ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL Wheatfield, New York

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 27, 2023

We are a Christian community called to **worship** and sent to **serve**, welcoming all to **walk** with Christ and **grow** in faith.

AS WE GATHER

Son of a pub owner and a cabinet maker by trade, Edward Mote was a nineteenth century Englishman who came to faith in Christ as an adult and then served the last two decades of his life as a parish pastor. Although Mote is said to have never lost his touch for building furniture, he discovered a new passion in his later years: writing hymns for Christians to sing. "My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness," he wrote. "No merit of my own I claim But wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand" (LSB 575/576:1). The story is told that the first person with whom Mote shared these words was a friend who had fallen ill and was nearing the end of her life. Mote's beautiful hymn, which Christ-followers like us continue to enjoy today, reminded God's beloved that Christ Jesus alone is the solid foundation, the mighty fortress in whom she could trust. In life and in death, our hope is built on this rock, who offers for us nothing less than His own blood and righteousness.

WELCOME & INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

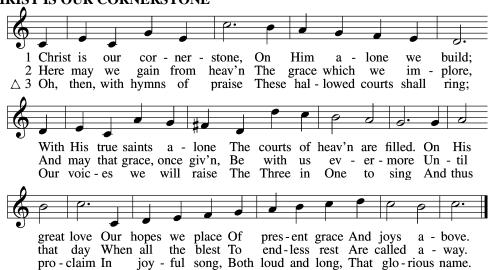
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

PSALM 138

- **P** The LORD will fulfill His purpose for me;
- Your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.
- **P** I give You thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;
- **©** before the gods I sing Your praise;
- I bow down toward Your holy temple and give thanks to Your name for Your steadfast love and Your faithfulness,
- for You have exalted above all things Your name and Your word.
- **P** On the day I called, You answered me;
- **C** my strength of soul You increased.
- P All the kings of the earth shall give You thanks, O LORD,
- for they have heard the words of Your mouth,
- **P** and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD,
- **C** for great is the glory of the LORD.
- **P** For though the LORD is high, He regards the lowly,
- **C** but the haughty He knows from afar.
- P Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You preserve my life;
- You stretch out Your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and Your right hand delivers me.
- 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** The LORD will fulfill His purpose for me;
- Your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.

CHRIST IS OUR CORNERSTONE

LSB 912



Text: Latin, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806-76, alt. Tune: John Darwall, 1731-89 Text and tune: Public domain

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 728; 761; 575/576

That we may rest on Jesus and His unchanging grace, let us with repentant hearts confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

(We observe a moment of silence for personal prayers of confession.)

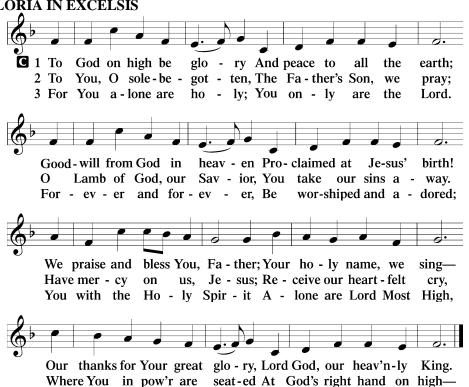
- P How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
- Heavenly Father, Your Word tells us that we all have sinned and fall short of Your glory. By what we have done and by what we have failed to do, we have lived shaky lives that falter when we do not stand firm in You.
- **P** Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee!
- C Lord Jesus, have mercy upon us. You are the rock of ages in whom we find protection and deliverance.
- P On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand!
- Holy Spirit, enable us to trust the promises of Your Word, confident in the forgiveness of sins found in Christ Jesus, our solid rock. Amen.
- P Upon this your confession, I am blessed to proclaim the certainty of God's saving grace to all of you! In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, our mighty rock and fortress, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

KYRIE Mark 10:47 LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.



God the Fa-ther's glo-ry. "A-men!" our glad

Text: Stephen P. Starke

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- $[\mathbf{P}]$ The Lord be with you.
- \mathbf{C} And also with you.
- P Let us pray together:
- Almighty God, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus Christ, to be the rock upon whom our lives are built. Help us rest securely in Your promises and find strength in Your mighty deliverance; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 51:1-6

¹"Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD:

look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.

²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you;

for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him.

³For the LORD comforts Zion;

he comforts all her waste places and makes her wilderness like Eden,

her desert like the garden of the LORD;

joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

This is the Word of the Lord.

⁴"Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait. ⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;

but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed."

 \mathbf{C} Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 11:33—12:8

Matthew 16:13-20

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone

among you not to think of himself more highly than

he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment.

each according to the measure of faith that God has

members, and the members do not all have the same

⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given

teaches, in his teaching; 8the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity;

the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts

revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven.

¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will

build my church, and the gates of hell shall not

prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the

kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth

shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on

earth shall be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the

to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to

our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who

assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many

function, 5so we, though many, are one body in

Christ, and individually members one of another.

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

³⁴"For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?"

³⁵"Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?"

³⁶For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

of mercy, with cheerfulness.

HOLY GOSPEL

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not

P This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Christ.

Traise to Tou, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

Nicene Creed

 \mathbf{C}

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.



Text: Nikolai Fredrik Severin Grundtvig, 1783–1872, abr.; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt. Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–87 Text and tune: Public domain

TEACHING FROM GOD'S WORD

Message Notes

Main Points:	
One thing NEW I learned:	What can I apply to my life?

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God, from You and through You and to You are all things. You have built Your Church on the confession of the Gospel and have promised that the gates of hell will not overcome it. To Your Church throughout the world grant the faith and courage to confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C hear our prayer.
- Lord God Almighty, You transform Your Church by the Holy Spirit so that she does not conform to the world. Draw forth from Your people their proclamation of thanksgiving, that they may tell of all Your wondrous deeds. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P O Lord, You have given Your Church the ministry of reconciliation, in order that sins may be forgiven and lives restored in the name of Christ. As You have so graciously forgiven us, grant that we may extend this grace by forgiving others. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Heavenly Father, care for all families, children, single adults and youth, that they might steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal. Grant an increase in wisdom and grace to all who teach and learn. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Lord God, grant that all nations and leaders might act for peace; promote justice; and protect all who live under violence, oppression, and fear, that all people might extol You. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Heavenly Father, care for all victims of disaster, for those stricken by illness or infirmity, for the aged and infirm, for the grieving and for those near death. [Especially.....]

 Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P O Lord, lead us to repentance and faith, that we may not think more highly of ourselves than is right, but that we would set our hearts and minds on the things of God. Guide us on our journey through this life and lead us to everlasting life with You. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- **P** From You and through You and to You are all things! To You, O Father, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, be glory now and forever.
- C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24–26

The Lord alone is our rock and our refuge, our fortress and our deliverer. His blessing be upon us as we go forth in His name.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen.



Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt. Tune: John Stainer, 1840-1901 Text and tune: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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