

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 17, 2025

IN THE NAME OF JESUS, WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S!

Sunday - 10:00 a.m.



THE ENTRANCE RITE

PRELUDE

Heaven Is My Home
Setting: Richard C Resch

WELCOME

ENTRANCE HYMN

I'm But a Stranger Here

LSB 748

1 I'm but a stranger here,
Heav'n is my home;
Earth is a desert drear,
Heav'n is my home.
Danger and sorrow stand
Round me on ev'ry hand;
Heav'n is my fatherland,
Heav'n is my home.

2 What though the tempest rage,
Heav'n is my home;
Short is my pilgrimage,
Heav'n is my home;
And time's wild wintry blast
Soon shall be overpast;
I shall reach home at last,
Heav'n is my home.

3 Therefore I murmur not,
Heav'n is my home;
Whate'er my earthly lot,
Heav'n is my home;
And I shall surely stand
There at my Lord's right hand;
Heav'n is my fatherland,
Heav'n is my home.

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kneel. Silence is observed for reflection and self-examination.

Gracious God,

have mercy upon us. In your compassion, forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen.

KYRIE (Stand)

LSB 944

For the peace from above and for our salvation; and for the peace of the whole world and the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

Kyrie Eleison; Christe Eleison; Kyrie Eleison. *(Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy.)*

For the well-being of the Church of God; and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

Kyrie Eleison; Christe Eleison; Kyrie Eleison.

Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

Kyrie Eleison; Christe Eleison; Kyrie Eleison.

- 1 **Splendor and honor, majesty and power
Are Yours, O Lord God, fount of ev'ry blessing,
For by Your bidding was the whole creation
Called into being.**
- 2 **Praised be the true Lamb, slain for our redemption,
By whose self-off'ring we are made God's people:
A priestly kingdom, from all tongues and nations,
Called to God's service.**
- 3 **To the Almighty, throned in heav'nly splendor,
And to the Savior, Christ our Lamb and Shepherd,
Be adoration, praise, and glory given,
Now and forever.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray. Merciful Lord,
cleanse and defend Your Church by the sacrifice of Christ. United with Him in Holy Baptism, give us grace to receive with thanksgiving the fruits of His redeeming work and daily follow in His way; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*THE LITURGY OF THE WORD*

FIRST LESSON (Be seated)

Jeremiah 23:16-29

Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD. They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, 'It shall be well with you'; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, 'No disaster shall come upon you.'"

For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD
to see and to hear his word,
or who has paid attention to his word and listened?

Behold, the storm of the LORD!

Wrath has gone forth,
a whirling tempest;
it will burst upon the head of the wicked.

The anger of the LORD will not turn back
until he has executed and accomplished
the intents of his heart.

In the latter days you will understand it clearly.

“I did not send the prophets,
yet they ran;
I did not speak to them,
yet they prophesied.

But if they had stood in my council,
then they would have proclaimed my words to my people,
and they would have turned them from their evil way,
and from the evil of their deeds.

“Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD, and not a God afar off? Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, ‘I have dreamed, I have dreamed!’ How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD. Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119:81-88 (Sung responsively)

My soul longs for your salvation;
I hope in your word.
My eyes long for your promise;
I ask, "When will you comfort me?"
For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke,
yet I have not forgotten your statutes.
How long must your servant endure?
When will you judge those who persecute me?
The insolent have dug pitfalls for me;
they do not live according to your law.
All your commandments are sure;
they persecute me with falsehood; help me!
They have almost made an end of me on earth,
but I have not forsaken your precepts.
In your steadfast love give me life,
that I may keep the testimonies of your mouth.

**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 LESSON

Hebrews 11:17-31: 12:1-3

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the

fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as if on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ALLELUIA VERSE (Stand)

LSB 952

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 12:49-56

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 12th chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, ‘A shower is coming.’ And so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON (Be seated)

Grace, mercy and peace be to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior Jesus. Amen. Dear friends in Christ:

The words of Jesus in today’s Gospel lesson don’t seem right to us. Isn’t Jesus supposed to be all about peace? Didn’t the angels sing about peace when he was born? Don’t we commonly call him, based on Isaiah’s prophecy, the “Prince of Peace?”

There’s a word that comes to mind as I think about this text – a word that was fairly popular a few years back but perhaps not so much today. That word is “awkward” ... sometimes vocalized as “Awwkwaard!”

You know how this works, right? You’re in a group conversation and somebody starts fuming about “those kinds of people” without realizing that one of “those kinds of people” is right there in the group. Awkward!

Interestingly, the popularity of that word seemed to have birthed a popularity of the experience too. But not the awkwardness of offending people. Rather, the common moments of awkwardness we all experience through our mistakes.

