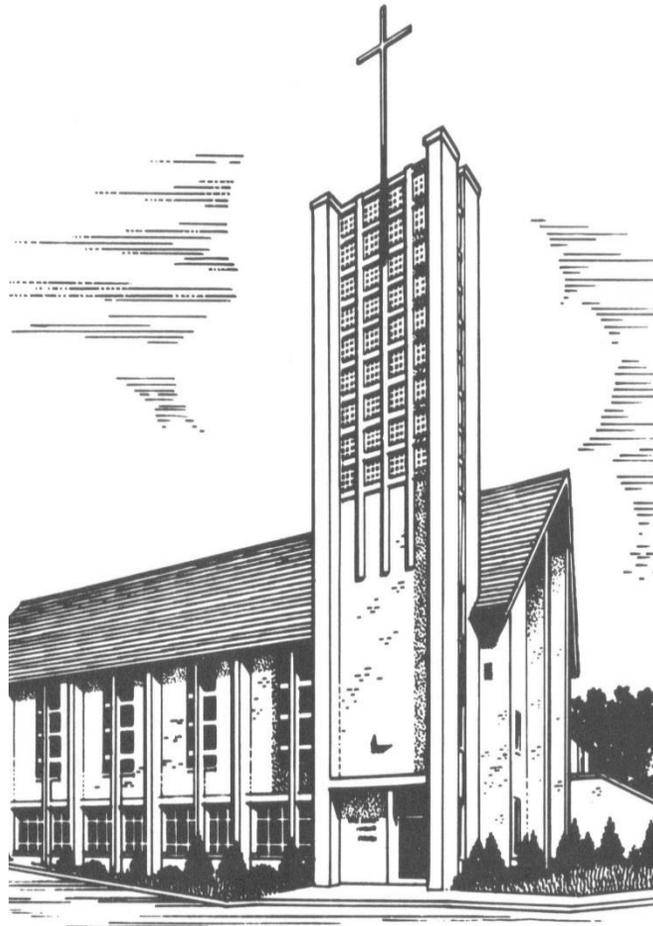


# THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 19, 2015

10:45 a.m.



THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR REDEEMER

9135 Shelley Avenue  
Overland, Missouri 63114

***Pastor James Hageman***

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facebook

***A MEMBER OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD***

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**HYMN OF INVOCATION**     “Now the Feast and Celebration”     WOV 789

**Congregation in Bold**

*Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and freedom: praise and glory for  
evermore!*

**Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and freedom: praise and glory for  
evermore!**

*Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,  
whose blood has freed and united us to be one great people of God.*

**Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and freedom: praise and glory for  
evermore!**

*Power and riches, wisdom and might, all honor and glory to Christ  
for ever.*

**Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and freedom: praise and glory for  
evermore!**

*For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God; to  
make all things new.*

**Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy  
to the God of life and love and freedom: praise and glory for  
evermore!**

## INVOCATION

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

**C** Amen.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *(Kneel/Sit)*

*Isaiah 53:6*

**P** All we like sheep have gone astray;

**C** **we have turned—every one—to his own way;**

**P** and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

Let us therefore go to our Lord, confident of His grace and mercy.

[Silence for reflection on the Word of God and our sinful condition.]

**P** Our heavenly Father,

**C** **we are by nature sinful and are entirely lost, fallen, and blind. Our cares and worries—our sins—blur our vision of Your grace and mercy. We do not always trust that You are concerned enough to meet all our physical and spiritual needs. For Jesus' sake we humbly ask Your forgiveness for all our failures of weak faith and for listening to other voices. Open our ears and our eyes so that we may follow You, our True Shepherd, through every shadowy valley until we behold the streams of quiet water that eternally flow from Your throne of grace.**

**P** O people of His pasture, the sheep of His hand, surely for Jesus' sake, goodness and mercy shall follow you all the days of your life. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## KYRIE *(Stand)*

[Tune: Amazing Grace]

Look down in mercy on us, Lord,  
Receive our prayers and praise,  
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word,  
For Your amazing grace.

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

[Tune: Hark, the Herald Angels Sing]

Angels, sing, and earth reply: "Glory be to God on high!"

God who flung the stars in space, God who formed the human race,  
God the mind and God the cause, God the source of nature's laws,  
God of wisdom, power, and love, God of gods, all gods above.

Angels, sing, and earth reply: "Glory be to God on high!"

Angels, sing, and earth reply: "Glory be to God on high!"

God who saw your creatures fall,

Loved them still, and loved them all,

Gave Your only Son to prove What is mercy, what is love;

And the Spirit, given free, Recreates Your family.

Angels, sing, and earth reply: "Glory be to God on high!"

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Tune: Mendelssohn, Public domain.

## SALUTATION

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul.

