

Pastor's Bible Study

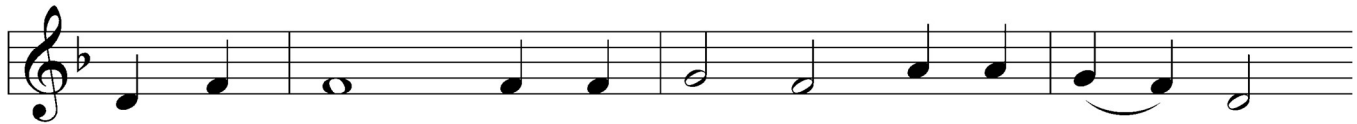
June 18, 2025

Proper 7 – The Second Sunday after Pentecost

LSB 849 – Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
With the pierc - ing, two-edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

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Read Isaiah 65:1-9

1. In verse one, God responds to Isaiah's prayer (63:15-64:12), what does this response tell you about God?
2. Verse one includes the language, "Here am I", where else have we heard this in the book of Isaiah? What might we learn from this connection?
3. What sort of rebellion is described in verses 3-5?

4. How does this rebellion sit with God?
5. What hope does the Lord share in verse 8-9?

Read Luke 8:26-39

1. What do you learn in verses 26 and 27 about the man who meets Jesus on the coast?
2. How does this reflect the imagery of rejection from Isaiah 65:1-5?
3. What do we learn from Jesus' dialogue with the man?
4. What is the significance of the herd of pigs and their demise?
5. Explain the action of those tending the pigs in verse 34.
6. How do they find the former demoniac in verse 35?
7. Consider the response of the people of the Gerasene region and the response of the man Jesus helped. What do these varied responses tell us?

Read Galatians 3:23-4:7

3. Luther wrote, "Therefore the function of the Law is only to kill, yet in such a way that God may be able to make alive. Thus the Law was not given merely for the sake of death; but because man is proud and supposes that he is wise, righteous, and holy, therefore it is necessary that he be humbled by the Law, in order that this beast, the presumption of righteousness, may be killed, since man cannot live unless it is killed." Explain this quotation in light of Galatians 3:23 and relate it to the Old Testament lesson from Isaiah 65.

Devotional Thought (The Lutheran Study Bible)

"Luke's lengthiest report of an exorcism is also his most dramatic: in the Gerasene region, Jesus frees a deranged and menacing demoniac. The magnitude of this man's suffering leads some to dread evil spirits and wonder what prevents any of us from being the object of their attacks. Though we do well to take note that demons exist, we may also trust in Jesus, whose resurrection has disarmed the forces of sin, death and even Satan" (TLSB, 1728).

Prayer

The pow'rs of death have done their worst,
But Christ their legions hath dispersed.
Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia! Amen" (LSB, 464:2).