
17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC + WELCOME

SONG: “Come Sing a New Psalm” (*Daniel Gardner*)

Come sing a new psalm of David,
come sing the song of the Lord;
Praise Him with instruments,
praise Him with music,
Praise to the One we adore.

Come sing a new psalm of David,
Come sing the song of the Lord;
Praise Him with instruments,
praise Him with music,
Praise to the One we adore

He’s the Lord!

He’s the Lord. (Repeat)

(C. 1982 Integrity’s Hosanna! Music. Used by permission. CCLI #522460)

SONG: “Lift Up Your Heads” (*Steve Fry*)

Lift up your heads to the coming King,
Bow before Him and adore Him, sing!
To His majesty, let your praises be,
Pure and holy, giving glory to the King of Kings.
Pure and holy, giving glory to the King of Kings.

(C. 1974 Birdwing Music. Used by permission. CCLI #522460)

INVOCATION

CONFESSION OF SIN:

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean.

We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbor as ourself. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.



ASSURANCE OF GRACE: (From Psalm 116)

Pastor: The Lord is gracious and righteous;

People: Our God is full of compassion.

Pastor: Be at rest once more, O my soul, for the Lord has been good to you.

People: For you, O Lord, have delivered my soul from death...that I may walk before the Lord in the land of the living.

HYMN OF PRAISE: (Sung, LSB p. 155)

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 50:4-10

⁴The Sovereign LORD has given me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being taught. ⁵The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears, and I have not been rebellious; I have not drawn back. ⁶I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting. ⁷Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. ⁸He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me! ⁹It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me. Who is he that will condemn me? They will all wear out like a garment; the moths will eat them up. ¹⁰Who among you fears the LORD and obeys the word of his servant? Let him who walks in the dark, who has no light, trust in the name of the LORD and rely on his God.

EPISTLE READING: James 2:1-18

My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. ² Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. ³ If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," ⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵ Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶ But you have insulted the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷ Are they not the ones who are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong? ⁸ If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. ⁹ But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹ For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also

said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker. ¹² Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, ¹³ because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment! ¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? ¹⁵ Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. ¹⁸ But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.

RESPONSE: (Sung, LSB p. 156)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 8:27-35

Pastor: Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us,

People: So that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

Pastor: The Gospel according to Mark, chapter 8

People: Glory to You, O Lord. (Sung, LSB p. 157)

²⁷ Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?" ²⁸ They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹ "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Christ." ³⁰ Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him. ³¹ He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." ³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ. (Sung)

SONG: "I Believe in Jesus" (Marc Nelson)

**I believe in Jesus, I believe He is the Son of God;
I believe He died and rose again, I believe He paid for us all.
And I believe He's here now, standing in our midst;
Here with the power to heal now, and the grace to forgive. (Repeat)**

**End...I believe in You, Lord, I believe You are the Son of God;
I believe You died and rose again, I believe You paid for us all.
And I believe that You're here now, standing in our midst;
Here with the power to heal now, and the grace to forgive.**

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SERMON: James 2:1-13 "Freed from Favoritism"

THE OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

Pastor: I love the Lord for He heard my voice;

People: He heard my cry for mercy.

Pastor: Because He turned His ear to me,

People: I will call on Him as long as I live.

Pastor: O Lord, we call on You.

People: You, O Lord, are mighty to save!

Pastor: You know the troubles of our lives. Grant healing and consolation to those in need. Especially...

(special prayer requests)...Since You are a compassionate and gracious God,

People: Deliver us and help us all.

Pastor: Ruler of the nations, govern our land.

People: Give wisdom to our leaders, that they might fulfill the purposes for which You have given them authority.

Pastor: Holy Spirit, purge injustice, prejudice, and favoritism from our hearts and lives as redeemed people in Christ.

People: Shape our speech and actions according to Your word.

Pastor: May the gospel message of life and forgiveness in Jesus' name,

People: Lift us up and empower us to live a life that reflects the glory and perfection of Your holy name. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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

SONG: "I Am the God that Healeth Thee" (Don Moen)

I am the God that healeth thee, I am the Lord your healer.

I sent My word and healed your disease, I am the Lord your healer.

You are the God that healeth me, You are the Lord my healer.

You sent Your word and healed my disease. You are the Lord my healer.

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IN THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION WE BELIEVE *our Lord Jesus Christ comes to us with His body and blood given and shed for the forgiveness of sins (Matt 26:26-28). In it we are united with him and with the whole Church. Baptized and confirmed Christians who believe, by the guidance of the Holy Spirit, that Christ's*

body and blood are present in the bread and wine of the Sacrament, who acknowledge their sin, set aside any refusal to forgive (Matt 6:15), are sorry, repent (Mark 1:15) and look to Christ alone for forgiveness and strength to live the new life, are welcome to eat and drink at the Lord's table in remembrance of Him. (1 Cor 11:25-25) You may register for Communion as the Friendship Folder is passed to you in the pew. If you have any questions, please speak to the Pastor or a Lay Minister before communing.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(Instrumental music)

BENEDICTION

SONG: "Thank You for the Cross" (Mark Altrogge)

**Verse: Thank You for the cross, the mighty cross,
that God Himself should die for such as us;
And ev'ryday we're changed
into Your image more and more,
yes, by the cross we've truly been transformed.**

**Chorus: And we're so amazed,
and we give You praise
that You would save us at such a cost;
We're so amazed,
and we give You praise
for the power of the cross, for the power of the cross. (Repeat verse and chorus)**
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ANNOUNCEMENTS + POSTLUDE

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES



This year things will be different than before. Instead of separating children from their parents in a Sunday School, parents and children will stay together, and I will be there with them as the pastor. We'll be calling this our "Family Faith Fellowship."

Each Sunday, from 10:45 am - 11:30 am, we will begin by looking at Bible passages, Bible stories, or discussing various topics in light of God's word. Families will then take part in an activity that ties into the lesson, and we'll end with a time of sharing with one another what we've learned or done that day. So, as pastor and people, we will be using the gifts the Holy Spirit has blessed each of us with, and working together to help one another grow in our Christian faith and life.

Whether you are a family that's currently a member at Holy Emmanuel, or a family that attends our Open Arms Early Childhood Center, you are all invited and welcome to come and be part of the fun!

Your brother and servant in Christ,
Pastor Paul Krentz

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James 2:1-13

“Freed from Favoritism”

¹ My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. ² Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. ³ If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," ⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵ Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶ But you have insulted the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷ Are they not the ones who are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong? ⁸ If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. ⁹ But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹ For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker. ¹² Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, ¹³ because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!

1. What is favoritism?
2. How is favoritism seen in our lives?
3. Why are we able to classify people into different groups?
4. What false belief do many people hold regarding judging?
5. How are we to help one another when it comes to sin?
6. What is judging in the bad sense of the word?
7. How does the law and gospel reveal that God does not show favoritism?
8. Who are the poor and rich referred to in verse five?

9. Why aren't we able to say we are better than anyone else?

10. What mercy triumphs over judgment?

11. How are we set free from the sin of favoritism?