



## SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 11, 2021

**AS WE GATHER:** St. John, exiled on the Island of Patmos, was granted future visions of the Church of God, ultimately culminating in the Return of Christ at the end of time, and the ushering in of Christ's eternal Kingdom, the Church Triumphant. Join us in our sermon series, "You've Got Mail", as we examine the Lord's Letters to the Seven Churches which have an important and continuing message down to our day and our own church as well.

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME

### OPENING HYMN #516                    *"Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying"*

- 1        "Wake, awake, for night is flying,"  
          The watchmen on the heights are crying;  
          "Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"  
          Midnight hears the welcome voices  
          And at the thrilling cry rejoices:  
          "Oh, where are ye, ye virgins wise?  
          The Bridegroom comes, awake!  
          Your lamps with gladness take!  
          Alleluia!  
          With bridal care  
          Yourselves prepare  
          To meet the Bridegroom, who is near."
  
- 2        Zion hears the watchmen singing,  
          And all her heart with joy is springing;  
          She wakes, she rises from her gloom.  
          For her Lord comes down all-glorious,  
          The strong in grace, in truth victorious;  
          Her star is ris'n, her light is come.  
          Now come, Thou Blessèd One,  
          Lord Jesus, God's own Son,  
          Hail! Hosanna!  
          We enter all  
          The wedding hall  
          To eat the Supper at Thy call.
  
- 3        Now let all the heav'ns adore Thee,  
          Let saints and angels sing before Thee  
          With harp and cymbals' clearest tone.  
          Of one pearl each shining portal,  
          Where, joining with the choir immortal,

We gather round Thy radiant throne.  
No eye has seen the light,  
No ear has heard the might  
Of Thy glory;  
Therefore will we  
Eternally  
Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

#### INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of  
the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM OF *Isla Jeanne Bucher*  
(10:30AM)

#### OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: The Lord reigns!  
People: He is robed in majesty!

Pastor: The world is established.  
People: It shall not be moved.

Pastor: God's throne is established from of old.  
People: Our God is from everlasting.

Pastor: His decrees are very trustworthy.  
People: Holiness befits the Lord's house forevermore.

Pastor: Christ is coming soon.  
People: Therefore stay awake and remain prepared.

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Christ is coming again and coming soon. Although  
we know this, although we have heard His words  
and warning, we have not always acted as though  
Christ were coming soon. At times we have grown  
complacent and lazy, focused on the things of this  
world rather than on Christ, His Word, and His  
salvation. As we gather together in the Lord's  
house, let us consider our failure to live according  
to His holiness.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,  
People: we have not always lived according to Your  
Word. We have fallen asleep in the comfort of  
our sins. We have not stayed awake and  
remained prepared for the return of Your Son,  
Jesus Christ. Forgive us, renew us, and stir us  
up so that we might prepare ourselves and  
others for Christ's return.

Pastor: Because of Jesus Christ's death and resurrection,  
you are presented blameless before the presence

of God. As a called and ordained servant of the risen 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.

**People:** Amen. To God be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, now and forever. Amen.

### SONG OF PRAISE

*“Glory to God”*



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**B** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

### SALUTATION

**Pastor** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Pastor:** Heavenly Father, You sent Your Son into the world to die and rise for the sins of the world, and You have promised that He is coming again soon. Keep us firm in the true faith, ever clinging to Your

promises and ever watchful for Your Son's return, through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

**FIRST READING**

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

*Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. <sup>4</sup>But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup>For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. <sup>7</sup>For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.*

**Lector:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

"Time's Up!"

Miss Heidi

**INTRODUCTION TO THE CHURCHES ADDRESSED IN REVELATION  
EPISTLE**

Revelation 3:1-6

*"And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: 'The words of him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars.*

*"I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. <sup>2</sup>Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. <sup>3</sup>Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you. <sup>4</sup>Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. <sup>5</sup>The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels.*

**People:** *<sup>6</sup>He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please stand)**

*“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”*

Halle, halle, hallelujah!  
Halle, halle, hallelujah!  
Halle, halle, hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

**HOLY GOSPEL**

Matthew 25:1-13

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the  
twenty-fifth chapter.  
People: Glory to You, O Lord.

*“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

**SERMON**

**You’ve Got Mail:  
The Letters of Revelation Part 2: Sardis  
Pastor Adam Wolfe**

**HYMN OF THE DAY (Please stand)**

#508, vs. 1,2,4,5,6

*“The Day Is Surely Drawing Near”*

- 1 The day is surely drawing near  
When Jesus, God’s anointed,  
In all His power shall appear  
As judge whom God appointed.  
Then fright shall banish idle mirth,  
And flames on flames shall ravage earth  
As Scripture long has warned us.
- 2 The final trumpet then shall sound  
And all the earth be shaken,

And all who rest beneath the ground  
Shall from their sleep awaken.  
But all who live will in that hour,  
By God's almighty, boundless pow'r,  
Be changed at His commanding.

