

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 23, 2017

Worship Focus

The Third Commandment: Worship God



“Remember
the Sabbath
day by keeping
it holy.”

Exodus 20:8

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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Service of the Word

Christian Worship, p. 38

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OPENING HYMN

231 – Now the Silence

Now the si-lence Now the peace Now the emp-ty hands up-lift - ed
Now the kneel-ing Now the plea Now the Fa-ther's arms in wel-come
Now the hear-ing Now the pow'r Now the ves - sel brimmed for pour-ing
Now the bod - y Now the blood Now the joy - ful cel - e - bra - tion
Now the wed-ding Now the songs Now the heart for-giv - en leap-ing
Now the Spir - it's vis - i - ta - tion Now the Son's e - piph - a - ny
Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing Now Now Now.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008. © 1969 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.
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Tune: Now (78 78 78 78 78 87 63) Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929. © 1969 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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INVOCATION

Minister The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation **And also with you.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.
Him serve with fear; his praise forthtell; Come ye before him and rejoice.**

**To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, The God whom heav'n and earth adore,
From us and from the angel host Be praise and glory evermore. (233:1,5)**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray. God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Exodus 20:8-11

God commanded that the Children of Israel not to work on the seventh day so that it could be a day devoted to the Lord.

EXODUS 20:8 “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

PSALM

Psalm 84

Refrain Tune: David Clarke Isele. © 1979 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL,
www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

All sing refrain and Gloria. Men are asked to sing the first line of each verse, and women the second line.



(Men) How lovely is your | dwelling place,*
(Women) O LORD Al | mighty!

My soul yearns, | even faints,*
for the courts | of the LORD.

Blessed are those who dwell | in your house;*
they are ever | praising you.

Refrain

Better is one day | in your courts*
than a thousand | elsewhere;

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house | of my God*
than dwell in the tents of the | wicked.

O LORD Al | mighty,*
blessed are they who | trust in you.

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

SECOND LESSON Colossians 2:13-23

Christ's completed work for us fulfills God's purpose for the Old Testament Sabbath and leads us to understand that true worship is not based on human rules.

COLOSSIANS 2:13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

¹⁶ Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. ¹⁷ These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ. ¹⁸ Do not let anyone who delights in false humility and the worship of angels disqualify you for the prize. Such a person goes into great detail about what he has seen, and his unspiritual mind puffs him up with idle notions. ¹⁹ He has lost connection with the Head, from whom the whole body, supported and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows as God causes it to grow.

²⁰ Since you died with Christ to the basic principles of this world, why, as though you still belonged to it, do you submit to its rules: ²¹ "Do not handle! Do not taste! Do not touch!"? ²² These are all destined to perish with use, because they are based on human commands and teachings. ²³ Such regulations indeed have an appearance of wisdom, with their self-imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence.

VERSE OF THE DAY

**For many years, O God of grace,
This church has been your dwelling place
And we your congregation.
Upon the precious cornerstone
Our faith is built, and Christ alone
Is still our one foundation.
Today We pray:
Let us greet you, Lord, and meet you
Here with singing. All our praises to you bringing. (622:1)**

GOSPEL John 4:19-26

Jesus explains to the woman at the well in Samaria, worship that truly pleases God.

JOHN 4:19 “Sir,” the woman said, “I can see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem.”

²¹ Jesus declared, “Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.”

²⁵ The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.”

²⁶ Then Jesus declared, “I who speak to you am he.”

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



**“His worshipers
must worship**



**in spirit
and in
truth.”**

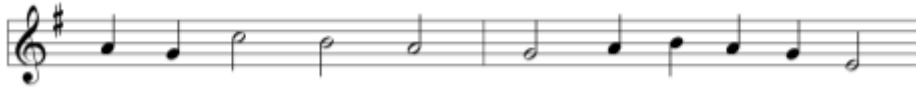
John 4:24

HYMN OF THE DAY

286 – The Law Commands and Makes Us Know



1 The law com-mands and makes us know What du - ties
2 The law un - cov - ers guilt and sin And shows how
3 What curs - es does the law pro - nounce A - gainst the
4 My soul, no more at - tempt to draw Your life and



to our God we owe, But 'tis the gos - pel must
vile our hearts have been; The gos - pel on - ly can
one who fails but once! But in the gos - pel Christ
com - fort from the law. Flee to the hope the gos -



re - veal Where lies our strength to do his will.
ex - press For - giv - ing love and cleans - ing grace.
ap - pears, Par - d'ning the guilt of nu - m'rous years.
pel gives; The one who trusts the prom - ise lives.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Tune: OLD HUNDRETH (LM) *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551.

