

THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETINGS

THE WORD

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 105:1–6

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

C Amen.

R Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

C Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!

R Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the | LORD rejoice!

C Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!

R Remember the wondrous works that he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

C O offspring of Abraham, his servant, children of Jacob, his chosen ones!

R Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

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

OPENING SONG OF PRAISE

"Come, Now is the Time to Worship"

Come, now is the time to worship.

Come, now is the time to give your heart.

Come, just as you are to worship.

Come, just as you are before your God, come.

One day every tongue will confess You are God.

One day every knee will bow.

Still the greatest treasure remains

For those who gladly choose You now.

Come, now is the time to worship.

Come, now is the time to give your heart.

Come, just as you are to worship.

Come, just as you are before your God,

Come, ... come, come.

© 1998 Vineyard Songs (Admin. Mercy/Vineyard) ccli # 187269 WOW yel. 178

OLD TESTAMENT READING Deuteronomy 7:6–9

⁶“You are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. ⁷It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all peoples, ⁸but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE Romans 8:28–39

²⁸We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SONG " God Knew Your Name"

Words and music by Jim Likens

© 1997 Jim Likens

Before the light of day, shined on your little face

God knew your name.

When no one else could see how precious you would be,

God knew your name.

And He held you so close in His loving hand

And He wanted all to see, that

Before the light of day, shined on your little face,

God knew your name.

Before you walked around, before you first fell down,

God knew your name.

Before you rode your trike, and then that first red bike,

God knew your name.

He was with you everyday, right there by your side

Even when you made mistakes. And

Before the light of day shined on your little face,

God knew your name.

Words and music by Jim Likens © 1997 Jim Likens

(Stand)

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 13:44–52

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁴Jesus said: "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When it was full, men drew it ashore and sat down and sorted the good into containers but threw away the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the close of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹“Have you understood all these things?” They said to him, “Yes.” ⁵²And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P The Bible says, “Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit. When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord’ -- and you forgave the guilt of my sin.” *Ps. 32:1-5*

C Gracious Lord, we have sinned, forgive us our sins and renew a right spirit within us. Feed us with Your satisfying Word and enable us to live holy and godly lives.

ABSOLUTION

P God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.” *John 3:17-18*

By the authority of Jesus Christ and his command to forgive those who repent and trust in him alone, I forgive your sins in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Sit

CHILDREN’S TALK

HYMN 651 I LOVE YOUR KINGDOM, LORD

1 I love Your kingdom, Lord,
The place of Your abode,
The Church our blest Redeemer saved
With His own precious blood.

- 2 Beyond my highest joy
I prize its heav'nly ways,
Its sweet communion, solemn vows,
Its hymns of love and praise.
- 3 I love Your Church, O God,
Your saints in ev'ry land,
Dear as the apple of Your eye
And graven on Your hand.
- 4 For them my tears shall fall;
For them my prayers ascend;
For them my cares and toils be giv'n
Till toils and cares shall end.
- 5 Sure as Your truth shall last,
To Zion shall be giv'n
The brightest glories earth can yield
And brighter bliss of heav'n.

Text: Timothy Dwight, 1752–1817, alt.

Text: Public domain

SERMON Heaven is a Priceless Gift, Matthew 13:44-52

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).)

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

THE HOLY SUPPER

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

(Sit)

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

"Hide Me In Your Holiness"

Hide me, Lord, in Your holiness, ev'ry sin I now confess.

Praise to You forgiving Lord, hide me in Your holiness,
Hide me in Your holiness.

Chorus:

Hide me, hide me, hide me, Lord. Won't You hide me, hide me,
Hide me in Your holiness, hide me in Your holiness.

© 1986 Maranatha Praise CCLI 187269 BB 91

“More Precious Than Silver”

Lord, You are more precious than silver.
Lord, You are more costly than gold.
Lord, You are more beautiful than diamonds;
And nothing I desire compares with You.

And who can weigh the value of knowing You?
Who can judge the worth of who You are?
Who can count the blessings of loving You?
Who can say just how great You are?

Lord, You are more precious than silver,
Lord, You are more costly than gold,
Lord, You are more beautiful than diamonds,
And nothing I desire compares with You.

© 1982 Integrity's Hosanna! Music CCLI # 187269 BB 161

“Father, I Adore You”

Father, I Adore You, Lay my life before You, How I Love You.
Jesus, I Adore You, Lay my life before You, How I Love You.
Spirit, I Adore You, Lay my life before You, How I Love You.

Repeat.

©1986 Maranatha! Music CCLI # 187269 RMP 15

THE BENEDICTION

People: Amen

THE CLOSING SONG “The Lord Bless Thee”

Men: **The Lord bless thee,** Women: **The Lord bless thee,**

Men: **and keep thee,** Women: **and keep thee,**

All: The Lord make His face to shine upon thee,
And be gracious unto thee, be gracious unto thee,

Men: **The Lord lift up,** Women: **the Lord lift up,**

Men: **His countenance,** Women: **His countenance,**

All: upon thee and give thee peace. *Repeat.*

©1979 Ephphatha Music OSB 209