

## **Family Worship for the Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost – October 4, 2020**

Leader / Response

### **CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS\***

In the name of the Father, and of the (+)Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

L: Do you renounce the devil and all the spiritual forces of evil that contend against God and his faithful servants? **R: I do.**

L: Do you renounce the influence and power of the world that are contrary to God's Word and will? **R: I do.**

L: Do you renounce the sin within your own heart, mind, and flesh, and call upon the Lord to deliver you from evil? **R: I do.**

L: I bid you now, confess your sins to your heavenly Father that he may cleanse, forgive and restore your soul.

### **(Moment of Silent Confession)**

L: God is gracious and good and for Christ's sake forgives the sins of all who call upon him. May God establish you in faith, guard you against the evil one, and make you steadfast in the power of the Holy Spirit.

R: Amen. God is good. Amen. \*(Confession adapted from Sola Publishing Occasional Rite: "The Call to Discipleship")

### **PSALM OF PRAISE – PSALM 80:7-19**

<sup>7</sup> Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

<sup>8</sup> **You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.**

<sup>9</sup> You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.

<sup>10</sup> **The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches.**

<sup>11</sup> It sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River.

<sup>12</sup> **Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?**

<sup>13</sup> The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.

<sup>14</sup> **Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine,**

<sup>15</sup> the stock that your right hand planted, and for the son whom you made strong for yourself.

<sup>16</sup> **They have burned it with fire; they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your face!**

<sup>17</sup> But let your hand be on the man of your right hand, the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself!

<sup>18</sup> **Then we shall not turn back from you; give us life, and we will call upon your name!**

<sup>19</sup> Restore us, O Lord God of hosts! **Let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

**HYMN** [When Morning Gilds the Skies](#) *(With Lyrics)*

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Heavenly Father, when called to do your will, we often respond with enthusiasm, yet in our human weakness, we fail to follow through. **By your grace strengthen us that we may overcome our weakness and follow you in the way of life; through Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**FIRST READING** – Isaiah 5:1-7 **SECOND READING** – Philippians 3:3-14

**GOSPEL VERSE** *(Spoken/Sung; Stand for Gospel Reading if you can)*

**Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

## GOSPEL READING

The Holy Gospel from St. Matthew, chapter 21. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 21:33-46

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## MESSAGE

HYMN [We All Are One in Mission](#) *(With Lyrics)*

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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**

## OFFERING PRESENTATION *(Spoken; LBW #448, st.4)*

The Lord has promised good to me; His Word my hope secures;

**He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.**

## PRAYERS *(See Prayer Sheet)*

## LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

## BLESSING *(Philippians 4:19-20)*

May God meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

**To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen**

## CLOSING HYMN [Standing on the Promises](#) *(With Lyrics)*

## EXTRA

[Promises of God 1](#)

[Promises of God 2](#)

## READINGS

### **First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7**

<sup>1</sup> Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. <sup>2</sup> He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

<sup>3</sup> And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. <sup>4</sup> What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? <sup>5</sup> And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. <sup>6</sup> I will make it a waste; it shall not be runed or hoed, and briers and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. <sup>7</sup> For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

### **Second Reading: Philippians 3:3-14**

<sup>3</sup> For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh— <sup>4</sup> though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup> as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. <sup>7</sup> But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup> Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— <sup>10</sup> that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup> Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

### **Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46**

<sup>33</sup> “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. <sup>34</sup> When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. <sup>35</sup> And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup> Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. <sup>37</sup> Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ <sup>38</sup> But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup> And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. <sup>40</sup> When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” <sup>41</sup> They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.”

<sup>42</sup> Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: “‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

<sup>43</sup> Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. <sup>44</sup> And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

<sup>45</sup> When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup> And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

## PRAYERS

You have planted us in your vineyard, O God, that we might bear fruits of justice and righteousness. Help your holy people to care for those in distress by offering their support and aid; LIYM / **HOP**

Help us, heavenly Father, to glory in Christ Jesus and to offer true worship in the power of your Holy Spirit. Let our hearts be cleansed and strengthened by your Word and Sacrament today. LIYM / **HOP**

Lord God, you have done a marvelous thing in giving your Son as Savior of the world. Let every congregation be gathered around him as their cornerstone and build your church through the power of the Gospel. LIYM / **HOP**

Sovereign Lord, raise up within the nations of the world men and women who will lead with integrity, humility and a true concern for others. Be with this nation as it heads into it's national election and keep our democratic institutions free from fraud and violence. We especially pray for our President Donald and his wife Melania and all who have contracted the Covid virus. Keep them in your care and grant them a swift healing. LIYM / **HOP**

Lord, we pray for Livingwater Fellowship in Wagga, Wagga, Australia. They have set forth a bold strategic plan for themselves and we pray that you keep them focused on the work which you have laid on their hearts. Bless Pastor Guilfoyle as he ministers among the saints, and use this church for the good of your Kingdom. LIYM / **HOP**

Lord, we pray for our assembly today that as it considers again the hiring of a Youth Director, it's deliberations may be fruitful and peaceful and it's decisions acceptable to all. LIYM / **HOP**

Hear our prayer for Rod and Deb Stephenson as they mourn the loss of Rod's mother. Let the victory she has won in Jesus bring encouragement and comfort to their hearts. LIYM / **HOP**

Hear our prayer for Helen Zeigler as she draws close to the end of her time among us. Draw her unto yourself that she may see the one for whom she has waited so many years, Jesus Christ, her savior and Lord. LIYM / **HOP**

Hear our prayer for Connie Zeigler, grant her a safe surgery and bring healing to her back.

