

## 8/6 & 10/2025 9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### 728 *HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION*

- 1     How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
      Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
      What more can He say than to you He has said  
      Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?
  
- 2     “Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,  
      For I am your God and will still give you aid;  
      I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to  
      stand,  
      Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.
  
- 3     “The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose  
      I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;  
      That soul, though all hell should endeavor to  
      shake,  
      I’ll never, no never, no never, forsake!
  
- 4     “When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,  
      My grace, all-sufficient, will be your supply.

The flames will not hurt you; I only design  
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

- 5 “Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove  
My sov’reign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,  
Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.”

Text: A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.

Text: Public domain

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of  
the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true  
heart and confess our sins unto God our Father,  
beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus  
Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the  
Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## INTROIT

Psalm 147:8–11; antiphon: v. 7

Sing to the LORD with thanks- | giving;\*

make melody to our God | on the lyre!

He covers the heavens with clouds; he prepares rain |  
for the earth;\*

he makes grass grow | on the hills.

He gives to the | beasts their food, \*

and to the young ravens | that cry.

His delight is not in the strength | of the horse, \*

nor his pleasure in the legs | of a man,

but the LORD takes pleasure in those who | fear him, \*  
in those who hope in his | steadfast love.

**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.**

Sing to the LORD with thanks- | giving;\*

make melody to our God | on the lyre!

**☐ Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Ghost;**

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever  
shall be, world without end. Amen.

*KYRIE*

LSB 186

**C** Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS*

LSB 187

**P** Glory be to God on high:  
**C** and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.  
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship  
Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for  
Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father  
Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have  
mercy upon us.

**Thou that takest away the sin of the world,  
receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the  
Father, have mercy upon us.**

**For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

### *SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, it is by Your grace that we live as Your people who offer acceptable service. Grant that we may walk by faith, and not by sight, in the way that leads to eternal 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.

*OLD TESTAMENT READING*

Genesis 15:1–6

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: “Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” <sup>4</sup>And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup>And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## GRADUAL

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

Fear the LORD, | you his saints,\*  
for those who fear him lack | nothing!  
Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,\*  
but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

## EPISTLE

Hebrews 11:1–16

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>For by it the people of old received their commendation. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

<sup>4</sup>By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. <sup>5</sup>By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. <sup>6</sup>And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw



near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. <sup>7</sup>By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

<sup>13</sup>These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. <sup>14</sup>For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*ALLELUIA*

LSB 190

**C** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

*HOLY GOSPEL*

Luke 12:22–40

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

**C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>22</sup>[Jesus] said to his disciples, “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. <sup>23</sup>For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. <sup>24</sup>Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! <sup>25</sup>And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? <sup>26</sup>If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? <sup>27</sup>Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>28</sup>But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! <sup>29</sup>And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. <sup>30</sup>For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. <sup>31</sup>Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

<sup>32</sup>“Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

<sup>35</sup>“Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning, <sup>36</sup>and be like men who are waiting for their master to come home from the wedding feast, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup>Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. Truly, I say to you, he will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup>If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants! <sup>39</sup>But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

### *NICENE CREED*

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came  
down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the  
virgin Mary  
and was made man;

**and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures**

**and ascended into heaven**

**and sits at the right hand of the Father.**

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,**

**whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the Lord and giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,**

**who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,**

**I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,**

**and I look for the resurrection of the dead**

**and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

733 *O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST*

sts. 1–6

- 1 O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home:
- 2 Under the shadow of Thy throne  
Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,  
And our defense is sure.
- 3 Before the hills in order stood  
Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God,  
To endless years the same.
- 4 A thousand ages in Thy sight  
Are like an evening gone,  
Short as the watch that ends the night  
Before the rising sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
Soon bears us all away;  
We fly forgotten as a dream  
Dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while troubles last  
And our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Text: Public domain

## *SERMON*

**P** The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

**C** Amen.

## *OFFERTORY*

LSB 192

**C** 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.**

## *OFFERING*

## *PRAYER OF THE CHURCH*

## *PREFACE*

LSB 194

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up unto the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

**P** It is truly meet, 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, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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 195

**☩ Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that  
cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

*LORD'S PRAYER*

LSB 196

**☩ 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.

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

*THE WORDS OF OUR LORD*

LSB 197

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was  
betrayed, took bread, and when He had given  
thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and  
said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given  
for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after  
supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it  
to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is  
the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed  
for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as  
often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

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

**C** Amen.

**C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

*DISTRIBUTION*

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

**Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

**Amen.**

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✝ in peace.

