, to mine at - tend.  
Fill my soul with ho - ly awe



Here are sac - ra - ment and Word;  
Ab - ba, Fa - ther, give me grace  
That my joy - ful soul may bless  
Hear me, for your Spir - it pleads;  
Till your gos - pel brings to me



Here be - liev - ers meet their Lord.  
In your courts to seek your face,  
Christ the Lord, my right - eous - ness.  
Hear, for Je - sus in - ter - cedes.  
Life and im - mor - tal - i - ty.

6 While your ministers proclaim  
Peace and pardon in your name,  
Through their voice, by faith, may I  
Hear you speaking from the sky.

7 From your house, when I return,  
May my heart within me burn,  
And at evening let me say,  
"I have walked with God today."

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.

Tune: GOTT SEI DANK DURCH ALLE WELT (77 77) Freylinghausen, *Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch*, Halle, 1704, alt.

## 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.



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

**Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!  
Let all within me join  
And aid my tongue to bless his name  
Whose favors are divine.**

**'Tis he forgives my sins;  
'Tis he relieves my pain;  
'Tis he that heals my sicknesses  
And makes me young again.**

**He fills the poor with good;  
He gives the sufferers rest;  
The Lord has judgments for the proud  
And justice for th' oppressed. (238:1,3,4)**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M** The Lord be with you.



**M** Let us pray. Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## **THE WORD**

### **FIRST LESSON** Isaiah 35:4-7a

Through the mouth of his prophet, God promises blessings even in the midst of utmost need. Surely, he has done all things well!

ISAIAH 35:4 Say to those with fearful hearts,  
“Be strong, do not fear;  
your God will come,  
he will come with vengeance;  
with divine retribution  
he will come to save you.”

<sup>5</sup> Then will the eyes of the blind be opened  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

<sup>6</sup> Then will the lame leap like a deer,  
and the mute tongue shout for joy.  
Water will gush forth in the wilderness  
and streams in the desert.

<sup>7</sup> The burning sand will become a pool,  
the thirsty ground bubbling springs.

# PSALM

# Psalm 146

Refrain Tune: Lynn Trapp. © 1989 MorningStar Music Publishers.  
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Praise the LORD, | Q my soul.\*

I will sing praise to my God as long | as I live.

Do not put your trust in | princes,\*

in mortal men, who | cannot save.

Blessed is he whose hope is in the | LORD his God,\*

the maker of heav | en and earth. *Refrain*

The LORD gives food to the | hungry,\*

the LORD sets | prisoners free.

The LORD gives sight | to the blind,\*

the LORD lifts up those who are | bowed down.

The LORD watches over the | outcast\*

and sustains the fatherless and the | widow.

The LORD remains faithful for | ever.\*

He upholds the cause of | the oppressed.

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 James 1:17-27

He (God), who does all things well, is the source of all good gifts. He is also our motivation for doing things well.

<sup>JAMES 1:17</sup> Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. <sup>18</sup> He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

<sup>19</sup> My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, <sup>20</sup> for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. <sup>21</sup> Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

<sup>22</sup> Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. <sup>23</sup> Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror <sup>24</sup> and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. <sup>25</sup> But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it--he will be blessed in what he does.

<sup>26</sup> If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup> Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

**Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice, With exultation springing,  
And, with united heart and voice And holy rapture singing,  
Proclaim the wonders God has done, How his right arm the vict'ry won.  
How dearly it has cost him! (377:1)**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*After the announcement of the Gospel the congregation responds:*



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

## GOSPEL Mark 7:31-37

Jesus' attitude and action toward the man in this text led the people to exclaim, "He has done everything well!"

MARK 7:31 Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup> There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged him to place his hand on the man.

<sup>33</sup> After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. <sup>34</sup> He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means, "Be opened!"). <sup>35</sup> At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.

<sup>36</sup> Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. <sup>37</sup> People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*After the reading of the Gospel the congregation responds:*



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

*They were astounded beyond measure, saying,*



"He has done **EVERYTHING** well;  
he even makes the deaf to **HEAR**  
and the mute to **SPEAK.**"

Mark 7:37, NRSV

## CONFESSON 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.

The  
Apostles'  
+ Creed +

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

235 - Praise the Almighty; My Soul, Adore Him



1 Praise the Al - might - y; my soul, a - dore him!  
 2 Pen - i - tent sin - ners, for mer - cy cry - ing,  
 3 Trust not in princ - es, they are but mor - tal;  
 4 Praise, all you peo - ple, the name so ho - ly