Think of those times you wave at someone you know, only to discover that it’s not really them. (Oops!) Or when you hold the door open for someone, but they’re so far away that now they feel obligated to run. (Sorry!) Or you reply to someone who talks to you, only to realize that they’re actually talking to someone else on their phone through their Bluetooth. Or when you go in for a hug and discover that the other person only wanted a handshake. These kinds of awkward moments appear in commercials, videos, and TV shows. They’re “in” because they catch our attention and because they’re relatable.

But is this the kind of awkwardness that’s going on with Jesus in today’s reading? Not really.

The best way of understanding Jesus' words here is to note that he's being intentionally provocative. The words may make us feel awkward, but that's not what Jesus is going for. Rather, Jesus wants our attention.

Here we should remember that Jesus said plenty of other provocative words during his ministry as well. A couple of Sundays ago we heard him call us "evil." Another time he told people to hate their family and even their own life as a means of showing their loyalty to him. Jesus sometimes used strong words. And he knew how to push people's buttons.

That being said, these words aren't ONLY provocative. There is also truth in them that we must discover.

That truth must be discerned in the light of Jesus' other words too. For we dare not take the words of this text and build our whole characterization of Jesus upon them.

Today's words, like most words of Jesus, are best understood within their context. Here we should recall that Jesus had become very popular by this time, with great crowds following him. However, at the same time, he was also starting to emphasize more of the difficult things he had come to do and to say. The people were beginning to realize that Jesus wasn't only about doing great miracles and that he wasn't always going to be an easy source of food and bodily healing.

With this understanding, we see, then, that the truth being conveyed here is a warning. Jesus was warning his hearers that many people would soon turn against him and that this would result in a division between those who followed him and those who didn't. This warning was clearly one for Jesus' day, but it is also one that we need to hear as well.

Jesus wants us to know that he won't be universally accepted. This is a reality that followers of his will need to deal with, awkward as it may be.

Furthermore, he wants us to know that this reality will often lead to conflict. People will not only disagree with those who follow Jesus, but some will also be against them. In the examples of family division that Jesus uses, he clearly uses that word "against."

The disciples were getting a sense of this already. Jesus had earlier preached about the cost of following him and had recently sent them out with instructions of what to do when rejected. But soon the antagonism would become even more pronounced. Their

lives would change because of the people who would turn against them and threaten them.

When Jesus uses the example of a family being divided—three against two, father against son, etc. – he does this for a reason beyond just relatability. Yes, we all know that family conflicts are particularly painful. But Jesus also wants to point out how the disciple's own faith family – Judaism – would soon be divided by his claims. Some members of this family would believe him and follow him, while others would not.

This is a division that still exists today, of course. And for Christians this can be particularly awkward. That's because we believe Jesus is Lord of all—the one who made all, loves all, and wants all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. We are a missionary religion, and we want others to join us in what we believe is the best movement of peace and unity there is. We've experienced Jesus making us stronger and better, and we know Jesus can make everyone else stronger and better too.

When we see people choosing not to follow Jesus, it's awkward for us. On the one hand, we know that we need to let everyone make their own religious choice, and we should accept them regardless. But on the other hand, we see that these choices are not a sure way to salvation and that they lack the great depth and insight taught by Jesus. We desire the true unity that comes through a common faith. Anything less is just settling.

Maybe one of the things we should hear in this text is that we, ourselves, won't ever completely be at peace in this life. And that is because divisions between people will always exist, which pains us, and is awkward. Sadly, this is the way life is going to be, this side of heaven.

Jesus will not force his way into people's hearts. Nor has he come to set up some kind of government peace-keeping force. Peace on earth is not his main focus.

By the way, this is an understanding which often disappoints people, since we all long strongly for peace. But for those of us who believe that there is much more to life than what we see with our eyes, it makes sense.

The sense of it comes from something else Jesus tells us in today's reading. Jesus also reminds us here of his role as judge.

Jesus may not force people to live peacefully with one another, but he will judge our actions. He has expectations of how we are to live. And as the Lord God, he will bring to justice those who fail to meet his expectations.

Jesus always teaches and implores first. And he is constantly calling us to repentance. But eventually he will judge us according to how we have lived. Those who have served God and others with their lives will be divided from those who have not; just as a shepherd separates sheep from goats.

In today's reading, Jesus refers to this judgment when he says: "*I came to cast fire on the earth.*" Fire is often used as a metaphor for judgment in the scriptures.

And when Jesus goes on to say that he wishes the fire was already kindled, he does this to indicate his strong desire for this justice to take place. Here we see that Jesus desires justice just as much as we do – a desire that we expressed in today's psalm.

