

# THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 25, 2024

*“Observe Marriage Like This!”*

## AS WE GATHER

This Sunday is all about relationships. In the Christian home the relationship of husband and wife is to reflect that of Christ and His Church. In the Gospel Jesus rebukes the Pharisees for using human traditions to deny the love and honor God's Law demands. Today, we confess our failures in our human relationships and in our relationship with God, asking and receiving God's forgiveness for the sake of Christ, the Bridegroom of the Church. Renewed in His love, the Holy Spirit will guide us and provide all we need to love others as He has first loved us.

## THE WELCOME

### THE OPENING HYMN #903 *“This Is the Day the Lord Has Made”*



1 This is the day the Lord has made; He calls the  
2 To - day He rose and left the dead, And Sa - tan's  
3 Ho - san - na to the a - noint - ed King, To Da - vid's  
4 Bless - ed is He who comes to us With mes - sag -  
5 Ho - san - na in the high - est strains The Church on



hours His own. Let heav'n re - jice, let  
em - pire fell; To - day the saints His  
ho - ly Son! Help us, O Lord; de -  
es - of grace; He, in the Lord's name,  
earth can raise. The high - est heav'ns, in



earth be glad And praise sur - round the throne.  
tri - umphs spread And all His won - ders tell.  
scend and bring Sal - va - tion from Your throne.  
comes to us To save our fall - en race.  
which He reigns, Shall give Him no - bler praise.

*(please stand)*

## THE INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

## THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.”

C: **They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good.**

*(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for repentant self-examination.)*

P: Holy and gracious God,

**C: I confess that I have sinned against You. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that my heart may know peace.**

P: By the mercy of God, we are redeemed by Jesus Christ and in Him we are forgiven. As a called and ordained 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.

**C: Amen.**

P: He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord, Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

*(please be seated)*

**THE INTROIT** Psalm 26:1-2, 6-7; Antiphon Psalm 26:8 (ESV)

P: O LORD, I love the habitation of Your house

**C: and the place where Your glory dwells.**

P: Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity,

**C: and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.**

P: Prove me, O LORD, and try me;

**C: test my heart and my mind.**

P: I wash my hands in innocence and go around Your altar, O LORD,

**C: proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all Your wondrous deeds.**

**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.**

P: O LORD, I love the habitation of Your house

**C: and the place where Your glory dwells.**

**THE HYMN OF PRAISE #949** *“Heavenly Hosts in Ceaseless Worship”*



1 Heav'n-ly hosts in cease-less wor-ship "Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly" cry;  
2 All cre-a-tion, all re-demp-tion, Join to sing the Sav-ior's worth;



"He who is, who was and will be, God Al-might-y, Lord Most High."  
Lamb of God, whose blood has bought us, Kings and priests, to reign on earth.



Praise and hon-or, pow'r and glo-ry, Be to Him who reigns a-lone!  
Wealth and wis-dom, pow'r and glo-ry, Hon-or, might, do-min-ion, praise,



We, with all His hands have fash-ioned, Fall be-fore the Fa-ther's throne.  
Now be His from all His crea-tures And to ev-er-last-ing days!

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## **THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray. Almighty and merciful God, You who cleanse us from all sin so that we may rejoice in Your salvation, cleanse Your Church of all false teachings and error. Guide us ever to hold to Your Word of truth in all matters of faith and life, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

## **THE OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 29:11-19 (ESV)

And the vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed." And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read." And the Lord said: "Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor Me with their lips, while their hearts are far from Me, and their fear of Me is a commandment taught by men, therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden." Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?" You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me"; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"? Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest? In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see. The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **THE EPISTLE READING** Ephesians 5:22-33 (ESV)

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, His body, and is Himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her, that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that He might present the church to Himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of His body. "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh" [*Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:5*]. This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(please stand)*

## **THE VERSE** *(sung)*

**Voices raised to You we offer; Tune them, God, for songs of praise.  
Hearts and hands we bring in tribute For Your gifts through all our days.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Triune God, to You we sing!**

