



PRINCE OF
PEACE

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

AUGUST 23, 2020 ✠ 8:00 AM

WHO DO THEY SAY I AM?

“Who do you say I am?” Jesus asks a simple but exceedingly important question today. The answer one gives is called a confession and that answer is so important that it means the difference between heaven and hell.

A personal prayer before worship

O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your holy Word. We pray that You would open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of Your Word we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ, and grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Jesus' sake. Amen.

THE DIVINE SERVICE

∞ *The congregation speaks and sings the words in
BOLD type.* ∞

WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE

OPENING HYMN | *Christ Is Our Cornerstone*



**Christ is our cornerstone;
On him alone we build.
With his true saints alone
The courts of heav'n are filled.
On his great love Our hopes we place
Of present grace And joys above.**

**Oh, then, with hymns of praise
These hallowed courts shall ring!
Our voices we will raise
The Three in One to sing
And thus proclaim In joyful song,
Both loud and long, That glorious name.**

INVOCATION

Please stand.

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

Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good.

For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

silence for personal reflection

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✝ and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The works of the Lord are great and glorious.
His name is worthy of praise!


**Blessed are they, forever blest,
Whose guilt is pardoned by their God,
Whose sins with sorrow are confessed
And covered with their Savior's blood.**

**How glorious is that righteousness
That hides and cancels all their sins,
While bright the evidence of grace
Through all their lives appears and shines!**



THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated.

FIRST READING | *Exodus 34:5-9*

As the Lord set the Israelites apart as His own and gave them commands to follow at Mt Sinai, He also proclaimed His name to them that they would know Him. He is the God of free and faithful love who shows love to thousands.

Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.” Moses bowed to the ground at once and worshiped. “Lord,” he said, “if I have found favor in your eyes, then let the Lord go with us. Although this is a stiff-necked people,

forgive our wickedness and our sin, and take us as your inheritance.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

PSALM 138 | *selected verses*

The LORD, the God of grace, has given us His name that we would know His kindness and would call on His name in every trouble.

I will bow down toward your holy temple
and will praise your name for your unfailing love and your faithfulness.

When I called, you answered me;
you greatly emboldened me.

Though the LORD is exalted, he looks kindly on the lowly;
though lofty, he sees them from afar.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve my life.

You stretch out your hand against the anger of
my foes;

with your right hand you save me.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the
Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be
forever. Amen.**

SECOND READING | *Romans 10:5-13*

*As we'll hear in the Gospel lesson, we know Jesus
Christ as Savior when the Father reveals Him to us.
By the gift of faith, He empowers us to believe and
profess that Jesus is our Savior and in His name we
are saved.*

Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: “The person who does these things will live by them.” But the righteousness that is by faith says: “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) “or ‘Who will descend into the deep?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? “The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart,” that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. As Scripture says, “Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame.” For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for,

“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Please stand.

THE HOLY GOSPEL | *Matthew 16:13-20*

This lesson is the basis of the sermon.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?”

Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to You, O Christ.

Be seated.

**HYMN OF THE DAY | *My Hope Is Built On
Nothing Less***

**My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare to make no other claim,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

**When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

SERMON Matthew 16:13-20 Who is Jesus, anyway?

After the sermon, please 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
worshiped 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.**

Be seated.

OFFERING | *Moved by God's love in Christ, we return to God our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to Him.*

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gracious God and Father, we praise You for the countless blessings, which we receive from Your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with

one another. Above all, we praise and thank You for Your saving Word and for Your Son's body and blood, which You give us to eat and to drink in the Sacrament. Through these means of grace, You send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

Great God and Lord, without Your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of Your grace, and move us to use the gifts that You give to share Your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that You have established for the benefit of society. Remember

in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring Your healing to troubled homes and lives.

Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special intercessions may be inserted here.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring You our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

THE HOLY SACRAMENT

PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD JESUS

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.

Amen.

Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

After the distribution, the pastor speaks this blessing:

The true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you to life everlasting.

Amen.

BLESSING

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.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN | *Beautiful Savior*

**Beautiful Savior, King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I'd love thee, Truly I'd serve thee,
Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.**

**Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be thine!**