The context also speaks to this understanding. For in the verses just before our text, Jesus tells his disciples: "*You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.*" Here we are reminded that the day of Christ's final judgment is coming and that it could come at any time. We all need to be ready for this. Jesus' mention of fire and division are meant to encourage us in this readiness.

The words of Jesus in today's text are more than just awkward. They are also sobering. For they bring a harsh reality that we'd rather not deal with.

And yet, in these words are also embedded messages of hope. For when Jesus tells us that he comes to cast fire on the earth, he does more than just point us toward the final judgment. He also points to the purifying that he brings to our world.

Casting fire is one of the ways Jesus moves people to right action. He does this through the threat of the final judgment, yes, but also through the giving of his Holy Spirit.

Way back in chapter three, we heard John the Baptist speaking about the mission and work of Jesus. And there John told us that Jesus came to baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire. These words are best understood as referring to both judgment and action. Jesus' ministry generates the fire that destroys, divides and refines—the fire by which the kingdom comes. It is sparked by his death. And after his death, it grows and spreads like wildfire over all the earth, through those he baptizes.

Jesus' primary goal may not be to establish a permanent peace on earth, but his purifying and refining work help people live more peacefully than they would without

him for sure. Jesus' work is making a difference in our world, bringing peace that comes through his messages of truth, love, repentance, and forgiveness.

We are grateful for Jesus' powerful peacemaking work among us in this world. *"Blessed are the peacemakers,"* said Jesus. Yes. And even more, blessed be the one who teaches us the way of peace.

Jesus brings much good to our world through his teachings. But more importantly, Jesus saves us from the judgment to come. And that's because our good works—all those efforts toward peace—are never good enough to cancel our debt of sin.

Let's face it, division comes very naturally for us. Children don't have to be taught how to hate, they get there quite quickly on their own. We constantly succumb to our jealousies and rivalries. And we quickly blame others and divide into camps. We always want more than we have, and we resent those who have more than we do. Divisions have been around since Adam blamed Eve and Cain resented Abel.

But Jesus came to provide a righteousness for us. He came not to be served but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many. Jesus came to pay the price for our sin. Jesus came to make our forgiveness possible.

Jesus says it this way in today's text: *"I have a baptism to be baptized with."* The baptism he is referring to is his suffering and death – the ordeal that awaits him. But Jesus also chooses this word to point towards the Baptismal gift he gives through his church.

About this, we tend to think of Baptism as a lovely bath, which it is. But because the process of cleansing is often harrowing – and this is certainly the case when sin is involved – we should perhaps think of Baptism instead as a case of being stripped down and hosed off. That's more the image Jesus suggests in this reading.

We who are baptized into Christ Jesus are baptized into his death and resurrection. Paul tells us this directly in Romans chapter six. And this teaching reminds us that Jesus suffered and died for us so that we can join him in his glorious resurrection.

Jesus' words in our text show this in another way as well. In the Greek, even more than our English, there is a strong poetic connection between Jesus' first sentence and his second. *"I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were kindled! I have a baptism to be baptized with, and great until then is my distress."* The two lines mirror

each other so that we see the connection between Jesus' judgment and Jesus' death. Jesus died to take our judgment upon himself. That is what he came to earth to bring.

Jesus comes to bring peace on earth by encouraging repentance and by reconciling us to God. His peace is not the quick and easy peace of dreamy words, like those from the false prophets mentioned in our reading from Jeremiah. Nor is it the hollow peace which comes from pleas to "just get along." Rather, it is the difficult peace of judgment on sin and Christ's sacrifice to overcome it.

Peace will never be perfect this side of heaven – at least not according to our experience of it. There will always be three against two and two against three; family member against family member as well. These divisions will cause struggle and pain.

But in Jesus we can find faith and hope even amidst this challenge. Armed only with the sword of God's Word, we are more than prepared to face the trials and tribulations which division brings.

God's Word tells us of the better way to live. And it tells us of ultimate victory for those who hold to the Gospel of Christ in faith.

