

Sunday, October 22, 2023, 9:00am

No god Like God

21st Sunday After Pentecost

We believe God is in charge even in a world that does not believe in Him.

Prelude

#738, Lord Of All Hopefulness

1 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy, Whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy:

Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray, Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

2 Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith, Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe: Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray, Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

3 Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace, Your hands swift to welcome, Your arms to embrace: Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray, Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

4 Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm, Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm: Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray, Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–53

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

C: Amen.

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

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

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, I confess that I am by nature sinful and unclean. I have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not loved You with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbors as myself. I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Jesus, 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.

KYRIE LSB 152

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.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS LSB 154

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

C Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

P: Together, we pray,

C: O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C. Amen.

Children's Time

Isaiah 45:1–7 [Sermon Text]

Thus says the Lord to His anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: "I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, I will give you the

treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. For the sake of My servant Jacob, and Israel My chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know Me. I am the Lord, and there is no other, besides Me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know Me, that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides Me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the Lord, who does all these things.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***My Savior Loves Me* Choir**

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers loved by God, that He has chosen you, because our Gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE LSB 156

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

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle Jesus in His talk. And they sent their disciples to Him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that You are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and You do not care about anyone’s opinion, for You are not swayed by appearances. Tell us, then, what You think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put

Me to the test, you hypocrites? Show Me the coin for the tax.” And they brought Him a denarius. And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” They said, “Caesar’s.” Then He said to them, “Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard it, they marveled. And they left Him and went away.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Lord.

#891, *O Light Whose Splendor*

1 O Light whose splendor thrills and gladdens With radiance brighter than the sun,

Pure gleam of God’s unending glory, O Jesus, blest Anointed One;

2 As twilight hovers near at sunset, And lamps are lit, and children nod, In evening hymns we lift our voices To Father, Spirit, Son: one God.

3 In all life’s brilliant timeless moments, Let faithful voices sing Your praise, O Son of God, our Life-bestower, Whose glory lightens endless days.

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1944

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The Sermon

No god Like God

P: Please rise and join me in professing our faith

C: 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.

The Gathering of our Gifts and Tithes

OFFERTORY LSB 159

C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord’s house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

The Prayers of His Children:

P: Lord, in Your mercy **C: Hear our prayer.**

P: ...taught by our Lord,

C: 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.

God's Benediction

#923, Almighty Father, Bless The Word

1 Almighty Father, bless the Word Which through Your grace we now have heard.
Oh, may the precious seed take root, Spring up, and bear abundant fruit!

2 We praise You for the means of grace As homeward now our steps we trace.
Grant, Lord, that we who worshiped here May all at last in heav'n appear.

3 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Text (sts. 1–2): Church Poetry, 1823, Philadelphia, alt.; (st. 3): Thomas Ken, 1637–1711
Text: Public domain

Ministry Announcements

Postlude