14th Sunday after Pentecost

August 27 & September 3, 2023

The Season After reliving the great events of the life of Christ, the worshipping Church spends half a year focusing on the teachings of Christ. The Church wears green during the season of Pentecost as the Spirit uses those teachings of Jesus to grow the faith of believers. The appointed lessons teach us the characteristics of the Holy Ministry, the Christian, the Church, our God, and the Christian life.

The Sunday Nothing can keep our Redeemer from upholding his promised salvation. Neither false expectations nor the gates of hell, neither an Egyptian army nor a flowing river, not even the great tribulation of the end times will keep our God from preserving his Church. *The Church will Stand Forever.*

The Church's One Foundation CW 538 Hymn 1 The Church's one foun da tion Is Je sus _ 2 E lect from ev -'ry na tion. Yet one o'er 3 The Church shall nev - er per ish. Her dear Lord. scorn - ful 4 Though with der The world sees а won 5 Mid toil and trib _ u la _ tion And tu mult _ Christ. her Lord: She is his new tion Bv cre a all the earth: Her char - ter of sal _ va tion: One guide, sus - tain, cher - ish. to de fend. То and Is her op - pressed, Bv schisms -By rent a sun der. She of her war waits the con - sum - ma tion Of ter and the Word. From heav'n he came and wa _ Lord, one faith. one birth. One ho ly name she with her to the end. Though there be those that sies dis Yet saints their watch her e - tressed. are _ Till peace for ev _ er _ more with the vi _ sion With sought her To be ho - lv bride: his his own ho - ly bless -Par - takes food, And es, one to one hate her And strive to see her fail. A gainst both long?" goes up, "How keep ing: Their crv And the soon glo rious Her long ing eyes are blest And the great _ blood he bought her. And for her life he died. With 'ry dued. hope she press es, ev grace en foe and trai tor She ev _ er shall pre vail. night of weep ing Shall be the morn of song. Church vic to rious Shall be the Church -at rest.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900, abr., alt.

Tune: AURELIA (76 76 D) Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-76.

Evangelical Lutheran Church Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod MORRISON ZION LUTHERAN Our mission is to **Glorify God** as we Gather around the Gospel to help people Grow in the Gospel and Go with the Gospel Welcome! We thank God that you have joined us at worship today. Restrooms are located in the basement. Hearing loop headphones and Large Print Hymnals are available from an usher. If your children need to leave worship, please take them to the basement. A TV broadcasts the service in the basement. Today we gather together in the presence of God. He is present among us in a special way through his Word and Sacrament. We acknowledge our sin and reioice in the good news of forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship.

Morrison Zion

Stand

- M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: And also with you.

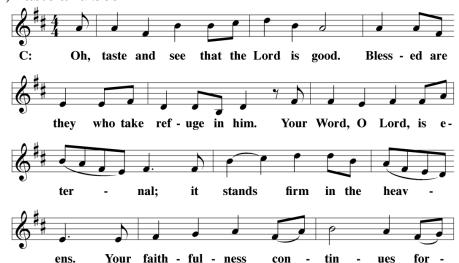
CONFESSION OF SINS

- 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.

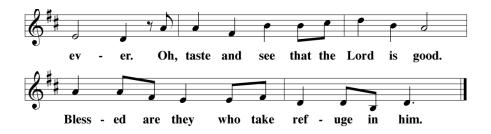
C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

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



Oh, Taste and See



Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Be Seated

THE WORD

First Lesson:

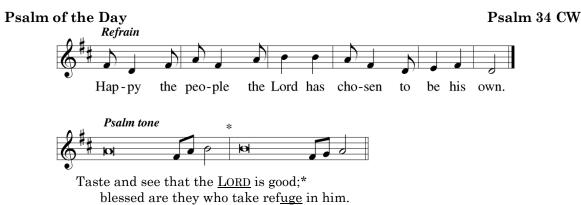
Joshua 4:1-9

Twelve rocks told the story God's grace and preservation to generations of his people. Through the Word, they still speak to us today. As he once used his might to halt a river in its place to preserve his people, so today God still preserves and protects the new Israel, his Holy Church. Today, rocks still speak. Not stones in a river, but people like Peter, little rocks who proclaim the Rock on which we stand forever.

4 When the whole nation had finished crossing the Jordan, the LORD said to Joshua, ² "Choose twelve men from among the people, one from each tribe, ³ and tell them to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, from right where the priests are standing, and carry them over with you and put them down at the place where you stay tonight."

⁴ So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, ⁵ and said to them, "Go over before the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, ⁶ to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, 'What do these stones mean?' ⁷ tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever."