Knowing this... may the peace of God which surpasses all understanding guard and keep your hearts and mind in faith, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY (Stand) Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

LSB 655

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.**
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.**
- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.**

**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.**

OFFERING

***Offerings** support the church's mission work – both here and through our many partners. Offerings may be placed in the box at the sanctuary entrance or sent to the church through our website or the mail. **Fellowship Cards** help us welcome new people and track participation. Please fill one out and place it in the offering box following the service.*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord of hosts, our fathers in faith made the good confession of Your truth before the powers of this world. In the spirit of Jeremiah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph and Moses, strengthen our hearts in days of division to confess in our words and lives the glory of Your name. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

O Lord, bless this congregation and our life together around the Word and table of the

Lord. Grant that the work of God would go forth from this place, and that it would bless and prosper all things according to His will. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, be with those who have wandered from the faith and those who have been absent from the Lord's house. Reconcile them to Yourself and to us. And if we have hurt or wounded them in word and deed, bring us to repentance, that together we would know the forgiveness of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord God, You called Jeremiah as a youth and used Him in Your service. We give You thanks for the young Christians today that You have called to Yourself as Your children. By Your Word, strengthen them for daily life and help them to grow as Your people. Keep them and all youth in Your care. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, You shepherd the nations according to Your Word. Grant our rulers wisdom and faith to serve for the good of their people and to promote peace and quietness for the flourishing of every godly endeavor. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Merciful Lord, grant healing to the sick, especially to those on our prayer list and those we name in our hearts at this time... Give strength to the weak, endurance to bear up under trial, patience to await His deliverance, and peace at the last. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy One, sanctify and keep all who come to Your table this day by Your Word and Holy Spirit, that they would receive the body and blood of Your Son in sincere repentance and firm faith and to their abundant blessing, bringing forth the fruits thereof in peace and joy. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Almighty Father, Your dear Son suffered and died for our redemption. Embolden us by the witness of that great company of saints who remained faithful unto death, that we would likewise fix our eyes on Christ and so share in His victory over the grave; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

Create in Me

(LSB 956)

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence;
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE (Stand)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

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...

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

(LSB 961)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessèd, blessèd, blessèd is He
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

AGNUS DEI

(LSB 962)

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;
grant us Your peace,
grant us Your peace,
grant us Your peace.**

THE COMMUNION (Be seated)

Those wishing to commune at the foot of the steps should come forward first. Those wishing to commune at the altar rail should come forward after these, front rows first, from both sides of the aisle. After receiving, all should return to their seats. A common dismissal will be given at the end.

- 1** **Now the silence**
 Now the peace
Now the empty hands uplifted
 Now the kneeling
 Now the plea
Now the Father's arms in welcome
 Now the hearing
 Now the pow'r
Now the vessel brimmed for pouring
 Now the body
 Now the blood
Now the joyful celebration
 Now the wedding
 Now the songs
Now the heart forgiven leaping
Now the Spirit's visitation
Now the Son's epiphany
Now the Father's blessing
 Now
 Now
 Now

NUNC DIMITTIS

(LSB 937)

- 1** **Lord, bid Your servant go in peace,**
 Your word is now fulfilled.
 These eyes have seen salvation's dawn,
 This child so long foretold.
- 2** **This is the Savior of the world,**
 The Gentiles' promised light,
 God's glory dwelling in our midst,
 The joy of Israel.
- 3** **With saints of old, with saints to come,**
 To You we lift our voice;
 To Father, Son, and Spirit blest
 Be honor, love, and praise.

PRAYER (Stand)

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

We Are Called to Stand Together

LSB 828

- 1 We are called to stand together
With the saints of ages past,
With the patriarchs and prophets
In the faith they once held fast;
Promises and hopes they treasured
Now we find fulfilled at last!**
- 2 Those whom Jesus called apostles
Journeyed with Him side by side,
Heard His teaching, felt His power,
Saw the way He lived and died;
Then the news of resurrection
They delivered far and wide.**
- 3 Through the intervening ages
Round the world the Gospel spread:
Faithful heralds took the message,
Guided where the Spirit led;
So the body grew in stature,
Serving Christ, the living head.**
- 4 Now in many tongues and cultures
Songs of celebration ring;
Millions who confess our Savior
Honor Him as Lord and King
And, for courage, grace and guidance
Ev'ry day their prayers they bring.**
- 5 To each coming generation
Tell the truth, persuade, explain,
Till the time when time is ended,
Till the Savior comes again—
Till the saints are all united
Under Christ's eternal reign!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Be seated)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

We Are Called to Stand Together

Setting: Matthew Corl

FLOWERS: The flowers this week are given in thanks to God for His many blessings by the O'Neill Family as they celebrate their family birthday this week and Dave and Ellie's birthdays last month.

FELLOWSHIP CONTRIBUTORS: Leisure Group

Those serving: 8/16-17

Saturday, 5:00 p.m.:

Greeter: Jim Easterly

Comm. assist: no communion

Reader: Bill Muller

Sunday, 10:00 a.m.:

Greeter: Charles Fisher

Comm. assist: Judy Koucky

Reader: Dale Rogers

Acolyte: Ian Lynch

AV Assistants: Hannes Buuck, Andreas Buuck

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