**C** **Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience;**

**P** 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 READING *(Sit)*

*Jeremiah 23:1–6*

<sup>1</sup>"Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!" declares the LORD. <sup>2</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning

the shepherds who care for my people: “You have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil deeds, declares the LORD. <sup>3</sup>Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. <sup>4</sup>I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, declares the LORD. <sup>5</sup>“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup>In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: ‘The LORD is our righteousness.’”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **EPISTLE**

*Ephesians 2:11–22*

<sup>11</sup> Remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— <sup>12</sup>remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup>For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility <sup>15</sup>by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, <sup>16</sup>and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. <sup>17</sup>And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup>For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup>So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup>built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, <sup>21</sup>in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup>In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**VERSE** (*Stand*)

*Psalm 78:25*

**P** Alleluia. Man ate of the bread of the angels;

**C** He sent them food in abundance. Alleluia.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

**HOLY GOSPEL**

*Mark 6:30–44*

<sup>30</sup>The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup>And he said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. <sup>32</sup>And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves. <sup>33</sup>Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they ran there on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. <sup>34</sup>When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things. <sup>35</sup>And when it grew late, his disciples came to him and said, “This is a desolate place, and the hour is now late. <sup>36</sup>Send them away to go into the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.” <sup>37</sup>But he answered them, “You give them something to eat.” And they said to him, “Shall we go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread and give it to them to eat?” <sup>38</sup>And he said to them, “How many loaves do you have? Go and see.” And when they had found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.” <sup>39</sup>Then he commanded them all to sit down in groups on the green grass. <sup>40</sup>So they sat down in groups, by hundreds and by fifties. <sup>41</sup>And taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before the people. And he divided the two fish among them all. <sup>42</sup>And they all ate and were satisfied. <sup>43</sup>And they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish. <sup>44</sup>And those who ate the loaves were five thousand men.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

(Refrain) I am the church! You are the church!

We are the church together!

All who follow Jesus,

all around the world!

Yes, we're the church together!

1. The church is not a building; the church is not a steeple;  
the church is not a resting place; the church is a people.

(Refrain)

2. We're many kinds of people, with many kinds of faces,  
all colors and all ages, too, from all times and places.

(Refrain)

3. And when the people gather,

there's singing and there's praying;

there's laughing and there's crying sometimes, all of it saying:

(Refrain)

4. At Pentecost some people received the Holy Spirit  
and told the Good News through the world

to all who would hear it.

(Refrain)

5. I count if I am ninety Or nine or just a baby;

There's one thing I am sure about And I don't mean maybe.

(Refrain)

**SERMON**

“Take and Eat”

based on the Gospel

Reading

**NICENE CREED** *(Stand)***OFFERING** *(Sit)*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *(Stand)*

- P** Let us pray for the people of God here and around the world, and for all people in their various needs and conditions.
- P** That our heavenly Father, who ordains all the powers in the nations of the world, would set rulers in place who will care for their people, dispel fear of injustice from within and attacks from beyond their borders, and allow the Church to flourish, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** That our Lord Jesus, the great Shepherd of the sheep, who gave His life so that we might never be separated from God's love in time or eternity, would continue to provide both physical and spiritual gifts in our desert wanderings until we see with our own eyes the eternal banquet in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** That the Holy Spirit, who uses Word and Sacrament to instill and strengthen faith, would provide peaceful days and calm confidence in our God for all who face this day fearful of evil, surrounded by enemies, in the midst of crisis, or while enduring long-term ills, especially those near and dear to us [*including . . .*], and use us to care for them wherever possible, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** That our one God, who has already reconciled people from every nation to Himself through the sacrifice of our Good Shepherd, would open paths of concord and understanding where brothers and sisters find themselves alienated from one another in disputes and divisions so that we may embrace one another in peace and joy, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** That our compassionate Shepherd, who used five loaves and two fish to feed five thousand men and their families, would open our ears to hear His call to feed the people around us with the gracious news of the Gospel as well as with physical expressions of compassionate care, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** Amen.

## PREFACE

- 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.**

## PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who won our peace by shedding His blood on the cross and by His victorious resurrection. 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

TUNE: LSB 389

Hosanna to the King of Kings, To David's holy son!  
He helps us, He descends and brings Salvation from the throne.  
Salvation from the throne.

Blest be the Lord, who comes to us With messages of grace;  
Who comes in God His Father's name To save our sinful race.  
To save our sinful race.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

### THE PEACE OF THE LORD

### AGNUS DEI

"Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs"

LSB 812

1 Come, let us join our cheerful songs  
With angels round the throne;

Ten thousand thousand are their tongues,  
But all their joys are one.

2 "Worthy the Lamb that died," they cry,  
"To be exalted thus!"  
"Worthy the Lamb," our lips reply,  
"For He was slain for us."

## **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

"Blest Are They"

*LSB 982*

1    Blest are they, the poor in spirit;  
      Theirs is the kingdom of God.  
      Blest are they, full of sorrow;  
      They shall be consoled.

