## 14th Sunday After Pentecost

August 29, 2021

**The Season** The Sundays after Pentecost focus on how Christians live in response to all that God has done for us. This part of the Church Year focuses on the response of faith.

**The Sunday** It is not only the outsider who turns aside from the Wisdom which is Christ. Many who have heard the Word with us also go away when some part of it conflicts with their own thinking. The sacrifice of the intellect is not a onetime thing. It is a sacrifice that needs to be renewed often, in every stage of life, as new threats come that oppose Wisdom and its expression in the Word.

Jesus! and Shall it Ever Be Hymn 347 **Opening Hymn** Je sus! and shall be 1 it ev er 2 Α shamed of Je sus? Just as soon 3 Α shamed of Je sus. that dear friend А shamed of Je 4 sus? Yes. Ι mav 5 Till then nor is my boast \_ ing vainshamed A mor of thee? tal man а \_ Let mid - night be а shamed of noon. On heav'n de whom hopes pend? my of When I've no guilt to wash а way, Till then L boast Sav ior slain: а А shamed of thee. whom gels praise, an 'Tis mid night with soul till he. my No: when I blush. be this shame. my No wipe, tear to no good to crave, And oh. this be: may my glo ry Whose glo - ries shine through end \_ less days? Bright Morn - ing bids dark \_ flee. Star. ness That I no more re vere his name. No fear to quell, no soul to save. That Christ is not а shamed of me.

Text: Joseph Grigg, c. 1722–68, abr.; altered by Benjamin Francis, 1734–99. Tune: FEDERAL STREET (LM) Henry K. Oliver, 1800–85.

#### Stand

M: O Lord, open my lips.



forgiveness through the life and death of

## C: And my mouth shall declare your praise

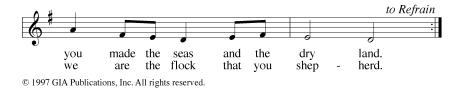
M: Hasten to save me, O God.

## C: O Lord, come quickly to help me.

- M: Give glory to God, our light and our life.
- C: Come, oh, come, let us worship.

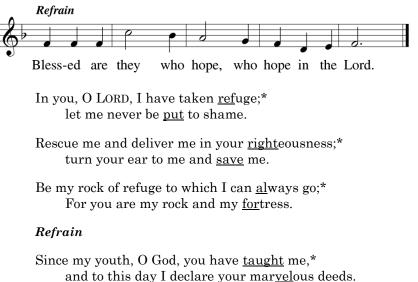
# Come, Oh, Come Let Us Sing To The Lord





#### Be Seated

Psalm of the Day We will sing the refrain and read the verses



Even when I am <u>old</u> and gray,\* do not forsake <u>me</u>, O God,

- till I declare your power to the next gener<u>a</u>tion,\* your might to all who <u>are</u> to come.
- 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.

### Refrain

Refrain Tune: Robert J. Thompson. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## First Lesson

## **Exodus 7:8-13**

Psalm 71

St. Augustine makes the point that the devil cannot create anything; he can only damage and try to destroy what God has made. Here the devil gives it his best shot and ends up with nothing that can survive what God has made

by his mighty power in his Word. But notice that Pharaoh's heart nevertheless became hard because he refused to listen. He saw, but he did not hear! Even God's mighty acts, be they in nature or in an extraordinary miracle, do not create faith in those who only see. They need to hear and hear and hear the Word of the Lord (Romans 10:6). Notice, too, that Pharaoh's unbelief is altogether contrary to reason, given the demonstration of God's power through Moses. Many like to say that the gospel is not reasonable, and therefore they will not believe it. In point of fact, when they reject the gospel, they cling to something else that is a delusion and is itself utterly unreasonable. And so God makes fools of those who deem themselves wise.

<sup>8</sup> The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, <sup>9</sup> "When Pharaoh says to you, 'Perform a miracle,' then say to Aaron, 'Take your staff and throw it down before Pharaoh,' and it will become a snake."

