



The Stories
**Jesus
Tells**

12th Sunday
after
Pentecost

August 23, 2020

*Please continue to care for yourself and your neighbor
by wearing your mask and maintaining safe social distancing
during worship.*

Confession

P: In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit

C: Amen

*P: Brothers and sisters in Christ, let us gather with true hearts that
confess our sins to God, that earnestly ask for forgiveness and that
trust in our renewal through the work of our Savior Jesus the
Christ.*

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth. [Psalm 124:8]

P: I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

C: And you forgave the iniquity of my sin. [Psalm 32:5]

A: Almighty God, merciful Father:

**C: I confess to you all my sins with which I have offended
you and my neighbors. I am sorry for them. I devote
myself to repentance and pray for your mercy. In your
boundless grace and compassion send me your Holy Spirit
that I may be strengthened in my faith and made ready for a
life obedient to your will and your way.**

*P: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and full of steadfast
love. [Exodus 34:6] Therefore, in obedience to the command of our
Lord Jesus Christ, I declare the entire forgiveness of all your sin in
the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

C: Amen.

Prelude

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Psalm of Praise

*P: O sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.*

**C: The Lord has made known his salvation;
has revealed God's righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

God remembers his steadfast love and faithfulness . . .

**All the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.**

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

*Sing praises to the Lord with the harp,
with the harp and the sound of melody.*

**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.**

*Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.*

**Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the Lord,**

for he is coming to redeem the earth.

**God will rule the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.**

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray:

**C: Almighty God, as you cast your net wide and gather all into
your Kingdom, be merciful to us and, through the faithful work
of Christ on the Cross, consider us good fish, worthy of a lasting**

place with you. Send us the Spirit, that we will embrace the life you call us to live and, with confidence shun all words and actions that oppress and exclude those you are liberating and including. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Entrance Hymn

736

God the sculptor of the mountains,
God the miller of the sand,
God the jeweler of the heavens,
God the potter of the land:
you are womb of all creation,
we are formless; shape us now.

God the nuisance to the Pharaoh,
God the cleaver of the sea,
God the pillar of the darkness,
God the beacon of the free:
you are gate of all deliv'rance,
we are sightless; lead us now.

God the unexpected infant,
God the calm, determined youth,
God the table turning prophet,
God the resurrected Truth:
you are present every moment,
we are searching; meet us now.

God the dresser of the vineyard,
God the planter of the wheat,
God the reaper of the harvest,
God the source of all we eat:
you are host at every table,
we are hungry; feed us now.

And we do not wish you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those are now “sleeping,” so that you may not grieve as others do who are having no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have “fallen asleep.” For this we say to you in the Lord's Word, that we who are alive, remaining into the returning of the Lord, will by no means precede those having “fallen asleep.” For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we the living, who are remaining, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so always be with the Lord. Therefore exhort one another with these words.

But about this time and this critical moment, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they may say, "peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, just as labor grips the belly, and there may be no fleeing away. But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, so that that day may overtake you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness.

So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, for those sleeping sleep at night, and those being intoxicated are intoxicated at night. But, since we are day, we may be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has planted us not into wrath but into obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died on behalf of us so that whether we may keep awake or whether we may sleep - either way - we may live with him. Therefore, exhort one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

*I call upon you, O Lord; come quickly to me;
give ear to my voice when I call to you.*

**Let my prayer be counted as incense before you,
and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.**

*Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord;
keep watch over the door of my lips.*

**Do not turn my heart to any evil, to busy myself with wicked
deeds in company with those who work iniquity; do not let
me eat of their delicacies.**

*Let the righteous strike me; let the faithful correct me.
Never let the oil of the wicked anoint my head,
for my prayer is continually against their wicked deeds.*

**When they are given over to those who shall condemn them,
then they shall learn that my words were pleasant.**

*Like a rock that one breaks apart and shatters on the land,
so shall their bones be strewn at the mouth of Sheol.*

**But my eyes are turned toward you, O God, my Lord;
in you I seek refuge; do not leave me defenseless.**

*Keep me from the trap that they have laid for me,
and from the snares of evildoers.*

Let the wicked fall into their own nets, while I alone escape.

Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel

Matthew 13:47-50

The Parable of the Fishing Net

Jesus continued by saying, "Again, the kingdom of the heavens is like a net having been thrown into the sea and out of it all races are being gathered together. Then, when it has been filled, is drawn onto the shore, and sitting down, the good are put into baskets, but the rotten are thrown out. So it will be at the consummation of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

P: The Gospel of the Lord!
C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

628

*1 Beyond the beauty and the awe,
beyond the fear and dread,*
**we long, O God, to hear your word,
to taste your transformed bread.**

*2 Our lives feel torn between the world
whose needs are grimly real*
**and empty talk of peace and joy
with distant, vague appeal.**

*3 Oh, teach us how to hear your voice
despite the traffic's din;*
**to keep the blasts of rancour out
and let your Spirit in.**

*4 In sound or silence, sight or smell,
may we some token find*
**that makes your living presence known
to body, soul, and mind.**

*5 Then help us live as Jesus taught,
as light and salt and yeast,*
**that others may be brought to share
your promise and your feast.**

Apostles' Creed

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**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Offering is Presented

Offertory Prayer

P: Let us Pray

C: In thanks for all the blessing of life, for work and rest, for food and shelter, for love and laughter, for beauty and harmony, we return these offerings to You, O God. We pray that our thanks is pleasing in Your sight, that what we offer is used again for sustenance and growth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

The Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

Dismissal

Grace's Congregation Council has affirmed that Grace will be following the new NYForward Phase requirements, maintaining the closure of the building other than for Sunday Worship and cancelling and postponing all Grace Events at least until the Mid-Hudson Region reaches Phase 4. Grace will continue to abide by the requirements for Mask-wearing and Social Distancing imposed by NY State.

Grace Lutheran Church

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