

**Order of Worship
for
The Ninth Sunday in Pentecost
July 30, 2023**

**SONG
“Good Good Father”**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*On this Sunday we gather for worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.*

Amen!

*The peace of the Lord be with you always!
And also with you!*

**SONG
“Awesome Power”**

PRAYER

*Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you
bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your
wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior
and Lord. Amen.*

**SONG
“Ancient Words”**

READING

Romans 8:26-39

The lesson is from the letter of Paul to the Romans, chapter eight, verses twenty-six through thirty-nine.

Paul writes:

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes^[o] with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to His purpose. ²⁹ For those whom He foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, in order that He might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom He predestined He also called, and those whom He called He also justified, and those whom He justified He also glorified.

³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold His own Son but gave Him up for all of us, how will He not with Him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered."

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

**Our Gospel reading is from Matthew,
chapter Thirteen, verses thirty-one through thirty-three
and forty-four through fifty-two.**

Matthew writes:

³¹ He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Jeff Iacobazzi

MESSAGE

"Jesus's Kingdom Parables Are Windows and Mirrors"

Rev. Jeff Iacobazzi

Jesus's parables can function for us as mirrors. The parables' comparisons and insights give us a picture of what we understand the kingdom of heaven to be, that is, how we experience God's authority over the universe: in our own time and place; within our own hearts; amidst this community of faith. The kingdom of heaven offers us a different vision of reality. Letting these parables be a window onto that vision, we'll gain a different perspective on what it means to experience the universe as under the present authority of God.

SONG

"The Power of the Cross"

OUR CONFESSION AND GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sins together to God, our Creator and Redeemer.

Gracious Lord, we are so grateful that we are loved by You, with an unconditional love. It is in that spirit that we come to You and confess our sins. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not fully loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have at times neglected Your Word. We ask for Your forgiveness, knowing, because of our faith in You, that we always have it, secure in the grace by which we are saved. Amen.

As a called and ordained minister of Word and Sacrament and by God's authority, I therefore declare to You the forgiveness of Your sins, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Jesus Christ has covered all our sins by His atoning death on the cross; let us therefore be inspired by Christ to do God's will by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

OFFERING

Your offerings are more than just money to keep the lights turned on. Your gifts help to sustain and expand all of our ministries here at King of Glory, including those which provide direct assistance to those in our community who are in need. We are grateful for all of the gifts we receive, and we strive to be good stewards of the resources you provide to us.

**If you wish to give online, you can [use our app](#)
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AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.

On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

During this time, we pray for all those who need God's blessings, and praise Him for the blessings He has bestowed upon us.

During the prayers, there will be a time of silence, when we offer our personal prayers to God.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We prepare to receive the sacraments of Holy Communion, by remembering the words and actions of Jesus during the Last Supper.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

***For those worshipping in-house,
we invite you to come forward if you wish.
If you prefer to take communion at your seat,
you may do so.***

***For those joining us online,
If you are able,
we invite you to take communion where you are,
using any kind of bread and either wine or grape juice
so that you may receive the body and blood of our Lord and Savior,
Jesus the Christ.***

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Now, may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, keep you in His grace and peace, now and forever. Amen!

SONG
“Majesty”

BENEDICTION

*May the Lord bless you and keep you; May the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; May the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you God’s peace; in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.*

SONG
“More Than Conquerors”

Minister: Rev. Jeff Jacobazzi
Organist & Choir Director: Julie Shadinger
Pianist & Sounds of Glory Director: David Moscrip

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