



Sunday, September 1, 2024

The Time After Pentecost

10:00 a.m.



“Is Cleanliness Next To Godliness?”

Pastor Steve Albertin

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

** (indicates please stand)*

Call to Worship

Sanctuary

Announcements

* Greeting & Passing of Peace

* Confession and Forgiveness

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

C: **Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open...through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

C: **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P: In the mercy of almighty God.... in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Song

Now the Feast and Celebration

ELW 167

Prayer of the Day

Song

The Savior Is Waiting

please be seated

Lesson

James 1:17-27

Pew Bible pg 1100

Gospel

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Pew Bible pg 917

P: This is Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Message

Sermon

"Is Cleanliness Next To Godliness?"

Pastor Steve

- My mother used to remind me that "cleanliness is next to godliness" in order to get me to wash my hands before eating.
- The religious leaders criticized Jesus' disciples for breaking the rules and not washing their hands before eating.
- Such keeping of the rules was essential to their religious faith. It set boundaries for their lives. They were upset when Jesus did not respect the rules.
- Jesus rejects such religious rule keeping. It disguises the real problem in our hearts: sin.
- Jesus is against religion that assumes that cleanliness is next to godliness.
- In the name of God Jesus exposes our hypocrisy and sinful hearts. We crucify him for it.
- When God raises Jesus from the dead, we are in trouble. Jesus was right. We were wrong . . . about cleanliness.
- But surprise! That is good news for sinners like us.
- Because Christ has made us clean, we don't have to try to be. Instead, we can get our hands dirty serving others.

* Song

How Great Is Our God

please be seated

The Offering

* Offertory

We Are an Offering

ELW 692

* The Apostles' Creed

ELW pg 105

Prayers of the Church : *(the congregation joins in speaking the first names of those for whom we pray.)*

Members: Tim, Sue, Jean, Carole, Vickie, John, Bucher Family, Schaffs

Family & Friends: Eric, John, Anita, Terry, Bob, Susan, Linda, Jeannie, Joyce,
Randall & Mary, Ross

Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours, now and forever. Amen!**

please be seated

Distribution

All baptized Christians who seek the blessings of Christ's true body and blood in the bread and wine of Holy Communion are welcome at his table. There, they receive him and the new life he offers. Those who eat and drink at his table commit themselves to the care and redemption of all that God has made. If you are not baptized, contact Pastor Albertin to learn how you can receive the great gift God has for you in baptism. Today, you are welcome to join us at Christ's table.

Benediction

* **Sending Song** Blessed Be the Lord God Almighty

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

*Please join us following worship for a Reception celebrating
Pastor's Steve's ministry with us this past year.*