Yes, I will laud him un - til death, With songs and  
 Par - don and peace from him ob - tain; Ev - er the  
 Earth-born they are and soon de - cay, Vain are their  
 Of him who does such won-drous things! All that has



an - thems I'll come be - fore him As long as  
 wants of the poor sup - ply - ing, Their faith - ful  
 coun - sels at life's last por - tal When the dark  
 be - ing, to praise him sole - ly, With hap - py



he al - lows me breath. From him my life and  
 God he will re - main, He helps his chil - dren  
 grave will claim its prey, Since, then, no one can  
 heart its A - men sings! Chil - dren of God, with



all things came; Bless, O my soul, his ho - ly  
 in dis - tress, The wid - ows and the fa - ther -  
 help af - ford, Trust on - ly Christ, our God and  
 an - gel host Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly



name.	Al - le - lu - ia!	Al - le - lu - ia!
less.	Al - le - lu - ia!	Al - le - lu - ia!
Lord.	Al - le - lu - ia!	Al - le - lu - ia!
Ghost!	Al - le - lu - ia!	Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Johann D. Herrnschmidt, 1675–1723, abr.; tr. Alfred E. R. Brauer, 1866–1949, alt.  
 Tune: LÖBE DEN HERREN, O MEINE SEELE (10 8 10 8 88 8) *New-vermehrte Christliche Seelenharff*, Ansbach,  
 1665, alt.

## SERMON

James 1:17-27

### **This is What Faith Looks Like...**

1. ... in speaking
2. ... in listening
3. ... in doing

## 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**

### **GATHERING OF OFFERINGS**

### **MUSICAL OFFERTORY**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

In peace, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the baptized, that the Spirit would constantly open our ears to hear Jesus' Word and set our tongues free to glorify Him who does all things well, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all the servants of the Word, that through their preaching and teaching, the healing waters of the Gospel may flow through the wilderness of this world, quenching thirst with the gift of the Spirit, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the gift of new church workers, that God would raise up those who speak to the anxious of heart: "Be strong; fear not! Your God will come and save you," let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

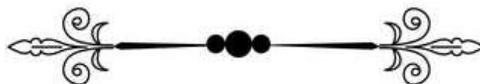
For freedom from all prejudice that judges with evil thoughts and makes distinctions that dishonor the poor, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our Congress, our president, our justices and all in authority in our land, that God would grant them wisdom, courage, civility and honor as they carry out their difficult responsibilities, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who suffer oppression from the evil one, for all who struggle under sickness or loneliness or grief, for all whom we have been asked to remember, [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_,] that Christ would grant them deliverance and healing according to His gracious will, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the faithful departed, let us offer our praise and thanksgiving, and ask for grace to join them in glorifying Christ forever, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through 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

456 – Forth in Your Name, I Go



1 Forth in your name, O Lord, I go, My dai - ly  
2 Oh, let me cheer - ful - ly ful - fill The task your  
3 May I find you at my right hand; Your eyes see  
4 Give me to bear your eas - y yoke And ev - 'ry  
5 For you I joy - ous - ly em - ploy What - ev - er



la - bor to pur - sue, De - ter - mined on - ly  
wis - dom has as - signed And do your good and  
tru - ly what I do, I la - bor on at  
mo - ment watch and pray And still to things e -  
you in grace have giv'n; I run my dai - ly



you to know In all I think or speak or do,  
per - fect will— In all my works your pres - ence find!  
your com - mand And of - fer all my works to you,  
ter - nal look And has - ten to your glo - rious day,  
course with joy And close - ly walk with you to heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, abc., alt.

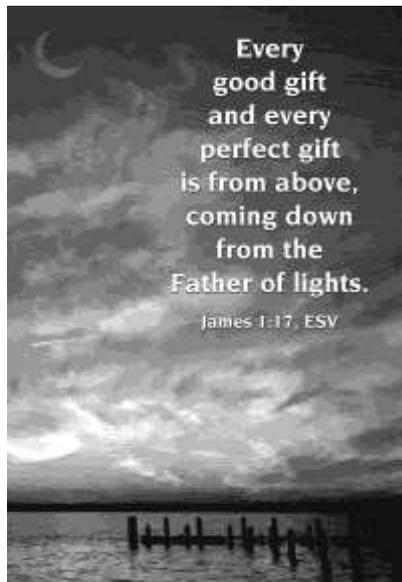
Tune: LAKEWOOD (LM) Barry L. Bobb, b. 1951. © 1981 Barry L. Bobb. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## 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.



**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.



## CLOSING HYMN

## 756 – We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

*The small group will sing verses 1-3. The congregation is invited to join on verses 4-5.*



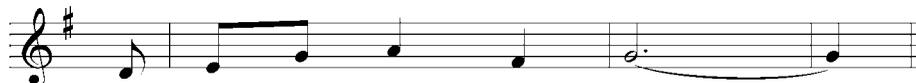
1 We walk by faith and not by sight;  
2 We may not touch his hands and side  
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief,  
4 For you, O res - sur - rec - ted Lord,  
5 Lord, when our life of faith is done,



No gra - cious words we hear  
Nor fol - low where he trod,  
And may our faith a - bound  
Are found in means di - vine:  
In realms of clear - er light,



From him who spoke as none e'er spoke,  
But in his prom - ise we re - joice  
To call on you when you are near  
Be - neath the wa - ter and the Word,  
We may be - hold you as you are



But we be - lieve him near.  
And cry, "My Lord and God!"  
And seek where you are found.  
Be - neath the bread and wine.  
With full and end - less sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Tune: SHANTI (86 86) Marty Haugen, b. 1950 © 1984, 2006 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.  
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*After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.*



**FAITH  
WORKS**