(Refrain)

Rejoice and be glad!  
Blessèd are you, holy are you.  
Rejoice and be glad!  
Yours is the kingdom of God.

2    Blest are they, the lowly ones;  
      They shall inherit the earth.  
      Blest are they who hunger and thirst;  
      They shall have their fill.

(Refrain)

3    Blest are they who show mercy;  
      Mercy shall be theirs.  
      Blest are they, the pure of heart;  
      They shall see God!

(Refrain)

4    Blest are they who seek peace;  
      They are the children of God.  
      Blest are they who suffer in faith;  
      The glory of God is theirs.  
      (Refrain)

5    Blest are you who suffer hate,  
      All because of Me.  
      Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom;  
      Shine for all to see.  
      (Refrain)

“What Wondrous Love is This”

*LSB 543*

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

*LSB 540*

### **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING** *(Stand)*

**P** Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

**C** **His steadfast love endures forever.**

**P** Let us pray.

We give thanks, Lord our God, for You have again refreshed us on our pilgrim way. Grant us to live each day in this blessed land as citizens of Your kingdom of grace until we enter the Promised Land in which faith has turned to sight; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

**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.

## **HYMN TO DEPART**

“Let the Walls Fall Down”

BOTB 144

Let the walls fall down  
Let the walls fall down  
Let the walls fall down  
By His love let the walls fall...  
Let the walls fall down  
Let the walls fall down  
Let the walls fall down  
By His love let the walls fall down

One by one we're drawn together  
One by one to Jesus' side  
One in Him we'll live forever  
Strangers He has reconciled

Let the walls fall down  
Let the walls fall down  
Let the walls fall down  
By His love let the walls fall...  
Let the walls fall down  
Let the walls fall down  
Let the walls fall down  
By His love let the walls fall down

In His love no walls between us  
In His love a common ground  
Kneeling at the cross of Jesus  
All our pride comes tumbling down

Let the walls fall down  
Let the walls fall down  
Let the walls fall down  
By His love let the walls fall...  
Let the walls fall down  
Let the walls fall down  
Let the walls fall down  
By His love let the walls fall down

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS** *(Sit)*

## **POSTLUDE**

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## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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Those serving in worship today:

Preacher/Liturgist: Pastor James Hageman

Organist: Steve Kohlmeier

Altar Guild: (8:00 a.m. Lisa Williams; 10:45 a.m. Lisa Lock;  
6:30 p.m. Elaine Fortner)

Attendance: 7/12/15 (8:00 a.m. 79, 10:45 a.m. 47 );7/13/15 6:30 p.m. 11

*If you do not have email, The TORCH, our weekly newsletter, and Foundations can be found on the counter outside the chapel entrance. If you do have email and would like to receive it by email each week, please email [elcoroffice@gmail.com](mailto:elcoroffice@gmail.com).*

## Applying Biblical Teachings

“ . . . remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive’” (Acts 20:35).

To simply take this passage and comment that it is a good moral saying by which we should all try to live would be wrong. To take these words simply by themselves, as something Dr. Luke alone recorded for posterity would be to miss the point.

First, we must come to the realization that by nature, we are sinful and unclean. There is no goodness or worthiness in us. We must confess that we are poor miserable sinners who would by nature not give anything to anyone unless it benefitted us. This benefit may be self-adulation, public adoration, or the hope of receiving a better position or rewards in this life or the life hereafter. But whatever the case, these reasons are born of selfishness and sin. They are what Isaiah described as “filthy rags” in God’s sight.

It should not surprise us, then, that the Holy Spirit inspired these words to be recorded by Dr. Luke at the end of a persuasive dissertation by St. Paul of the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And it should not surprise us that the words which immediately follow this text are, “When he [Paul] had said this, he knelt down with all of them and prayed” (Acts 20:36). Dr. Martin Franzmann best captures what is underlying these recorded words of Jesus when he refers to this passage of Scripture as “the power of the Word of the Lord made perfect in weakness.”

True Christian love, the love that emulates Christ, the all-giving Servant, does not come by our own reason or strength, for we as sinners are weak and cannot do any good work. True Christian love was born of the cross of Jesus Christ and is worked in us by the power of the Word and Sacrament. The perfect power of God’s Word works in our weakness. By the power of the Gospel we show true Christian love, a love that does not chase selfishly after that which is good to enjoy. Rather, it seeks to provide for those in need with no expectation of anything in return in this life or of special considerations in the next.

Jesus is the model. He continues to give His unselfish devotion and service to all, even though many reject Him. St. Paul, by the power of the Gospel, lived and preached the model of the suffering servant which is ours to live and preach as well.

It is only in the role of the servant, a role of unquestioned devotion and service to the glory of God and for the benefit of man, that our faith will find its proper expression and application.

Yes, "It is more blessed to give than to receive," for in Christ, to give is to be like Christ.