



THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 17, 2021

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Today's gospel starts with disciples obsessing over who's number one, which leads Jesus to say something about God's take on importance and power. Here Jesus makes it explicit that the reversal of values in God's community is a direct challenge to the values of the

dominant culture, where wielding power over others is what makes you great. When we pray "Your kingdom come" we are praying for an end to tyranny and oppression. We pray this gathered around the cross, a sign of great shame transformed to be the sign of great honor and service.

✝ GATHERING ✝

OPENING HYMN

Lord, Teach Us How to Pray Aright

#438 (grn)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as we begin.

P. We are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

P. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P. Gracious God,

C. we confess that we have sinned and fallen short of Your glory. We have turned away from You. We have not kept Your commandments. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have neglected the poor, and we have not welcomed all people in Your name. Forgive our sin, increase our faith, strengthen us in service, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

P. God, Who is rich in mercy . . . of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

GREETING

P. Holy people of God, called through the gospel of Christ, enlightened by the Spirit:
grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C. And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Sovereign God, You turn Your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of Your kingdom, and make us desire always and only Your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. C. Amen.

† WORD †

FIRST READING: Isaiah 53:4-12

This reading is from the last of four passages in Isaiah that are often called “servant songs.” Christians are probably most familiar with this servant song. In light of Christian faith, the servant’s healing ministry and redemptive suffering are understood to be fulfilled in the life and death of Christ.

- ⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
- ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.
- ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.
- ⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.
- ⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.
- ⁹They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.
- ¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.
When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.
- ¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.
- ¹²Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,

and was numbered with the transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

L. The Word of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 91:9–16

You have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation.



⁹Because you have made the | LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your | habitation,
¹⁰there shall no evil hap- | pen to you,
neither shall any plague come | near your dwelling.
¹¹For he shall give his angels charge | over you,
to keep you in | all your ways.
¹²They shall bear you | in their hands,
lest you dash your foot a- | gainst a stone.
¹³You shall tread upon the li- | on and the adder;
you shall trample the young lion and the serpent un- | der your feet.
¹⁴Because he is bound to me in love, therefore will I de- | liver him;
I will protect him, because he | knows my name.
¹⁵He shall call upon me, and I will | answer him;
I am with him in trouble; I will rescue him and bring | him to honor.
¹⁶With long life will I sat- | isfy him,
and show him | my salvation.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:1-10

Using imagery from scripture and from Jewish worship practices, Jesus is presented as the great high priest who was obedient to God's saving plan. Through His suffering and death He has become the source of eternal salvation.

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; ³and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. ⁴And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵So also Christ did not glorify Himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to Him,

“You are My Son,
today I have begotten You”;

⁶as He says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of His flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save Him from death, and He was heard because of His reverent submission. ⁸Although He was a Son, He learned obedience through what He suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek..

L. The Word of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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HOLY GOSPEL: St. Mark 10:35-45

On the way to Jerusalem the disciples ask Jesus to grant them seats of honor. Jesus responds by announcing that He and His followers will “rule” through self-giving service.

C. Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to [Jesus] and said to Him, “Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask of You.” ³⁶And He said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” ³⁷And they said to Him, “Grant us to sit, one at Your right hand and one at Your left, in Your glory.” ³⁸But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” ³⁹They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

P. The Gospel of the Lord.

C. Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

#423 (grn)

SHARING THE PEACE OF THE LORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ PRAYER +

OFFERING

OFFERTORY



Re - mem - ber and re - joice, re - newed by floods of grace.
God, bless us by your grace; re - mind us of your care.



We bear the sign of Je - sus Christ, that time can - not e - rase.
Re - new - ing Spir - it, fill us now, in - spire our work, our prayer.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P. ... Lord, in Your mercy,
C. hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

+ SENDING +

BENEDICTION

P. God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you; the holy angel accompany you; and the blessing of Almighty God, the Father, the + Son and the Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

C. Amen

CLOSING HYMN

The Spirit Sends Us

#723 (blu)

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
C. Thanks be to God.

THOSE WHO SERVE:

Ministers: All the People of God

Musician: Lou Knutson

Camera: Josh Sumption

Acolytes: Haley Noyes & Izzy Kamrath

Presider: Pastor Ellen Munter

Reader: Sara Wollum

Projection: Sara Wollum

Sound Room: Ken Jeremiason & Jerome Bruns

How to reach us:

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October 10, 2021

General: \$1,790.5 (\$129.50 received through eGiving)

Includes: \$1,000.00 from Hennes Lutheran Church. \$100.00 Fuel Offering.



The attached QR Code can be used to directly access the online giving form for Bethel Lutheran.

Just one way of our continuing to modernize so you can give conveniently to Bethel.



Emily Morton, Angie Denelsbeck Anderson, Bill and Karen Pohlen,

Church Council meeting tomorrow night (Monday, October 18)
7:30 pm Boards, and 8:00 pm Full Council.

Don't forget your "Spare Coins for Community"!

Sharing the Glory

When you picture Jesus in power and glory, what comes to mind? Maybe a heavenly vision of an enthroned Christ, surrounded by saints and angels and the whole heavenly host? This is the kind of image that must have been in the minds of the disciples James and John in today's gospel when they came to ask Jesus if they could be seated at His left and right side in His glory. Yet, Jesus redirects their desire for glory toward a different picture—active service to those around them.

The picture of Jesus' power in the gospels is not one of king but of servant Lord. We do not see Jesus seated on a throne, issuing orders, and being served, but as an unassuming man, living among people, listening to their needs, and sharing God's healing mercy with them. Throughout His life, Jesus revealed His power and glory through the love and compassion He showed to those who were suffering, through forgiveness for those overwhelmed with guilt, and by speaking truth to worldly powers. Jesus calls His followers to share in His power and glory by being at His left and right hand as He stoops to wash feet, as He touches those considered unclean, as He is mocked by worldly powers. This is where true glory and power are found.

Christ gathers His followers together in one body for worship today in order to serve them with His word, with the waters of rebirth, and with His own body and blood. In these simple acts, His glory and power are present. We are also called to carry Christ's love out into the world, sharing it in our homes, at our jobs, and with the people around us who need to know God's power in their life.

Upcoming Commemorations

Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, martyr, died around 115

Sunday, October 17, 2021

Ignatius was the second bishop of Antioch in Syria, the city where the name "Christians" originated. Ignatius is known to us from his letters, which encouraged Christians to live in love, yet stand firm in true doctrine.

Luke, Evangelist

Monday, October 18, 2021

Identified as the author of both Luke and Acts, Luke was careful to place the events of Jesus' life in their social and religious contexts. His gospel gives us some of the most beloved parables, as well as the songs of Zechariah, Mary, the angels, and Simeon.

James of Jerusalem, martyr, died around 62

Saturday, October 23, 2021

One of three early-church leaders named James, this man is identified in the New Testament and by a historian of the time as a brother of Jesus. Scholars are uncertain whether this means a blood brother. He was a leader of the church in Jerusalem.