Hear our prayer for Brenda's Aunt Nell, heal her arm and grant patience in as you do so. LIYM / **HOP**

Hear our prayer for all those battling the coronavirus: Ron (and Charlene) Morgan, Nick and Betty Robinson, and Hollie and Nick Milbrandt. Preserve their lives, encourage their souls, and strengthen their bodies with your healing presence.

And we lift before you from our hearts the names of those whose needs concern us this day.... (silent prayer) Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Hear us, for Jesus' sake. **Amen**

## Prayers for October 4, 2020

### **Prayers for Healing, Recovery, Wholeness, Divine Help** *(Requests remain on list for 2 months and may be resubmitted)*

Connie Zeigler having back surgery on Monday (10.4.2020)  
Helen Zeigler, nearing end of life (A. Terry, 10.3.2020)  
Rod and Deb Stephenson upon death of Rod's mother, now in glory (R. Stephenson, 10.3.2020)  
Ron & Charlene Morgan, diagnosed with Covid-19 and recovering at home (R. Morgan, 9.27.2020)  
Hollie and Nick Milbrandt, hospitalized with Covid-19 (Karen Hall, 9.30.2020)  
Brenda Dasher's Aunt Nell, broken right arm (B. Dasher 9.28.2020)  
Donna, friend of the Dashers, for strength in the midst of many family illnesses (C. Dasher, 9.27.2020)  
Ginger Robinson, in need of God's healing help (K. Whitten, 9.27.2020)  
Maddie Hubbard born prematurely Sept 15; parents Michael and Lauren Hubbard (A. Hubbard, 9.27.2020)  
Charles DiSalvo, hospitalized (V. DiSalvo, 9.25.2020)  
Thomas Owens, hospitalized after a fall (C. Garner, 9.24.2020)  
Katie Williams and Daniel Ellis, who were married 9/17/20, for God's blessings (K. Williams, 9.20.20)  
Caitlin, goddaughter of Ben & Karen Williams who suffered a miscarriage (K. Williams, 9.20.2020)  
Nick and Betty Robinson, diagnosed with Covid-19 and recovering at home (B. Robinson, 9.18.2020)  
Sadie Rollins and classmates, protection from Covid-19 (R. Rollins, 9.14.2020)  
Leiann Sapp, cancer surgery (L. Waldhour, 8.30.2020)  
Paula Peterson, sickness (D. Vorel, 8.23.2020)  
Johnnie Barnes, chemotherapy (J. Smith, 8.19.2020)  
Elli, 8yrs. old, high fever (K. Wheeler, 8.9.2020)  
Frank Gray, health issues (K. Hall, 8.9.2020)  
David Gray, cancer (K. Hall, 8.9.2020)  
Brenda Reiser, Lymphoma (M. Reiser, 8.2.2020)  
Sarah Smith battling cancer again (F. Smith, 8.2.2020)  
Jason Pridgen, still suffering with liver problems, friend of Betty Robinson (7.22.20)  
Amy Holcomb undergoing cancer treatments (R. Ratliff, 7.22.20)  
Don Hasty suffering from heart troubles (D. Vorel, 7.22.20)  
Marie Callahan recovering from a Brain Aneurysm (S. Sommervold, 7.19.2020)  
Pat Gollihue on diagnosis of bone cancer (R. Zipperer, 7.19.2020)  
Jeff Byrd on diagnosis of non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma (L. Byrd, 7.19.2020)  
Shirley Hogan hospitalized with Covid 19 (K. Warnell, 7.19.2020)

### **Prayers for Comfort in Bereavement** *(Requests remain on list for 6 months and may be resubmitted)*

David & Connie Zeigler and family on death of Son, Marcus. (9.6.2020)  
Ben & Karen Williams and family on death of Ben's brother, Dale Williams (8.26.20)  
Karen Hall and family on death of her Aunt, Sheila Saxon (8.9.2020)  
Cecelia Zeigler and family on death of her mother, Mary Bloomberg (8.4.2020)  
Brenda Dasher and family on death of her cousin, JW Porter (7.19.2020)  
Bobby Exley and family on death of daughter, Teresa (J. Arnsdorff, 6.7.2020)  
Stacey York and family upon death of her mother Annette (A. Terry, 6.6.2020)  
Family of Karen Hall's Great Aunt, Katherine who went to be with the Lord. (5.17.2020)  
Family of Laura Brown (S. Smith, 4.20)  
Family of Rosemary Atkinson (Dot Zipperer's Sister, 4.19)

