



pentecost 16
September 12, 2021

prelude

Entrance hymn *Day by Day*

790

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.

A: This is the day that the Lord has made.

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

A: O Come let us worship and bow down;

C: Let us kneel before the Lord our maker.

A: Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth forevermore.

C: From the raising of the sun to its setting the name of the Lord is to be praised.

A: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to the Most High.

C: To declare the Lord's love in the morning and his faithfulness at the close of the day.

A: Blessed is the One who redeems and saves us.

**C: Blessed is our God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Hymn of Praise *Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

843

prayer of the day

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

P: Let us pray:

C: Heavenly Father, your faithful have always turned to your word for guidance, understanding and wisdom. Fill us with the Spirit, that we will always desire to engage your word, that we will always pursue the truth in your word and that we will not let our self-interests, expectations and agendas mask the truth of what you have said. In the name of the one who was your Word made Flesh, our Savior, Jesus the Chris, Amen.

First Lesson

Isaiah

The Prophet Prophesies Against the Unfaithful

The righteous perish, and no one takes it to heart; the devout are taken away, while no one understands. For the righteous are taken away from calamity, and they enter into peace; those who walk uprightly will rest on their couches. But as for you, come here, you children of a sorceress, you offspring of an adulterer and a whore. Whom are you mocking? Against whom do you open your mouth wide and stick out your tongue? Are you not children of transgression, the offspring of deceit--you that burn with lust among the oaks, under every green tree; you that slaughter your children in the valleys, under the clefts of the rocks? Among the smooth stones of the valley is your portion; they, they, are your lot; to them you have poured out a drink offering, you have brought a grain offering. Shall I be appeased for these things? Upon a high and lofty mountain you have set your bed, and there you went up to offer sacrifice. Behind the door and the doorpost you have set up your symbol; for, in deserting me, you have uncovered your bed, you have gone up to it, you have made it wide; and you have made a bargain for yourself with them, you have loved their bed, you have gazed on their nakedness. You journeyed to Molech with oil, and multiplied your perfumes; you sent your envoys far away, and sent down even to Sheol. You grew weary from your many wanderings, but you did not say, "It is useless." You found your desire rekindled, and so you did not weaken. Whom did you dread and fear so that you lied, and did not remember me or give me a thought? Have I not kept silent and closed my eyes, and so you do not fear me? I will concede your righteousness and your works, but they will not help you.

When you cry out, let your collection of idols deliver you! The wind will carry them off, a breath will take them away. But whoever takes refuge in me shall possess the land and inherit my holy mountain. It shall be said, "Build up, build up, prepare the way, remove every obstruction from my people's way." For thus says the high and lofty one who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with those who are contrite and humble in spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite. For I will not continually accuse, nor will I always be angry; for then the spirits would grow faint before me, even the souls that I have made. Because of their wicked covetousness I was angry; I struck them, I hid and was angry; but they kept turning back to their own ways. I have seen their ways, but I will heal them; I will lead them and repay them with comfort, creating for their mourners the fruit of the lips. Peace, peace, to the far and the near, says the LORD; and I will heal them. But the wicked are like the tossing sea that cannot keep still; its waters toss up mire and mud. There is no peace, says my God, for the wicked.

Reader: The Word of the Lord! **C: Thanks be to God!**

VERSE

886 vs. 1 & 2

Second Lesson

1 CORINTHIANS 7

Paul's Thoughts on Marriage & Singlehood for Christians

Paul continued his letter to the Christians in Corinth . . .

Now, concerning the questions you wrote to me about:

You were wondering whether I affirm your thought that: "It is good for a man not to touch a woman."

Well, because of the problems of unencumbered sexual relationships, each man should have his own woman and each woman have her own man. He must return the favor to her and, likewise, she must return the favor to him. For, she does not have independent authority over her own body, for there is the man. And likewise, he does not have independent authority over his own body, for there is the woman. So, do not undermine this arrangement, unless you both decide to silo yourselves by harmonious agreement for the sake of the "critical time of God," so that you may both devote yourselves to prayer, and, then,

afterward, return to your arrangement, so that Satan may not test you because of your lack of fortitude. But I say this out of empathic understanding, not as a command. Actually, I desire that everyone is as I am, but, then, everyone has to cling to their own gift from God; one this gift, but the other that gift. But I say to the widowers and the widows, it is good if you remain as you are, but if you are not gifted with the necessary fortitude, then you must marry. For it is better to marry than to be set on fire. But to those who are married I command, --not I but the Lord – the woman should not be disassociated from the man, and the man should be removed from the woman. But to the rest I say--I and not the Lord-- if it happens that a believing man is with an unbelieving woman and she is happy to be together with him, he must not remove himself from her. Likewise, if there is any woman with an unbelieving man and he is happy to be together with her, she must not remove herself from him. For, the unbelieving man is made holy by association with the woman, and the unbelieving woman is made holy by association with the believing man. Otherwise, the children of the Corinthian Christian Community are “unclean,” but, following this line of theological thought, they are actually holy. But, if the unbelieving removes themselves, let them be removed; the believing man or woman is not to be enslaved in this way, for God called you in peace. For who really knows, believing woman, if you might save the unbelieving man, or who knows, believing man, if you will save the unbelieving woman. If not, well, it is as the Lord divides each, and as the Lord calls each. Walkabout in this way. This is my command in all the churches. . .