<sup>10</sup> So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did just as the LORD commanded. Aaron threw his staff down in front of Pharaoh and his officials, and it became a snake. <sup>11</sup> Pharaoh then summoned wise men and sorcerers, and the Egyptian magicians also did the same things by their secret arts: <sup>12</sup> Each one threw down his staff and it became a snake. But Aaron's staff swallowed up their staffs. <sup>13</sup> Yet Pharaoh's heart became hard and he would not listen to them, just as the LORD had said. (NIV)

## Gospel

## John 6:60-69

The stumbling block thrown in his path by the rationalism of many in the crowd does not move Jesus to soften the message. Instead he repeats it with emphasis. Through their own fault many of the hearers, yes, even one of the Twelve, refuse to bend their thinking to his Word. Instead of the attitude of Samuel, *Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening,* their response is, *Listen, we are speaking and this is what WE think!* But Jesus is the one who descended for our salvation. Jesus is the one who went back to the right hand of the Father to rule all things in heaven and on earth. Jesus is the one who will return to judge all mankind. Do you really think your opinion matters or that it is more likely to be on the mark than his? What folly! But still many came and then went away. How many times in your life have you been tempted to go away to what your own wisdom preferred? How many times have you actually done it? But today, hear his voice and answer: *Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God!* 

<sup>60</sup> On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?"

<sup>61</sup> Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup> Then what if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! <sup>63</sup> The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life. <sup>64</sup> Yet there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. <sup>65</sup> He went on to say, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them."

<sup>66</sup> From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

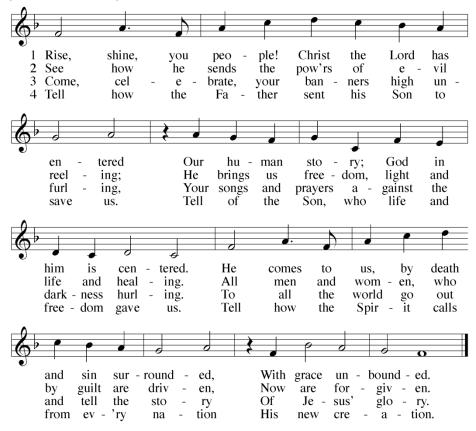
<sup>67</sup> "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve.

<sup>68</sup> Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup> We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God." (NIV)

## Seasonal Response

M: Give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done

Hymn of the Day



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Tune: WOJTKIEWIECZ (11 11 11 5) Dale Wood, b. 1934. © Augsburg Publishing House. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress.

## Sermon

### Hebrews 11:24-28

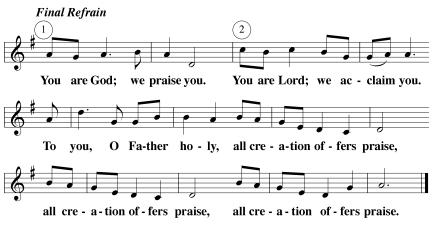
By the standard of the world Moses was a fool. But God trained him early in life to cling to the promises of God rather than to the wisdom and wealth and pleasure of the Egyptians. He had no outward evidence that God's wisdom was preferable and ultimately the only true wisdom. But so powerful was the promise, that in spite of all the evidence to the contrary he continued to cling to the promise implicit especially in the Passover. We used to put blinders on horses so that they would not be distracted by what was going on around them but would pull the wagon straight ahead. May we close our eyes to the distractions of the world's wisdom and pleasure and look only to the wisdom which is not only true but saving.

<sup>24</sup> By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. <sup>25</sup> He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. <sup>26</sup> He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. <sup>27</sup> By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. <sup>28</sup> By

faith he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel. (NIV)

You Are God; We Praise You *Te Deum* The congregation will sing the refrain and the verses *Refrain* 





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## Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

M: In the morning, O Lord, I call to you; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.

## C: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

## Lord's Prayer

C: 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.

## Prayer of the Day

- M: 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.

## **Prayer for Grace**

M: 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.

- M: Let us praise the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

## Blessing

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

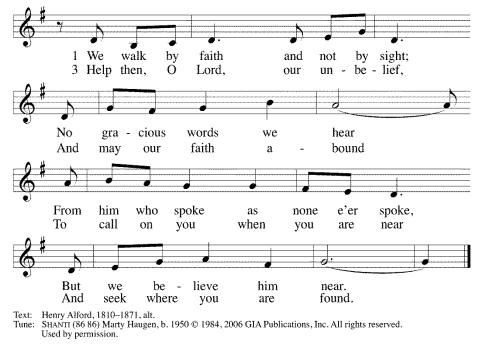
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

## C: Amen.

Be Seated

## **Closing Hymn**

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight Hymn 756:1,3



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