

THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 23, 2018

Worship Focus

A Faith that Works - Two Kinds of Wisdom



*But the wisdom
that comes from heaven
is first of all pure;
then peace loving,
considerate,
submissive,
full of mercy
& good fruit,
impartial & sincere.*
James 3:17

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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Service of the Word

Christian Worship, p. 38

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OPENING HYMN

756 – We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight



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 - jice
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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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.**

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

8:00am –Congregation sings hymn in unison.

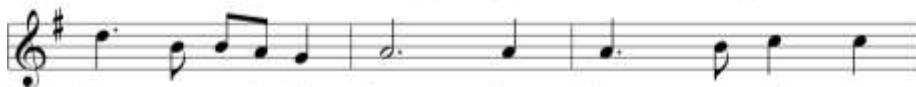
11:00am - The school children will sing the verses. The congregation is invited to join on the refrains.



1 I love to tell the sto - ry Of un - seen things a -
2 I love to tell the sto - ry, For those who know it



bove, Of Je - sus and his glo - ry, Of
best Seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing To



Je - sus and his love, I love to tell the
hear it like the rest. And when in scenes of



sto - ry Be - cause I know it's true; It
glo - ry I sing the new, new song, 'Twill



sat - is - fies my long - ings As noth - ing else can do,
be the old, old sto - ry That I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'Twill be my



theme in glo - ry To tell the old, old



sto - ry Of Je - sus and his love.

Text: Arabella C. Hankey, 1834-1911, abr.
Tune: HANKEY (76 76 D with Refrain) William G. Fischer, 1835-1912.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray. Lord God, you call us to work in your kingdom and leave no one standing idle. Help us to order our lives by your wisdom and to serve you in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Jeremiah 11:18-20

In the face of life-threatening opposition, Jeremiah faithfully carried out the Lord's work.

JEREMIAH 11:18 Because the LORD revealed their plot to me, I knew it, for at that time he showed me what they were doing. ¹⁹ I had been like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter; I did not realize that they had plotted against me, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree and its fruit;
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
that his name be remembered no more.”

²⁰ But, O LORD Almighty, you who judge righteously
and test the heart and mind,
let me see your vengeance upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.



J E R E M I A H 1 1 : 2 0

PSALM

Psalm 31

Refrain Tune: Jack Noble White. © 1976 Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp. (admin. Alfred Publishing Co.).
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Refrain



Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and
not be a - fraid. For the Lord is my strong-hold and my
sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

Psalm tone



In you, O LORD, I have taken | refuge;*
deliver me in your | righteousness.

Be my rock of | refuge,*
a strong fortress to | save me.

Into your hands I commit my | spirit;*
redeem me, O LORD, the | God of truth. *Refrain*

My times are | in your hands;*
save me in your un | failing love.

How great is your | goodness,*
which you have stored up for those who | fear you.

You heard my cry for | mercy*
when I called to | you for help.

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 3:13-18

God's people find wisdom in humility not in envy or selfish ambition.

JAMES 3:13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.

¹⁸ Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.

VERSE OF THE DAY

8:00am – Congregation sings hymn in unison.

11:00am - The school children will sing the verses. The congregation is invited to join on the refrains.



1 There is a Re - deem - er, Je - sus, God's own
2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, Name a - bove all
3 When I stand in glo - ry, I will see his



Son, Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes - si - ah,
names, Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes - si - ah,
face; There I'll serve my King for - ev - er



Refrain
Ho - ly One.
Hope for sin - ners slain. Thank you, O my
In that ho - ly place.

Fa - ther, for giv - ing us your Son and
leav - ing your Spir - it till the work on earth is done.

Tune: THERE IS A REDEEMER (65 85 and Refrain)
Text, Tune: Melody Green. b. 1946 © 1982 Birdwing Music/BMG Songs, Inc./Ears to Hear Music, admin.
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GOSPEL Mark 9:30-37

The disciples' own misunderstanding of God's Kingdom leads Jesus to explain that discipleship is about service not status.

MARK 9:30 They left that place and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where they were, ³¹ because he was teaching his disciples. He said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise." ³² But they did not understand what he meant and were afraid to ask him about it.

³³ They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" ³⁴ But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.

³⁵ Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all."

³⁶ He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷ "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

510 - I Pray You, Dear Lord Jesus



The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

I pray you, dear Lord Je - sus, My heart to keep and train
That I your ho - ly tem - ple From youth to age re - main.
Oh, turn my thoughts for - ev - er From world - ly wis - dom's lore;
If I but learn to know you, I shall not want for more.