**C** Amen.

*611 CHIEF OF SINNERS THOUGH I BE*

- 1 Chief of sinners though I be,  
Jesus shed His blood for me,  
Died that I might live on high,  
Lives that I might never die.  
As the branch is to the vine,  
I am His, and He is mine.
- 2 Oh, the height of Jesus' love,  
Higher than the heav'ns above,  
Deeper than the depths of sea,  
Lasting as eternity!  
Love that found me—wondrous thought!  
Found me when I sought Him not.
- 3 Only Jesus can impart  
Balm to heal the wounded heart,

Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n,  
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,  
Faith and hope to walk with God  
In the way that Enoch trod.

4 Chief of sinners though I be,  
Christ is all in all to me;  
All my wants to Him are known,  
All my sorrows are His own.  
He sustains the hidden life  
Safe with Him from earthly strife.

5 O my Savior, help afford  
By Your Spirit and Your Word!  
When my wayward heart would stray,  
Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply  
While I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.

Text: Public domain

## *750 IF THOU BUT TRUST IN GOD TO GUIDE THEE*

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee  
And hope in Him through all thy ways,

He'll give thee strength, whate'er betide thee,  
And bear thee through the evil days.  
Who trusts in God's unchanging love  
Builds on the rock that naught can move.

2 What can these anxious cares avail thee,  
These never-ceasing moans and sighs?  
What can it help if thou bewail thee  
O'er each dark moment as it flies?  
Our cross and trials do but press  
The heavier for our bitterness.

3 Be patient and await His leisure  
In cheerful hope, with heart content  
To take whate'er thy Father's pleasure  
And His discerning love hath sent,  
Nor doubt our inmost wants are known  
To Him who chose us for His own.

4 God knows full well when times of gladness  
Shall be the needful thing for thee.  
When He has tried thy soul with sadness

And from all guile has found thee free,  
He comes to thee all unaware  
And makes thee own His loving care.

5 Nor think amid the fiery trial  
That God hath cast thee off unheard,  
That he whose hopes meet no denial  
Must surely be of God preferred.  
Time passes and much change doth bring  
And sets a bound to ev'rything.

6 All are alike before the Highest;  
'Tis easy for our God, we know,  
To raise thee up, though low thou liest,  
To make the rich man poor and low.  
True wonders still by Him are wrought  
Who setteth up and brings to naught.

7 Sing, pray, and keep His ways unswerving,  
Perform thy duties faithfully,  
And trust His Word; though undeserving,  
Thou yet shalt find it true for thee.



God never yet forsook in need  
The soul that trusted Him indeed.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; Georg Neumark, 1621–81

Text: Public domain

*720 WE WALK BY FAITH AND NOT BY SIGHT*

1 We walk by faith and not by sight,  
No gracious words we hear  
From Him who spoke as none e'er spoke,  
But we believe Him near.

2 We may not touch His hands and side,  
Nor follow where He trod;  
But in His promise we rejoice  
And cry "My Lord and God!"

3 Help then, O Lord, our unbelief;  
And may our faith abound  
To call on You when You are near  
And seek where You are found.

4 For You, O resurrected Lord,  
Are found in means divine:

Beneath the water and the Word,  
Beneath the bread and wine.

5 Lord, when our life of faith is done,  
In realms of clearer light  
We may behold You as You are,  
With full and endless sight.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–71, alt.

Text: Public domain

*NUNC DIMITTIS*

LSB 199

**☐ Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in  
peace according to Thy word,  
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which  
Thou hast prepared before the face of all  
people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of  
Thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to  
the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever  
shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** **and His mercy endureth forever.**

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**A** Bless we the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be  
gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠  
give you peace.

**C** **Amen, amen, amen.**

*828 WE ARE CALLED TO STAND TOGETHER*

- 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!

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