

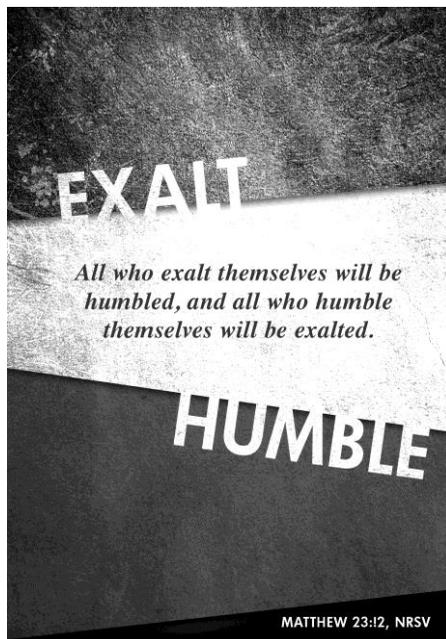
THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 22, 2019

Worship Focus

THE BELIEVER HEARS JESUS' WARNINGS...

The first will be last...humble yourselves.



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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Service of the Word

Christian Worship, p. 38

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OPENING HYMN

581 – Father, We Praise You



1 Fa - ther, we praise you, now the night is o - ver.
2 Mon - arch of all things, fit us for your man - sions;
3 All - ho - ly Fa - ther, Son, and e - qual Spir - it,



Ac - tive and watch - ful, stand - ing now be -
Ban - ish our weak - ness, health and whole - ness
Trin - i - ty bless - ed, send us your sal -



fore you, Sing - ing, we of - fer prayer and
send - ing. Bring us to heav - en, where your
va - tion; Yours is the glo - ry, gleam - ing



med - i - ta - tion; Thus we a - dore you.
saints u - nit - ed Joy with - out end - ing.
and re - sound - ing Through all cre - a - tion.

Text: attr. Gregory I, 540–604; tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936, alt.
Tune: CHRISTE SANCTORUM (11 11 11 5) *Antiphoner*, Paris, 1681.

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.

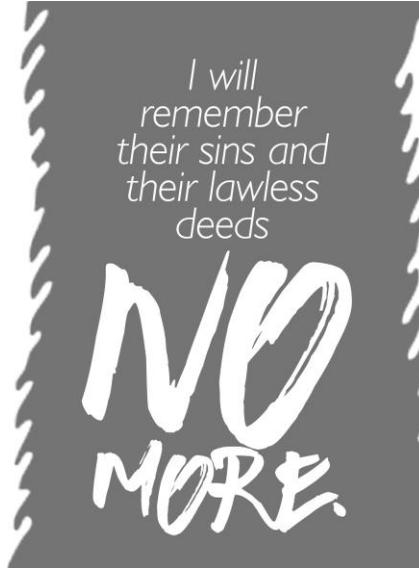
CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.

OH, TASTE AND SEE (8:00)

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.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of six lines of music, each with a corresponding line of lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "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." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some rests and a final double bar line at the end of the sixth line.



PREK-8 ANTHEM (11:00)

Oh, How Good It Is

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Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Ross Holmes, and Stuart Townend;

*Oh, how good it is when the family of God
Dwells together in spirit, in faith and unity.
Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love
Are the fruits of His presence here among us.*

Refrain

*So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord;
And with one heart we'll live out His Word.
'Till the whole earth sees the Redeemer has come
For He dwells in the presence of His people.*

*Oh, how good it is on this journey we share,
To rejoice with the happy and weep with those who mourn.
For the weak find strength, the afflicted find grace,
When we offer the blessing of belonging. (Refrain)*

*Oh, how good it is to embrace His command
To prefer one another, forgive as He forgives.
When we live as one, we all share in the love
Of the Son with the Father and the Spirit. (Refrain)*

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.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Proverbs 25:6,7

Better 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;
7 it is better for him to say to you, "Come up here,"
than for him to humiliate you before a nobleman.

PSALM 119 (8:00)

How Shall the Young Direct Their Way

Lift Up Your Hearts 720

Words: Psalm 119:9-16; Psalter, 1912, P.D.

Music (ST. CRISPIN 8.8.8.8): George J. Elvey, 1862, P.D.

Text and Tune: Public Domain



1 How shall the young di - rect their way? What light shall
2 Sin - cere - ly I have sought you, Lord; O let me
3 O bless - ed Lord, teach me your law, your right - eous
4 Up - on your pre - cepts and your ways my heart will
be their per - fect guide? Your word, O Lord, will
not from you de - part; to know your will and
judg - ments I de - clare; your tes - ti - mo - nies
med - i - tate with awe; your word shall be my
safe - ly lead if in its wis - dom they con - fide.
keep from sin, your word I cher - ish in my heart.
make me glad, for they are wealth be - yond com - pare.
chief de - light, and I will not for - get your law.



PREK-8 ANTHEM (11:00)

This Little Light of Mine

*African American Spiritual LIGHT OF MINE arr. Mark Patterson
From Can't Wait to Sing2! (CGC54). Arrangement copyright © 2007 Choristers Guild. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.
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*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it*

*Shine, shine, shine. Shine, shine, shine. Take this little light.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

*Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

*I'm gonna let it shine 'til Jesus comes. I'm gonna let it shine.
Shine 'til Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine.
Shine 'til Jesus comes, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, oh, let it shine.*

*Let it shine, let it shine, oh, let it
Shine, shine, shine. Shine, shine, shine.
Take this little light and let it shine, shine, shine!*

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.