4 Then woe to those who scorned the Lord  
And sought but carnal pleasures,  
Who here despised His precious Word  
And loved their earthly treasures!  
With shame and trembling they will stand  
And at the judge's stern command  
To Satan be delivered.

5 My Savior paid the debt I owe  
And for my sin was smitten;  
Within the Book of Life I know  
My name has now been written.  
I will not doubt, for I am free,  
And Satan cannot threaten me;  
There is no condemnation!

6 May Christ our intercessor be  
And through His blood and merit  
Read from His book that we are free  
With all who life inherit.  
Then we shall see Him face to face,  
With all His saints in that blest place  
Which He has purchased for us.

#### **APOSTLES' CREED (8AM only)**

**All:** I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of  
heaven and earth.  
And 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 sits at the right hand of God the  
Father Almighty. From thence 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.

#### **OUR THANK OFFERINGS TO THE LORD AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

-We have begun to pass the offering plates again as well as hand  
out the attendance pads for you to fill in.

- Aug. 29 - will also be Pastor Jeff's farewell sermons at all  
services. Worship will have many additional musical pieces and  
musicians. Our district president will officiate as well. Reserve  
your place by visiting [drlc.org/events](http://drlc.org/events). Mark your calendar for

Pastor Jeff's retirement celebration on Sunday, August 29 at the Ingleside Hotel in Pewaukee. The event will include music, great food and a special program to recognize his 40 years of service.

**OFFERTORY #868, vs. 1,4,5,6 "Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun"**

- 1 Awake, my soul, and with the sun  
Thy daily stage of duty run;  
Shake off dull sloth and joyful rise  
To pay thy morning sacrifice.
  
- 4 Lord, I my vows to Thee renew;  
Disperse my sins as morning dew;  
Guard my first springs of thought and will  
And with Thyself my spirit fill.
  
- 5 Direct, control, suggest this day  
All I design or do or say  
That all my pow'rs with all their might  
In Thy sole glory may unite.
  
- 6 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We pray for the whole Christian community around the world that, as people united in faith, we may witness to the good news that is ours in Christ Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** We pray for all nations of the earth, that in those places where strife and discord rule, there may be peace. And we pray for our own nation, that it may seek to bring that which is good and God-pleasing about in every global situation. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** We pray for all those who labor in the fields of the Lord, that the Good Shepherd would lead them to pleasant pastures and give them joy in their callings. And we pray that the God of all grace would continue to raise up men and women to serve in vocations of service in the Church. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** **hear our prayer.**

**Pastor:** We pray for our lives and for the situations in which we are placed day by day at home, in the

workplace, in schools, or wherever our paths lead us, that we may be peacemakers and peace bringers, carrying out the command to love one another as our Lord has loved us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** We pray for the special needs of this day, including health and family concerns, joys and sorrows, and all that is on our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** With gratitude, we remember all those who have completed their earthly journeys in faith, whose witness remains to bless and inspire us. May we with confidence follow in their footsteps and be led by the Holy Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People:** Amen.

#### **LORD'S PRAYER (8AM only)**

**All:** Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

#### **BENEDICTION**

**Pastor:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**People:** Amen.

#### **CLOSING HYMN #515**

*"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"*

1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,  
And let your lights appear;  
The evening is advancing,  
And darker night is near.  
The Bridegroom is arising  
And soon is drawing nigh.  
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;  
At midnight comes the cry.

2 The watchers on the mountain



Proclaim the Bridegroom near;  
Go forth as He approaches  
With alleluias clear.  
The marriage feast is waiting;  
The gates wide open stand.  
Arise, O heirs of glory;  
The Bridegroom is at hand.

3 The saints, who here in patience  
Their cross and suff'rings bore,  
Shall live and reign forever  
When sorrow is no more.  
Around the throne of glory  
The Lamb they shall behold;  
In triumph cast before Him  
Their diadems of gold.

4 Our hope and expectation,  
O Jesus, now appear;  
Arise, O Sun so longed for,  
O'er this benighted sphere.  
With hearts and hands uplifted,  
We plead, O Lord, to see  
The day of earth's redemption  
That sets Your people free!

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 3. Copyright © 2021  
Concordia Publishing House.  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

### **Thank you to the Worship participants:**

#### **Lay Readers:**

8:00AM: John Uttech

10:30AM: Brad Baker

#### **Acolytes:**

8:00AM:

10:30AM:

#### **Sound:**

8:00AM: Ruth Koepke

10:30AM: Ruth Koepke / Beth & Natalie

#### **Elders:**

8:00AM: John Uttech

10:30AM: Michael Johnson