

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost  
July 18-19, 2020  
Divine Service, Setting Four, p. 203

Prelude

Confession

p. 203

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

C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Absolution (*congregation responds with "Amen"*)

Introit *Great is Your Steadfast Love*

Ps. 86:11-15; antiphon: Ps. 86:6

Give ear, O LORD, | to my prayer;\*  
listen to my | plea for grace.

**Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk | in your truth;\*  
unite my heart to | fear your name.**

I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with | my whole heart,\*  
and I will glorify your name for- | ever.

**For great is your steadfast | love toward me;\*  
you have delivered my soul from the depths | of Sheol.**

O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless  
men | seek my life,\*  
and they do not set you be- | fore them.

**But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and | gracious,\*  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and | faithfulness.**

**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Give ear, O LORD, | to my prayer;\*  
listen to my | plea for grace.

Kyrie

p. 204

C Lord, have mercy.  
Christ, have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis

C To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven  
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father;  
Your holy name we sing—  
Our thanks for Your great glory,  
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

To You, O sole-begotten,  
The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior,

You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus;  
Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated  
At God's right hand on high—

For You alone are holy,  
You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever,  
Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit  
Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory.  
"Amen!" our glad reply.

### Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

### Old Testament *Besides Me There is No God*

Isaiah 44:6-8

<sup>6</sup>Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel  
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

"I am the first and I am the last;  
besides me there is no god.

<sup>7</sup>Who is like me? Let him proclaim it.

Let him declare and set it before me,  
since I appointed an ancient people.

Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen.

<sup>8</sup>Fear not, nor be afraid;  
have I not told you from of old and declared it?  
And you are my witnesses!

Is there a God besides me?  
There is no Rock; I know not any."

A This is the word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### Gradual

Romans 11:33, 36

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowl- | edge of God!\*  
How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable | his ways!  
**For from him and through him and to him are | all things.\***  
To him be glory forever. | Amen.

### Epistle *Future Glory*

Romans 8:18-27

<sup>18</sup>For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. <sup>19</sup>For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup>For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup>that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup>For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. <sup>23</sup>And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup>For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? <sup>25</sup>But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

<sup>26</sup>Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. <sup>27</sup>And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints

according to the will of God.

- A This is the word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

**Verse of the Day**

Matthew 13:35b

- C Al- le- | lu- ia.\* Al- le- | lu- ia.
- A I will open my mouth in | parables;\*  
I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation | of the world.
- C Al- le- | lu- ia.\* Al- le- | lu- ia.

**Holy Gospel** *The Parable of the Weeds*

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.
- C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, <sup>25</sup>but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. <sup>26</sup>So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. <sup>27</sup>And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ <sup>28</sup>He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ <sup>29</sup>But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. <sup>30</sup>Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

<sup>36</sup>Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” <sup>37</sup>He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, <sup>39</sup>and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. <sup>40</sup>Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. <sup>41</sup>The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, <sup>42</sup>and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup>Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Apostles' Creed**

p. 207

- C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence 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**

**Sermon** “Are the Disciples Dense?”

Matthew 13:36-43

- 1 Faith and truth and life bestowing,  
 Open now the Scriptures, Lord,  
 Seed to life eternal sowing,  
 Scattered on the wind abroad.  
 Let not hearts, Your Word receiving,  
 Like a barren field be found,  
 Choked with thorns and unbelieving,  
 Shallow earth or stony ground.
  
- 2 May the Spirit’s pow’r unceasing  
 Bring to life the hidden grain,  
 Daily in our hearts increasing,  
 Bearing fruit that shall remain.  
 So in Scripture, song, and story,  
 Savior, may Your voice be heard.  
 Till our eyes behold Your glory  
 Give us ears to hear Your Word.

Prayer of the Church (*congregation responds with “Hear our prayer”*)

**Preface**

p. 208

- P The Lord be with you.  
 C And also with you.  
 P Lift up your hearts.  
 C We lift them to the Lord.  
 P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
 C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.  
 P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Sanctus**

- C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
 Heav’n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.  
 Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
 Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

p. 209

- P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation ... Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**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.

### Words of Institution

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

### Agnus Dei

p. 210

C O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

### Distribution

### Nunc Dimittis

p. 211

C O Lord, now let Your servant  
Depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory  
Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles  
Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people,  
Your chosen Israel.

All glory to the Father,  
All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit,  
Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning,  
Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding  
Through all eternity.

### Post-Communion Collect

p. 212

P We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

### Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

C Amen.

- 1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.  
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be. *Refrain*

*Refrain*

- Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!
- 2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain*
  - 3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain*

Postlude