⁸ So the Israelites did as Joshua commanded them. They took twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, as the LORD had told Joshua; and they carried them over with them to their camp, where they put them down. ⁹ Joshua set up the twelve stones that had been^[a] in the middle of the Jordan at the spot where the priests who carried the ark of the covenant had stood. And they are there to this day. (NIV)



- The eyes of the LORD are on the <u>right</u>eous* and his ears are attentive <u>to</u> their cry.
- The angel of the LORD encamps around those who <u>fear</u> him,* and he de<u>liv</u>ers them.

Refrain

The righteous cry out, and the LORD <u>hears</u> them;* he delivers them from all their <u>trou</u>bles.

- The LORD is close to the broken<u>heart</u>ed* and saves those who are crushed in <u>spirit</u>.
- The LORD redeems his <u>ser</u>vants;* no one who takes refuge in him will <u>be</u> condemned.

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Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son*
and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it,
as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,*
is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.
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Refrain

Refrain Tune: Columba Kelly. @ 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Second Lesson

Revelation 7:1-8

God doesn't just hold back rivers, but he even holds back the winds of destruction until every one of his elect is safely sealed.

7 After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth to prevent any wind from blowing on the land or on the sea or on any tree. ² Then I saw another angel coming up from the east, having the seal of the living God. He called out in a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm the land and the sea: ³ "Do not harm the land or the sea or the trees until we put a seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God." ⁴ Then I heard the number of those who were sealed: 144,000 from all the tribes of Israel.

⁵ From the tribe of Judah 12,000 were sealed, from the tribe of Reuben 12,000, from the tribe of Gad 12,000,
⁶ from the tribe of Asher 12,000, from the tribe of Naphtali 12,000, from the tribe of Manasseh 12,000,
⁷ from the tribe of Simeon 12,000, from the tribe of Levi 12,000, from the tribe of Issachar 12,000, from the tribe of Joseph 12,000, from the tribe of Joseph 12,000, from the tribe of Benjamin 12,000. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia. Jesus Christ has destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Alleluia. (1 Timothy 1:10b)

Stand

M: The Gospel according to Matthew chapter 16.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

Gospel:

Matthew 16:13-20

Who do people say the Son of Man is? That question is as applicable today as it was in Matthew's Gospel. The question remains, "Who is Jesus?" As the disciples rattled off the popular misconceptions, one is struck by how illustrious that list actually was. There were no slouches in that group. But they didn't even begin to compare with the truth. Many people today give similar answers: they call Jesus a teacher, a philosopher, the founder of a religion, an agent of change. Their answers miss the mark as widely as the answers of the people in the Gospel. Only disciples of Jesus, through the work of the Spirit of God, can confess him as he truly is. Peter showed that the disciples confessed him to be the Son of the living God. This living God is the hope of every sinner.

¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say the Son of Man is?"

¹⁴ They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

¹⁵ "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

¹⁷ Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah. (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be seated

Hymn of the Day Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head CW 536 1 Lord Je -Christ, the Church's head. You sus are her 2 O Lord, let this your lit - tle flock, Your name a -3 Help us to serve you ev - er more With hearts both 4 And for То your gos - pel let dare sac - ri us foun - da - tion. she be - fore one In you trusts, you con - fess - ing, Con - tin your lov - ing lone in _ ue Word, that light pure and low - ly. And may your di bear your bless - ed fice all trea - sure: Teach us to bows. And waits your tion. Built for sal va True ing. Your care. u ni ty pos sess -_ Shine splen -That vine. on in dor ho ly cross, То find in you all plea sure. Oh, Your Church this rock se - cure. shall en - dure on ra ments, O Lord, And vour sav - ing Word sac _ faith ev - er grow. re pent - ance show, In we stead - fast - ness In joy and dis - tress. grant us 10 0 Though all the world de cay And all things То e'er pure tain. Grant that they us re -The pow'r de vils of sin stroy And _ e -Lord, for sake, your mer cy's Let by us 0 sus! a - way. Oh, hear, Je pass oh, hear us, re - main Our on - ly strength and com fort. may _ Oh, that make faith - ful Chris tians. an - noy. us Of grace par - take end - less joy and glo _ ry.

Text: Johann Mentzer, 1658–1734, abr.; tr. William J. Schaefer, 1891–1976, alt. Tune: REUTER (87 87 65 66 7) Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924.

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

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.

Be Seated

Offering

During the Offering, please sign the pew friendship registers. Thank you!

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Lord's Prayer

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.

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Benediction

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.

C: Amen

Be Seated

Hymn

7 Praise God the Father and the Son And Holy Spirit, Three in One, As was, is now, and so shall be Forever and eternally!

Text: Nikolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561, abr.; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt. Tune: ST. LUKE (LM) Jeremiah Clarke, 1674–1707.

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