SERMON

Matthew 11:28-30

28 “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.
29 Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Find Rest in the Word

CONFESSION OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES’ CREED

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there 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.**

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

MUSICAL OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

Brief silence

Lord, continue to raise up witnesses in this and every place to faithfully proclaim Your Word. Let Your Church continue to be the good soil that produces wheat for Your harvest. Bless all our pastors and church workers as they sow in the fields that You have given them. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Redeemer and Lord of hosts, the future is in Your hands, and only You know what is to come. Remove from us fear of the unknown and the trepidation that uncertainly brings. Keep us mindful that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed in us. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord of all, bless our nation and its citizens. Give us good leadership, satisfying work, loving families, and a quiet and peaceable life that glorifies Your name. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The whole earth is Yours, O Lord, and You have charged us with its care. Make us good stewards of Your creation until that time when You set it free from its bondage to decay and give it to us anew in the kingdom of Your Son. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of all compassion, look over the sick and all who suffer from any malady of mind or body. [*We intercede this morning particularly for _____.*] Give them patience and endurance in their trials and, if it be Your will, return them to health. Be especially with those who live in nursing homes and care facilities. Give them an unflinching faith in You and a lively hope for the redemption that You promise. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We join our prayer with the unending prayers of those who have gone before us and are now with You. Together the Church in heaven and the Church on earth await the time when the righteous will shine like the sun in Your Kingdom, O Father, for You live and reign with Your Son and Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

The
LORD'S
Prayer

SERMON HYMN

234 – Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
 4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -
 5 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for
 reign - ing And, as on wings of an
 made you, Health has be - stowed and, when
 fend you; Sure - ly his good - ness and
 dore him! All that has life and breath,



he is your health and sal - va - tion!
 ea - gle, up - lift - ing, sus - tain - ing.
 heed - less - ly fall - ing, has stayed you.
 mer - cy shall dai - ly at - tend you.
 come now with prais - es be - fore him!



Let all who hear Now to his tem - ple draw
 Have you not seen All that is need - ful has
 What need or grief Ev - er has failed of re -
 Pon - der a - new What the Al - might - y can
 Let the A - men Sound from his peo - ple a -



near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 been Sent by his gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 lief? Wings of his mer - cy did shade you.
 do As with his love he be - friends you.
 gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-80; tr. composite.

Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN (14 14 478) *Ander Theil Des Erneuerten Gesang-Buchs*, Stralsund, 1665, alt.

PRAYER

M Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



BLESSING

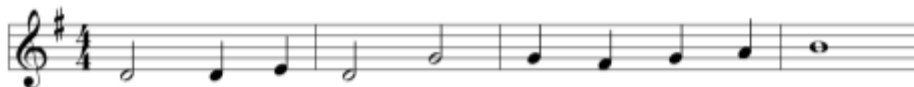
M Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.



CLOSING HYMN

321 – Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name



1 Sav - ior, a - gain to thy dear name we raise
2 Grant us thy peace up - on our home - ward way;
3 Grant us thy peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;
4 Grant us thy peace through - out our earth - ly life,



With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise,
With thee be - gan, with thee shall end the day,
Turn thou for us its dark - ness in - to light.
Our balm in sor - row and our stay in strife.



Once more we bless thee ere our wor - ship cease,
Guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
From harm and dan - ger keep thy peo - ple free,
Then, when thy voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



Then, low - ly bend - ing, wait thy word of peace.
That in this house have called up - on thy name.
For dark and light are both a - like to thee.
Call us, O Lord, to thine e - ter - nal peace.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826–93, abr., alt.

Tune: ELLERS (10 10 10 10) Edward J. Hopkins, 1818–1901.

After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.

With
Ceaseless
Praise!



*“Come to me, all you who
are weary
and burdened,
and I will
give you rest.”*

Matthew 11:28