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

⁴Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. ⁵Keep 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.” ⁶So we say with confidence,

“The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.

What can man do to me?”

⁷Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus 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.

⁷When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: ⁸“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. ⁹If 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. ¹⁰But 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. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

¹²Then 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. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HYMN OF THE DAY

499 – O God of Mercy, God of Might



1 O God of mer - cy, God of might, In love and
2 You sent your Son for all to die That fall - en
3 Teach us the les - son Je - sus taught: To feel for
4 All are re - deemed, both far and wide, Since Je - sus
5 In sick - ness, sor - row, want, or care May we each



mer - cy in - fi - nite, Teach us, as ev - er
man might live there - by. Oh, hear us, for to
those his blood has bought, That ev - 'ry deed and
Christ for all has died; Grant us the will, and
o - ther's bur - dens share; May we, where help is



in your sight, To live our lives to you.
you we cry In hope, O Lord, to you.
word and thought May work a work for you.
grace pro - vide, To love them all in you.
need - ed, there Give help as though to you.

6 And may your Holy Spirit move
All those who live to live in love
Till you receive in heav'n above
All those who lived for you.

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, alt.
Tune: ISLEWORTH (888 6) Samuel Howard, 1710–82.

SERMON

Hebrews 11:8-19

Follow Where Faith Leads

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

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS



MUSICAL OFFERTORY

Canaan Bound

Music and lyrics by Andrew Peterson
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*Sarah, take me by my arm. Tomorrow we are Canaan bound,
Where westward sails the golden sun and Hebron's hills are amber crowned.
So bid your troubled heart be still. The grass, they say, is soft and green.
The trees are tall and honey filled. So Sarah come and walk with me.
Like the stars across the heavens flung, like water in the desert sprung,
Like the grains of sand our many sons. Oh, Sarah, fair and barren one,
Come to Canaan, come.*

*I trembled at the voice of God, a voice of love and thunder deep.
With love he means to save us all and love has chosen you and me.
Long after we are dead and gone, for a thousand years our tale be sung.
How faith compelled and bore us on, how barren Sarah bore a son.
So come to Canaan, come.*

*Where westward sails the golden sun and Hebron's hills are amber crowned.
Oh, Sarah, take me by my arm. Tomorrow we are Canaan bound.*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray to the Lord on behalf of His Church, the nation, the world and all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

For the joyful proclamation of the Gospel here and throughout the world, that those who hear may be brought to faith, strengthened in faith and equipped to live out faithfully their baptismal calling, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For God's Holy Church here and everywhere, for those who have been called to serve as her pastors and church workers, for those preparing for church-work vocations, and for those now considering full-time church work, that they may be guarded against the assaults of the evil one, encouraged in their callings, and prepared to serve faithfully for the sake of the Kingdom, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our care and nurture of the children God has given to us, in the homes where our families dwell, in the churches and educational ministries where we support the parents and extend what begins in the home, and for those who teach our children, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our president, for the Congress, for our governor, for the legislature, for judges and magistrates, and for all entrusted with authority and given positions of leadership in our government, that they may serve well, act with integrity and heed the voice of God's Word in the fulfillment of their duties, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor and homeless, for the hungry and unemployed, and for victims of violence and prejudice, that the Lord would preserve them and grant them aid and relief from all adversity and trouble, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and those who suffer, for those troubled in mind, for the grieving in their sorrows, and for the dying in their last hours [*especially _____*], that the Lord would grant them the comfort of His presence, relief according to His will and peace in their hearts, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For grateful hearts to receive the Lord's bounty with thanksgiving and for generous hearts, that we may not neglect the tithes and offerings through which God's work is supported nor forget those who lack such blessing, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

O Lord, our God, whose mercies are new every morning, we give You thanks and praise for all Your kindness toward us, and we pray You to grant us the will and desire to worship You joyfully, to serve You faithfully and to proclaim boldly Your mighty acts of deliverance through our Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom we offer to You these prayers, and in whom we trust for all things; to You alone be glory, honor, worship and praise, O Lord, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

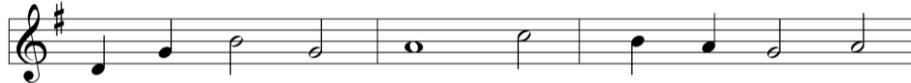
C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

SERMON HYMN

462 – Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To
2 Or - der my foot - steps by your Word, And
3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A
4 Make me to walk in your com - mands— 'Tis



keep his stat - utes still! Oh, that my God would
make my heart sin - cere; Let sin have no do -
strict - er watch to keep; And should I e'er for -
a de - light - ful road— Nor let my head or



grant me grace To know and do his will!
min - ion, Lord, But keep my con - science clear.
get your way, Re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.

Tune: EVAN (CM) William H. Havergal, 1793–1870, adapt.

PRAYER

M Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, 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

755 – Your Kingdom, O God

The congregation is invited to join the small group in singing.



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.

Text: David W. Rogner, b. 1960 © 2002 David W. Rogner. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Tune: GLORIOUS TREASURE (12 8 12 8 D) Joseph Herl, b. 1959 © 2003 Joseph Herl. All rights reserved.
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After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.