



## ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 16, 2020

**AS WE GATHER:** During our summer sermon series, *You're in Good Hands - The Miracles of Jesus*, we will explore the miracles of Jesus and how the wonders He performed attest to His divinity. Jesus' boundless love and compassion for people are evident in His desire to free them from their bondage. We will study how Jesus' absolute authority and power over nature, disease, death, the devil confirm to all that He is indeed the Messiah and the Son of God.

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OPENING HYMN #763**

*"When Peace, like a River"*

1      When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;  
          When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;  
          Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
          It is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain:      It is well (It is well)  
                  with my soul, (with my soul),  
                  It is well, it is well with my soul.

2      Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
          Let this blest assurance control,  
          That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate  
          And hath shed His own blood for my soul. Refrain...

3      He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;  
          My sin, not in part, but the whole,  
          Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.  
          Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! Refrain...

4      And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,  
          The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
          The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;  
          Even so it is well with my soul. Refrain...

## INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 28

Pastor: Blessed be the LORD!

People: For He has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy.

Pastor: The LORD is my Strength and my Shield;  
People: In Him my heart trusts, and I am helped;

Pastor: My heart exults,  
People: And with my song I give thanks to Him.

Pastor: The LORD is the Strength of His people;  
People: He is the saving refuge of His anointed.

Pastor: Oh, save Your people and bless Your heritage!  
People: Be their Shepherd and carry them forever.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

## SONG OF PRAISE

#802, vs. 1,4

*“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”*

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise!

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight.  
All laud we would render; O help us to see  
‘Tis only the splendor of light that hides Thee!

## SALUTATION

Pastor           The Lord be with you.  
People:           And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor:           Lord Jesus Christ, You have promised to embrace  
all who repent and cry out to You for mercy.  
Grant that we, no matter our background or  
station in life, with all assurance come before  
You, confident that because of Your sacrifice on  
our behalf, our heavenly Father welcomes our  
prayers and petitions; through the same Jesus  
Christ, our Lord, who lives and rules with the  
Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and  
forever.

People:           Amen.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 Kings 5:1-14

*Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great man with his master and in high favor, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was a mighty man of valor, but he was a leper.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>2</sup>Now the Syrians on one of their raids had carried off a little girl from the land of Israel, and she worked in the service of Naaman's wife. <sup>3</sup>She said to her mistress, "Would that my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." <sup>4</sup>So Naaman went in and told his lord, "Thus and so spoke the girl from the land of Israel." <sup>5</sup>And the king of Syria said, "Go now, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel."*

*So he went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels<sup>[b]</sup> of gold, and ten changes of clothing. <sup>6</sup>And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you Naaman my servant,*

*that you may cure him of his leprosy.” <sup>7</sup> And when the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, “Am I God, to kill and to make alive, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Only consider, and see how he is seeking a quarrel with me.”*

*<sup>8</sup> But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent to the king, saying, “Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come now to me, that he may know that there is a prophet in Israel.” <sup>9</sup> So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and stood at the door of Elisha’s house. <sup>10</sup> And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, “Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean.” <sup>11</sup> But Naaman was angry and went away, saying, “Behold, I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call upon the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper. <sup>12</sup> Are not Abana<sup>[c]</sup> and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?” So he turned and went away in a rage. <sup>13</sup> But his servants came near and said to him, “My father, it is a great word the prophet has spoken to you; will you not do it? Has he actually said to you, ‘Wash, and be clean’?” <sup>14</sup> So he went down and dipped himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God, and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** “Get Your Feet Wet!” Miss Heidi

**EPISTLE** James 5:13-16

*Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. <sup>14</sup> Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup> Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.*

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please stand)**

*“Alleluia”*

**All:** Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia. Alleluia.

**HOLY GOSPEL**

John 5:1-15

**Pastor:** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifth chapter.

**People:** Glory to You, O Lord.

*After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.*

*Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. <sup>3</sup>In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. <sup>5</sup>One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?” <sup>7</sup>The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me.” <sup>8</sup>Jesus said to him, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk.” <sup>9</sup>And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked.*

*Now that day was the Sabbath. <sup>10</sup>So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed.” <sup>11</sup>But he answered them, “The man who healed me, that man said to me, ‘Take up your bed, and walk.’” <sup>12</sup>They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take up your bed and walk?’” <sup>13</sup>Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in the place. <sup>14</sup>Afterward Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you are well! Sin no more, that nothing worse may happen to you.” <sup>15</sup>The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him.*

**Pastor:** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:** Praise to You, O Christ.

**SERMON**

**You’re in Good Hands: Not Our Hands**  
Pastor Seth Flick

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

#848

*“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service”*

- 1 Lord, whose love through humble service  
Bore the weight of human need,  
Who upon the cross, forsaken,  
Offered mercy's perfect deed,  
We, Your servants, bring the worship  
Not of voice alone, but heart,  
Consecrating to Your purpose  
Ev'ry gift that You impart.
- 2 Still Your children wander homeless;  
Still the hungry cry for bread;  
Still the captives long for freedom;  
Still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As, O Lord, Your deep compassion  
Healed the sick and freed the soul,  
Use the love Your Spirit kindles  
Still to save and make us whole.
- 3 As we worship, grant us vision,  
Till Your love's revealing light  
In its height and depth and greatness,  
Dawns upon our quickened sight,  
Making known the needs and burdens  
Your compassion bids us bear,  
Stirring us to tireless striving,  
Your abundant life to share.
- 4 Called by worship to Your service,  
Forth in Your dear name we go,  
To the child, the youth, the aged,  
Love in living deeds to show;  
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort,  
Counsel, aid, and peace we give,  
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom  
May Your mercy know and live.

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**APOSTLES' CREED**

**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.

## THE GATHERING OF OUR THANK OFFERINGS TO THE LORD

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**Pastor:** Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us.  
Lord, in Your mercy,  
**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**People:** hear our prayer.

**Pastor:** We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**People:** Amen.

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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 #722**

*“Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me”*

- 1 Lord, take my hand and lead me  
Upon life's way;  
Direct, protect, and feed me  
From day to day.  
Without Your grace and favor  
I go astray;  
So take my hand, O Savior,  
And lead the way.
  
- 2 Lord, when the tempest rages,  
I need not fear,  
For You, the Rock of Ages,  
Are always near.  
Close by Your side abiding,  
I fear no foe,  
For when Your hand is guiding,  
In peace I go.
  
- 3 Lord, when the shadows lengthen  
And night has come,  
I know that You will strengthen  
My steps toward home.  
Then nothing can impede me,  
O blessed Friend;  
So take my hand and lead me  
Unto the end.

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