

**† HOME SERVICE OF WORD AND PRAYER †**  
**12th Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 23, 2020**

**PRELUDE**

Praise the Almighty

Richard Heschke

**INVOCATION and CONFESSION**

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

**C Amen.**

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of Your people, turning us from our sin to live for You alone. Give us the power of Your Holy Spirit, that attentive to Your Word, we may confess our sins, receive Your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Gracious God, have mercy on us. In Your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by Your Spirit so that we may live and serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

**INTROIT** (*from Psalm 138*)

P I will praise You, O Lord, with all my heart;

**C before the "gods" I will sing Your praise.**

P I will bow down toward Your holy temple and will praise Your name for Your love and Your faithfulness,

**C for You have exalted above all things Your name and Your word.**

P When I called, You answered me;

**C You made me bold and stout-hearted.**

P Though the Lord is on high, He looks upon the lowly, but the proud He knows from afar.

**C Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You preserve my life.**

P The Lord will fulfill His purpose for me;

**C Your love, O Lord, endures forever.**

**OPENING HYMN**

O worship the king, all-glorious above,  
O gratefully sing His pow'r and His love;  
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,  
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,  
it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,  
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust and feeble as frail,  
in Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail.  
Thy mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,  
our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend!

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray:

**C Almighty and ever-living God, You have given great and precious promises to those who believe. Grant us to know Your Son as Lord and Savior, that we may steadfastly walk in the way that leads to eternal life; 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 12:1-8

<sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect. <sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup>We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup>ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## **ALLELUIA VERSE**

P Alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

**C Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of the living God. Alleluia.** (Matt. 16:16)

## **GOSPEL**

Matthew 16:13-20

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

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

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" <sup>14</sup>And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." <sup>15</sup>He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." <sup>20</sup>Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

O Savior, Precious Savior

O Savior, precious Savior, whom yet unseen we love;  
O name of might and favor, all other names above,  
we worship Thee, we bless Thee, to Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
we praise Thee and confess Thee, our holy Lord and King.

In Thee all fullness dwelleth, all grace and pow'r divine;  
the glory that excelleth, O Son of God, is Thine.  
We worship Thee, we bless Thee, to Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
we praise Thee and confess Thee, our glorious Lord and King.

O grant the consummation of this our song above  
in endless adoration and everlasting love;  
then shall we praise and bless Thee where perfect praises ring,  
and evermore confess Thee, our Savior and our King!

## **SERMON**

"The Keys"

Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell

## 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** Lord our rock, You are our foundation in Jesus Christ, whom we confess as the living God. Prepare Your church for its mission in bearing witness to Christ, both here and throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

**P** You call forth praises from the far reaches of the universe to the smallest of creatures. Join our songs to theirs, that a spirit of praise and thanksgiving will arouse us to cherish this wondrous home You have given us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

**P** May the rulers of the earth walk in Your ways. Help civil and national leaders to regard those in need with mercy, and so fulfill Your loving purposes in the governance of peoples. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P You renew and transform the minds of Your faithful people. Guide and protect all places of learning; give wisdom to those making decisions for the future; sustain the teachers, students and families who are fearful of the unknown; help us to use the gifts You have given us to build up the community. We pray especially for Concordia College as it opens this week, and for The Chapel School. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Though we walk in the midst of trouble, You preserve us, deliver us, and fulfill Your purpose for us. According to Your steadfast love, grant healing and wholeness to those who are bereaved, in trouble or adversity, or sick and in need of care. 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 You restore Your people to joy and gladness. In blessed memory and hope, we thank You for the lives of those who have gone before us. Bring us with them to our heavenly home. 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**

Built on the Rock

Built on the Rock the Church shall stand even when steeples are falling.  
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land; bells still are chiming and calling,  
calling the young and old to rest, but above all the souls distressed,  
longing for rest everlasting.

We are God's house of living stones, built for His own habitation.  
He through baptismal grace us owns, heirs of His wondrous salvation.  
Were we but two His name to tell, yet He would deign with us to dwell  
with all His grace and His favor.

Grant, then, O God, Your will be done, that when the church bells are ringing,  
many in saving faith may come where Christ His message is bringing:  
"I know My own; My own know Me. You, not the world, My face shall see.  
My peace I leave with you. Amen."

**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**

St. Peter

Murray Bradshaw

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

**Lector** Deacon Intern Janet George

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