LIVING HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH SOUTH CAMPUS

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Pentecost 12

August 27 – 28, 2022

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WELCOME: We welcome all who worship with us today! May you be spiritually refreshed and strengthened by the message of God's Word. If you have no church home, one of the pastors will be happy to speak with you about membership in the congregation.

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER: We ask everyone – members and guests – to sign our Friendship Register during the service. Visitors, if you are worshipping with us for the first time, we would especially appreciate it if you would list your address and telephone number so that we can acknowledge your visit. Thank you.

PARENTS: If your children become restless, that's okay . . . We're glad they're here and Jesus is pleased when they are brought to hear His Word! Perhaps a moment or two with mom or dad is all that is necessary. Our "Mother's Room" is speaker equipped with a view of the sanctuary.

HOLY COMMUNION: Our church practices closed communion. We ask that only members, or members of other WELS or ELS churches partake of the Sacrament.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: The Bible emphasizes the need for us to stay close to God through his word. We offer several opportunities for young and old – various Bible classes and organizations for teens and adults, Sunday School, confirmation classes, Vacation Bible School, Lamb of God elementary school (3-year-old preschool through 8th grade), and Lutheran Pioneers for boys and girls. Members and visitors are encouraged to attend.

WE BELIEVE AND TEACH . . .

- There is only one true God. He reveals himself as three distinct persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- The Bible is the inspired and error-free Word of God.
- All people have disobeyed God's will and deserve God's just punishment.
- God so loved the world that he sent his one and only son, Jesus Christ, to be our perfect substitute and be punished for our sins.
- Only by faith in the work of Jesus Christ do we become heirs of the glories of heaven. This is a gift of God's undeserved love and not a result of our own efforts.
- Faith in Jesus Christ motivates us to devote our lives in service to God and our fellow human beings.

† Our Worship Focus today: James teaches that showing favoritism treats others with judgment rather than mercy, putting us at risk of receiving the same from God.

Opening Hymn #912 - Open, Lovely Doors

P: In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession

- P: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
- C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.
- P: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
- C: Holy God, gracious Father, I am sinful by nature and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved others as I should. I deserve your punishment both now and forever. But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins with his innocent suffering and death. Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.
- P: Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.

C: Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

- P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- P: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.

- P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C: Amen.



The Word

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray together the Prayer of the Day...

O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by your Holy Spirit to follow the example of your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading

Proverbs 25:6,7a

⁶ Do not honor yourself in a king's presence. Do not stand in a place reserved for great people, ⁷ because it is better to be told, "Come up here," than for you to be humiliated before a ruler whom your eyes have seen.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 18C - The LORD My God Will Turn (in unison)







The LORD is my rock, my fortress and my de-/liverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take / refuge.

In my distress I called / to the LORD;

I cried to my / God for help.

From his temple he / heard my voice; my cry came before him, in- / to his ears. Refrain

He reached down from on high and took / hold of me; he drew me out of deep / waters.

He rescued me from my powerful / enemy, from my foes, who were too / strong for me.

They confronted me in the day of my dis- / aster, but the LORD was / my support.

He brought me out into a / spacious place; he rescued me because he delighted / in me. Refrain

You, LORD, keep my lamp / burning; my God turns my darkness / into light. With your help I can advance a- / gainst a troop; with my God I can / scale a wall.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son and to the Holy / Spirit, as it was in the be- / ginning, is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain

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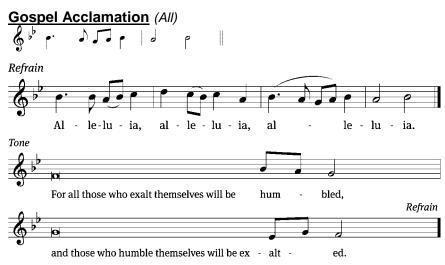
Second Reading James 2:1–13

² My brothers, have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ without showing favoritism. ² For example, suppose a man enters your worship assembly wearing gold rings and fine clothing, and a poor man also enters wearing filthy clothing. 3 If you look with favor on the man wearing fine clothing and say, "Sit here in this good place," but you tell the poor man, "Stand over there" or "Sit down here at my feet," 4 have you not made a distinction among yourselves and become judges with evil opinions? ⁵ Listen, my dear brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom, which he promised to those who love him? ⁶ But you dishonored the poor man. Don't the rich oppress you, and don't they drag you into court? ⁷ Aren't they the ones who blaspheme the noble name that was pronounced over you? ⁸ However, if you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. 9 But if you show favoritism, you are committing a sin, since you are convicted by this law as transgressors.

¹⁰ In fact, whoever keeps the whole law but stumbles in one point has become guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹ For the one who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not commit murder." Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹² So speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law of freedom. ¹³ For there will be judgment without mercy on the one who has not shown mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



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<u>Gospel Luke 14:1,7–14</u>

¹ One Sabbath day, when Jesus went into the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat bread, they were watching him closely.

⁷When he noticed how they were selecting the places of honor, he told the invited guests a parable. ⁸ "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not recline in the place of honor, or perhaps someone more distinguished than you may have been invited by him. ⁹ The one who invited both of you may come and tell you, 'Give this man your place.' Then you will begin, with shame, to take the lowest place.

¹⁰ "But when you are invited, go and recline in the lowest place, so that when the one who invited you comes, he will tell you, 'Friend, move up to a higher place.' Then you will have honor in the presence of all who are reclining at the table with you.

¹¹ "Yes, everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

¹² He also said to the one who had invited him, "When you make a dinner or a supper, do not invite your friends, or your brothers, or your relatives, or rich neighbors, so that perhaps they may also return the favor and pay you back.

¹³ "But when you make a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴ and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. Certainly, you will be repaid in the resurrection of the righteous."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn of the Day #729 - Son of God, Eternal Savior

Sermon James 2:1-13

Everybody Matters to God

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 truly 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.

Prayer of the Church

- P: Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.
- C: Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.
- P: Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.
- C: Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.
- P: Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

- C: Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.
- P: Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.
- C: Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.
- P: Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.
- C: Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.
- P: Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.
- C: Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.
- P: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

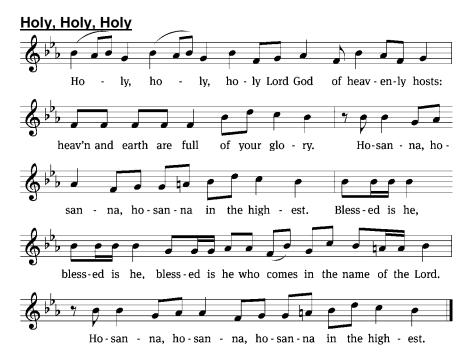
- P: We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.
- C: Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.
- P: Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.
- C: Amen.

The Sacrament

Preface

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them up to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.
- P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised

that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



Prayer of Thanksgiving (Pastor)

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer (All)

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 (Pastor)

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."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.



Distribution

Distribution Hymn #668- Jesus Comes Today with Healing

P: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

C: his mercy endures forever.

P: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

P: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Blessing

P: 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.

C: Amen.

Hymn #931 - Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise



Serving Us Today

Preacher: Pastor Mark Aufdemberge

Organist: Nancy Perez

Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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