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## **THE HOLY GOSPEL** Mark 7:1-13 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

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

Now when the Pharisees gathered to [Jesus], with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, they saw that some of His disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) And the Pharisees and the scribes asked Him, “Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” And He said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, ‘This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me; in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’ You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men” [Isaiah 29:13]. And He said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’ [Exodus 20:12]; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die’ [Ex. 21:17]. But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, “Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban”’ (that is, given to God)—then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**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.**

*(please be seated)*

**THE MEMORY VERSE** The Conclusion of the Lord's Prayer and *What does this mean?*  
from Luther's Small Catechism

**For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

***What does this mean?*** This means that I should be certain that these petitions are pleasing to our Father in heaven, and are heard by Him; for He Himself has commanded us to pray in this way and has promised to hear us. Amen, amen means "yes, yes, it shall be so."

**THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**THE HYMN OF THE DAY #862** "Oh, Blest the Housel"



1 Oh, blest the house, what - e'er be - fall, Where Je - sus  
2 Oh, blest that house where faith is found And all in  
3 Oh, blest the par - ents who give heed Un - to their  
4 Oh, blest that house; it pros - pers well. In peace and  
5 Then here will I and mine to - day A sol - emn



Christ is all in all! A home that is not whol - ly  
hope and love a - bound; They trust their God and serve Him  
chil - dren's fore - most need And wea - ry not of care or  
joy the par - ents dwell, And in their chil - dren's lives is  
prom - ise make and say: Though all the world for - sake His



His— How sad and poor and dark it is!  
still And do in all His ho - ly will!  
cost. May none to them and heav'n be lost!  
shown How rich - ly God can bless His own.  
Word, I and my house will serve the Lord!

**THE SERMON** "Observe Marriage Like This!" Text: *Ephesians 5:22-23*

**THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS**

## THE HYMN #854 "Forth in Thy Name, O Lord, I Go"



1 Forth in Thy name, O Lord, I go, My dai - ly  
2 The task Thy wis - dom has as - signed, O let me  
3 Thee may I set at my right hand, Whose eyes my  
4 Give me to bear Thine eas - y yoke, And ev - 'ry  
5 For Thee de - light - ful - ly em - ploy What - e'er Thy



la - bor to pur - sue, Thee, on - ly Thee, re -  
cheer - ful - ly ful - fill; In all my works Thy  
in - most sub - stance see, And la - bor on at  
mo - ment watch and pray, And still to things e -  
boun - teous grace has giv'n, And run my course with



solved to know In all I think or speak or do.  
pres - ence find, And prove Thy good and per - fect will.  
Thy com - mand, And of - fer all my works to Thee.  
ter - nal look, And has - ten to Thy glo - rious day.  
e - ven joy, And close - ly walk with Thee to heav'n.

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*(please stand)*

## THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*(Each petition concludes with the following response: "Lord, in Your mercy," "hear our prayer.")*

### 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 BENEDICTION

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord lift up His countenance on you and ✠ give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

*(please be seated)*

## THE CLOSING HYMN #852 "O God of Mercy, God of Might"



1 O God of mer - cy, God of might, In love and  
2 And Thou, who cam'st on earth to die That our lost  
3 Teach us the les - son Thou hast taught: To feel for  
4 All are re - deemed, both far and wide, Since Thou, O



pit - y in - fi - nite, Teach us, as ev - er  
world might live there - by, O hear us; for to  
those Thy blood hath bought, That ev - 'ry word and  
Lord, for all hast died. Grant us the will and



in Thy sight, To live our lives in Thee.  
Thee we cry, In hope, O Lord, to Thee.  
deed and thought May work a work for Thee.  
grace pro - vide To love them all in Thee!

**5 In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,  
May we each other's burdens share;  
May we, where help is needed, there  
Give help as unto Thee!**

**6 And may Thy Holy Spirit move  
All those who live to live in love  
Till Thou shalt greet in heav'n above  
All those who live in Thee.**

## THE ANNOUNCEMENTS