### **Military, Fire, Law Enforcement Personnel**

Fire: Kenny Whitten, Jimmy Thompson; Law Enforcement: Warren Blanton  
Military: Trent Zeigler, Christopher Zeigler(C. Zeigler); Michael Hubbard(A.M. Hubbard); Stephen Strickland(B. Dasher)

### **Long Term Support**

Audrey Zipperer (Lakeview Manor); Helen Zeigler (Eff Care Center); Sarah Smith (Home); Dorothy Zipperer; Betty Greenwood (Home), Charles & Virginia DiSalvo(Home); Keith Cornell (Recovering at home;Helmly); Clyde Johnson (Home;Muthersbaugh); Thomas Owens (Home;Garner); Clay Stewart (Dementia;Sommervold); Rick Boyd, multiple health problems (C. Boyd, 6.21.2020); Ruby & Earl Neurath (C. Bazemore, 7.30.2020); Alice Stephenson (R. Stephenson, 9.6.2020)

# Listening for the Promise

## WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

**Pentecost 18 - October 4, 2020**

“If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more...” - Philippians 3:4

Do you remember the song, “It’s Hard to Be Humble,” by Mac Davis? Even if you weren’t alive in 1974 when this record was released, you’ve probably heard it on the radio. The country singer crooned, “O Lord it’s hard to be humble, when you’re perfect in every way,” and, “to know me is to love me...”. It’s a silly song, however, certainly we know people who actually think this way about themselves.

St. Paul wrote to the church in Philippi saying that he had every reason to be proud of himself. If salvation came by works of the flesh, he had a resume that was sure to impress: circumcised on the eighth day according to the Law, a Benjaminite, a good Hebrew when it came to following the Torah, a Pharisee full of zeal, and blameless when it came to righteousness. Who can compete with that? No one! And, that’s not the way it works with Jesus anyway. (Thanks be to God!)

Instead of singing, “It’s hard to be humble when you’re perfect in every way,” St. Paul was saying, “I count all of that as loss for the sake of Christ.” Just sit with that sentiment for a moment. In a world where success means more money, more possessions, more status and power, it is quite countercultural to be of the mind of Christ, “who though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross” (Philippians 2:6–8).

Salvation comes through the cross of Christ alone. Our human desire is to be noticed, rewarded for our efforts, praised even. But humility and servanthood is the way of the cross. We can laugh at Mac Davis’ song, and then we can recognize that his words bear witness to our lack of humbleness. There was only one who was perfect in every way, and he was the epitome of self-emptying humility. (He would never have dared to sing such a tune!)

All the accomplishments we can put on our resume are nothing if we do not have Christ in our lives. He is our treasure and our greatest gift. Amen.

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## The Lord's Doing

Find the 36 bold words from Matthew 21:42-46 (ESV)

N E S L L A F E I H C S S L D  
E Z N U S E E K I N G E U H I  
K P R O D U C I N G B R S P A  
O C H O T S S S O U V U E J S  
R E I A E S T D I A R T J M P  
B N S C R S R L W C L P P O R  
G O E E E I D E S O E I E D O  
L I V I L E S U N O R R R G P  
P E R D R B O E P R L C C N H  
N P A S W L A L E D O S E I E  
D E T C E J E R F S R C I K T  
R G I V E N E K A T D A V N A  
X U R S T I U R F P S A E R W  
B A E Y E S A R R E S T D H A  
M D E R A E F S T O N E P R Y

Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the **Lord's doing**, and it is **marvelous** in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the **kingdom of God** will be taken away from you and **given to a people producing its fruits**. And the one who **falls** on this stone will be **broken to pieces**; and when it falls on anyone, it will **crush him**."

When the **chief priests** and the **Pharisees heard his parables**, they **perceived** that he was speaking about them. And although they were **seeking to arrest him**, they **feared the crowds**, because they held him to be a **prophet**.

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## Restore Us

Find the 53 bold words from Psalm 80:7-16 (ESV).

P D D S E C A F S C Z S Z F D  
A L N D E L N N E K O R B T D  
S E A U R E I D H E V I H N S  
S H L N O A A S C I D G A E O  
S Y I I T R G Z N R U H N P N  
D O W N S E G E A O K T I S Z  
T E U A E D D F R U I T A T X  
C O V E R E D B B R G T G R J  
M E O Q O L O O K E I R A O B  
D S U R F L G W H E A V E N W  
F Y T H G I M A P W A G E G Y  
I I P O D F N L V G Y H W R N  
Q K E V O R D L E P L U C K R  
I E E L U H O S T S T O C K V  
H Z D T D D S Y A W N T D G V

Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved! You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land. The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches. It sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River. Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit? The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it. Turn again, O God of hosts! Look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine, the stock that your right hand planted, and for the son whom you made strong for yourself.

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