Text: Thomas H. Kingo, 1634–1703, abr.; tr. Norman A. Madson, 1886–1962, alt.
Tune: JEG VII, MBG HERREN LOVE (76 76 D) *Koral-Melodier*, 1801.

SERMON

James 3:13-18

This is What Faith Looks Like...

... it understands the difference between “worldly” and “wordly” wisdom as to their

1. Nature
2. Origin
3. Fruits

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**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

For the gift of divine peace and pardon, with all our heart and mind, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the Church of Christ, that the Holy Spirit would rid us of all bitter jealousy and selfish ambition and fill the baptized with the wisdom from above, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all servants of the Church, that they be given the grace to humble themselves before the Lord and to proclaim the mystery of the cross and resurrection with zeal and faithfulness, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For Pastor Schroeder, our Synod president; for Pastor Patterson, our district president; and for Pastor Seager, our circuit pastor, that by the Spirit's power they may serve our church body in their various offices purely, peaceably, gently and reasonably, always full of mercy and good fruits, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For our nation and especially our leaders: Congress, our president; our justices; and all who make, administer and judge our laws, that God would protect them from the dangers of selfish ambition, make them true servants and give them courage and integrity, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the homebound, the lonely, the depressed and anxious, those preparing for surgery and the ill, [*especially for all who desire our prayers: _____,*] that committing their cause to the Lord and submitting themselves to God, they may know His peace and receive whatever healing He wills, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the faithful departed who now rest from their labors and rejoice in the presence of God and the Lamb, let us offer thanks and praise, and that He may give us our portion, too, with the saints in light, 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

523 - God of Grace and God of Glory



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, On your peo -
 2 Lo, the hosts of e - vil round us Scorn the Christ,
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; Bend our pride
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion To the e -



ple pour your pow'r; Crown your an - cient Church's
 as - sail his ways. From our fears that long have
 to your con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish
 vils we de - plore; Let the gift of your sal -



sto - ry; Bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r.
 bound us, Free our hearts to faith and praise.
 glad - ness, Rich in things and poor in soul.
 va - tion Be our glo - ry ev - er - more.



Grant us wis - dom; grant us cour - age For the fac - ing
 Grant us wis - dom; grant us cour - age For the liv - ing
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age Lest we miss your
 Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age, Serv - ing you whom



of this hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.
 of these days, For the liv - ing of these days.
 king - dom's goal, Lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 we a - dore, Serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969, abr., alt.
 Tune: CWM RHONDDA (87 87 877) John Hughes, 1873-1932.

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.



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

478 - With the Lord Begin Your Task



1 With the Lord be - gin your task; Je - sus will di -
 2 Let each day be - gin with prayer, Praise and ad - o -
 3 With your Sav - ior at your side Foes need not a -
 4 If your task is thus be - gun With the Sav - ior's



rect it. For his aid and coun - sel ask; Je - sus
 ra - tion. On the Lord cast ev - 'ry care; He is
 harm you; In his prom - is - es con - fide And no
 bless - ing, Safe - ly then your course will run, Naught your



will per - fect it. Ev - 'ry morn with Je - sus rise,
 your sal - va - tion. Morn - ing, eve - ning, and at night
 ill can harm you. All your trust and hope re - pose
 soul dis - tress - ing. Good will fol - low ev - 'ry - where



And, when day is end - ed, In his name then
 Je - sus will be near you, Save you from the
 In the might - y Mas - ter, Who in wis - dom
 While you here must wan - der; You at last the



close your eyes; Be to him com - mend - ed.
 temp - ter's might, With his pres - ence cheer you.
 tru - ly knows How to stem dis - as - ter.
 joy will share In the man - sions yon - der.

Text: *Morgen-und Abend-segen*, Waldenburg, 1734, abr.; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890-1950, alt.

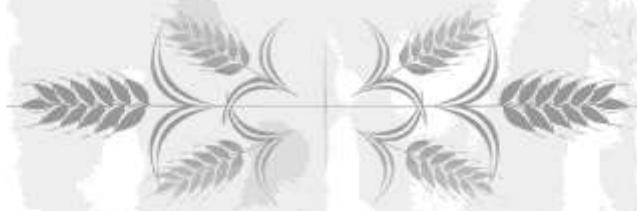
Tune: FANG DEIN WERK (76 76 D Trochaic) Peter Frank, 1616-75, alt.

After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.



**Show by
your good life
that your works
are done with
gentleness
born of wisdom.**

James 3:13, NRSV



PEACEMAKERS
who
SOW IN PEACE
REAP A HARVEST
of
RIGHTEOUSNESS.

James 3:18, NIV

