20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 7 & 10, 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 *Jesus' Grace Is All In All To Us*.

The Sunday The closest we can get to a mirror of the love of God for us is the mirror of the love that he wants us to have for one another in the family. The goal of family members is to reflect the love of God for us in self giving love for one another in the family. There is much to repent of and much to strive toward. Jesus' Grace is All in All to Us...It leads us to honor him in family life.

Communion is a part of worship today. Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice close communion. All WELS members are welcome to commune with us. Visitors, please speak with the pastor or an elder before communing.



Text: Russell Schulz-Widmar, b. 1944. From *The Hymnal 1982* © 1985 The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Church Publishing, Inc., New York, NY. Tune: WAREHAM (LM) William Knapp, 1698–1768, alt.

Stand



We acknowledge our

sin and rejoice in the good news of

forgiveness through the life and death of Christ. This is the focus of our worship. M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession

M: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin. For faithless worrying and selfish pride, For sins of habit and sins of choice, For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do, You should cast me away from your presence forever. O Lord, I am sorry for my sins, Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.

Absolution (pronouncement of forgiveness)

- M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: Amen.

Mark 10:47

Glory Be To God Gloria in Excelsis (sung)

- All glory be to God on high!
 Your name, O Lord, we glorify;
 We praise you for your peace and grace,
 Your favor toward our fallen race.
- Our grateful thanks to you we bring, For your great glory, heav'nly King, For all, O Father, you have done Through Jesus Christ, your only Son.

3. O Lamb of God, to you we pray. You take all human sin away.
e, Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer; From God's right hand, your mercy share.

Luke 2:14

4. You Christ, are holy—Lord alone; The Father's glory you made known. We by your Spirit sing again: "All glory be to God!" Amen.

THE WORD

Salutation

M: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, in your bountiful goodness keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases you; 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

First Lesson:

Genesis 2:18-24

Note how careful God is in his institution of marriage and how eager he is that husband and wife see each other as a special blessing from God. He does not give Adam a wife until Adam first recognizes his need for one. Then he takes the greatest care in providing for that need. It is even greater care than he employed when he created Adam in the first place. Then God himself, without consulting either Adam or Eve, regulates the marriage he himself has instituted in a way that will best serve the interests of the married and ultimately of the Church and society as well. Adam got the point and spoke the first humanly authored love poem addressed chiefly in praise of God.

 $^{18}\,{\rm The}$ LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

¹⁹ Now the LORD God had formed out of the ground all the wild animals and all the birds in the sky. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them;

and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds in the sky and all the wild animals.

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. ²¹ So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and then closed up the place with flesh. ²² Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.

²³ The man said,

"This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,'

for she was taken out of man."

²⁴ That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh. (NIV)

Psalm of the Day The congregation will sing the refrain and read the verses together Psalm 139b



is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

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Second Lesson

Ephesians 5:21-6:4

Christ himself sets the example in his marriage to us. He did everything he did not for his own benefit but for ours. We, as the bride of Christ, gladly submit to such a head, not least in the way we conduct ourselves in our family life. May the head of the family ever see it as his goal and role to do all for the benefit of those Christ has given him in his household, that the family may become a worthy reflection of the love of Christ for the Church and hers for him.

²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

²² Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands as you do to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. ²⁸ In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. ²⁹ After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— ³⁰ for we are members of his body. ³¹ "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." ^[Gn 2:24] ³² This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. ³³ However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

6 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² "Honor your father and mother"—which is the first commandment with a promise— ³ "so that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." ^[Dt 5:16]

⁴ Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. (NIV)

Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia. I will proclaim your name to my people; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you. Alleluia. (Hebrews 2:12)

Stand

M: The Gospel according to Mark chapter 10.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

Gospel:

Mark 10:2-16

God takes marriage seriously. Each marriage should be seen by those in it as a most precious gift of God. To violate and destroy that gift is a crime of the first order that brings God's judgment on those who are responsible for breaking the mirror of his union with us in the Church. Such people do damage to their partner and to their children by hindering them in coming to the arms of Jesus by their bad example, by their destruction and despising of God's gift, and by clouding the mirror of the marriage between Christ and his Church. The gospel lesson is a warning not only to those who actually divorce but also to those whose behavior inside of marriage displays a lack of appreciation for the beautiful gift of God in one another and their children. It is also an encouragement to those who are faithful in their family to appreciate God's special blessing through their family for this life and as a mirror for the life of the family with Christ in his marriage with the Church.

² Some Pharisees came and tested him by asking, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"

³ "What did Moses command you?" he replied.

⁴ They said, "Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away."

⁵ "It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law," Jesus replied. ⁶ "But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.'^[Gn 1:27] ⁷ 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, ⁸ and the two will become one flesh.' ^[Gn 2:24] So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹ Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

¹⁰ When they were in the house again, the disciples asked Jesus about this. ¹¹ He answered, "Anyone who divorces his wife and marries another woman commits adultery against her. ¹² And if she divorces her husband and marries another man, she commits adultery."

¹³ People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶ And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them. (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be seated

Hymn of the Day



<sup>Text: Magnus B. Landstad, 1802–80, abr.; tr. Ole T. Arneson, 1853–1917, alt.
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Sermon Faith Responds by Clinging to God's Wisdom Ephesians 5:15-20

Stand

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

- We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

THE SACRAMENT

Preface

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has called us to be his own that we may live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness. Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy (sung)

 O holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might, Your glory, earth and heaven In countless ways recite.
 Hosanna! Come and save us, Lord God of hosts on high, And in your grace and mercy Receive our fervent cry.

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

 Hosanna in the highest! How truly blest is he Who in God's name is coming To set his people free! He comes to bring salvation And with his blood outpoured, Deliver us from bondage— Hosanna, mighty Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

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.

Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Be seated

Communion Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice close communion. All WELS members are welcome to commune with us. Visitors, please speak with the pastor or an elder before communing.

Distribution

Stand

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

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.



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