In whatever condition you were called, brothers and sisters, remain like that with God. But concerning virgins, I have no command of the Lord, but I give my opinion as one who by the Lord's mercy is faithful. I think this is wise throughout the present crisis; it is wise for you to remain as you are. If bound to a woman, do not seek to be independent. If independent from a woman, do not seek a woman. But if you may marry, you do not sin, and if a virgin may marry, she does not sin – but these will have tribulation in the “flesh” and I am keeping from that!

But this is what I am saying, brothers and sisters; the

culmination of God's critical time is happening! From now on, those associated with a woman should be as one not associated with a woman; and those who are weeping as if not weeping; and those rejoicing as if not rejoicing; and those buying stuff as if not possessing anything, and those utilizing the energies of the world, as if not accessing it fully; for norms of this world are passing away. Yet, it is my desire that you be free from anxieties. The unmarried are anxious for the Lord - how to please the Lord - but the married man is anxious about the world - how to please the woman; with divided attention toward the woman. And the virgin and the unmarried are anxious about the Lord, so that they may be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about the world - how to please the man. I say this to your own advantage, not so that I may place restrictions on you, but for you to be undistractedly respectful and dedicated to the Lord.

But if anyone is not behaving as customary toward his fiancée, if she is getting past the age when she could have easily married, and, because of this a significant obligation has been created, let him do as he wishes. It is no sin. They must marry! But, he who stands steadfast in the heart, not having such an obligation, but having strength in one's own will, and this one has determined in his heart to guard her as his fiancée, he will do excellently. And so then, the one being given in marriage does excellently, but the one not being given in marriage does better.

A wife is bound in law for as long a time as the life of her husband. But if her husband falls asleep, she is free to marry anyone she wishes, only in the Lord. But in my judgment, she is more blessed if she remains as she is. And I think that I too have the Spirit of God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord! **C: Thanks be to God!**

Children's Sermon

Verse

886 vs. 4-6

Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 10th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel

Mark 10

Jesus continued south toward Jerusalem, entering into the region of Judea and beyond the Jordan. And crowds again gathered around him; and, as was his custom, he again taught them. Pharisees came to test Jesus, asking him, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"

But Jesus answered them by asking them, "What did Moses command you?"

They said, "Moses allowed a certificate of divorce to be written and the relationship be dissolved."

But Jesus said to them, "It is in the context of your hardened hearts that Moses wrote you this commandment, but from the beginning of creation, '*male and female he made them.*' [Genesis 1:27] and '*For this reason a man will leave his father and the two will be one flesh, so that they are no longer two, but one flesh.*' [Genesis 2:24] Whom, then, God has joined together, humans should not now separate!"

And inside the house the disciples asked him again about this matter.

Jesus said to them, "Whoever divorced his wife and may have married another commits adultery against her; and if she has divorced her husband and may have married another, she is committing adultery."

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

Sermon

hymn of the Day *Although I Speak with Angel's Tongues* **644**

Creed

p. 105

PRAYERS of the CHURCH & PASSING of the PEACE

Offering & Offertory

845 Vs. 1 & 5

Offertory Prayer

P: Let us Pray

C: Living God, we praise you for the abundant blessings of this life. In humble recognition of the love you always show to us, we bring these gifts and ourselves as our thanks. Use them and us to bear the fruit of goodness and grace so that your glory will be known to all. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

page 144

Distribution Hymns

640, 613, 470

Benediction & Recessional



1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
4 So God grant us for to-mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life



We re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
Let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
Help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
That sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,



E - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
Blend-ing hu-man skills to-gether gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
Mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.

Dismissal

Altar Flowers are dedicated by Linda & Charlie Kiederer in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary & also in celebration of Pastor Chris' Birthday.



Monday Sept 13

Widowed Support Group @ 9:30 a.m.
Worship & Music Committee @ 3:00 p.m.
Book Club Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
Boy Scouts @ 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept 14

Bible Study & Breakfast @ 6:30 a.m.
Finance Committee @ 7:30 a.m.
Bible Study In-person @ 11:00 a.m.
Bible Study Online @ 7:00 p.m.



Sunday Sept 19

Coat Drive for St. Mary Food Pantry
Choir Rehearsal @ 9:45 a.m.
1st Communion Class @ Noon
Memorial for Charlie Steinitz @ 4 p.m.

Monday Sept 20

Social Ministry Committee @ 7:00 p.m.
Green Team Committee @ 8:00 p.m.
Boy Scouts @ 7:30 p.m.

Saturday Sept 25

Memorial for Cindy Cropsey @ 11 a.m.

Sunday Sept 26

Coat Drive for St. Mary Food Pantry
Family Service/Sunday School @ 9:45 a.m.
1st Communion Class @ Noon

