

**† HOME SERVICE OF MORNING PRAYER †**  
**13th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 30, 2020**

**PRELUDE**

Nettleton

Kenneth Kosche

**INVOCATION and OPENING VERSICLES**

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

**C Amen.**

P O Lord, open my lips,

**C and my mouth shall declare Your praise.** (*Psalm 51:15*)

P Give glory to God, our light and our life.

**C O come, let us worship Him.**

**PSALM OF THE DAY** (*from Psalm 26*)

P Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have led a blameless life;

**C I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.**

P Test me, O Lord, and try me, examine my heart and my mind;

**C for Your love is ever before me, and I walk continually in Your truth.**

P I do not sit with the deceitful, nor do I consort with hypocrites;

**C I abhor the assembly of evildoers and refuse to sit with the wicked.**

P I wash my hands in innocence, and go about Your altar, O Lord,  
proclaiming aloud Your praise and telling of all Your wonderful deeds.

**C I love the house where You live, O Lord, the place where Your glory dwells.**

**OFFICE HYMN**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.

While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,  
teach me ever to adore Thee; may I still Thy goodness prove.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by Thy help I've come;

and I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;

He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;

let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to Thee:

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.

Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

**C O God, we thank You for the gift of Your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by His example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow His commands; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## EPISTLE

Romans 12:9-21

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. <sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORY

P Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.

**C Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.**

P Let my mouth be filled with Your praise.

**C And with Your glory all the day.**

## GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 16th chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must

never happen to you.”<sup>23</sup> But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? <sup>27</sup>For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

Rev. Scott Geminn

### **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**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.**

### **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

P Confident of God's care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

P Faithful God, You bid Your people to follow Jesus. Set the mind of Your church on divine things. Grant us to trust in You, that we would lose our lives for the sake of Christ and thereby discover joy in life through Him. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P God of wonder, the earth is Yours and all that is in it. Heal Your creation and give us eyes to see the world as You do. Arrange our lives in harmony with all creation. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P God of all nations, You call us to live peaceably with all. Give us ears to hear one another, even those we name as enemies. Fill all leaders with mercy and understanding, that they advocate and genuinely care for those who are poor and most vulnerable in their communities. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P God of wisdom, You lead us along Your chosen path even when it is difficult. Give us courage and discernment during the re-opening process for schools and businesses. We pray especially for Concordia College, The Chapel School, The Wartburg, and all of our community partners. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P God of salvation, You promise to deliver us. Give those who suffer a strong sense of Your presence and love. Accompany those who are uncertain, raise the spirits of those who are despairing, and heal the sick. We pray especially for all on our prayer line and those we remember before You now (*pause*). Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P God of community, You call us to rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer. Make our congregation a reflection of Your love. When disagreements divide us, bring reconciliation. Help us overcome evil with good. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P God of all grace, You give us everlasting life. In love we recall the holy ones who now live in Your unending light, and we give You special thanks for those who touched our own lives (*pause*). Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from Your love, we offer these prayers to You; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

**C 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.**

**CLOSING HYMN**

How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord

How clear is our vocation, Lord, when once we heed Your call:  
To live according to Your Word and daily learn, refreshed, restored,  
that You are Lord of all and will not let us fall.

But if, forgetful, we should find Your yoke is hard to bear;  
if worldly pressures fray the mind, and love itself cannot unwind  
its tangled skein of care: Our inward life repair.

We marvel how Your saints become in hindrances more sure;  
whose joyful virtues put to shame the casual way we wear Your name  
and by our faults obscure Your pow'r to cleanse and cure.

In what You give us, Lord, to do, together or alone,  
in old routines or ventures new, may we not cease to look to You,  
the cross You hung upon – all You endeavored done.

**BENEDICTION**

P 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.**

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

Repton

John Behnke

\* \* \* \* \*

**Special thanks to our additional participant in today's service:**

**Lector** Jennifer Schell Podoll

**Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School  
172 White Plains Road, Bronxville, NY 10708  
914-337-0207 + [www.VLC-NY.ORG](http://www.VLC-NY.ORG)**