

TIME AFTER PENTECOST — LECTIONARY 22

August 31 & September 1, 2024

INTRODUCTION

Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark-ness
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-t'ry, we are the old who
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter, here we will take the
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his-t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way— here in this place the new light is shin-ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en, gath-er us in, the
 Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
 Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low-ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,



we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

*** GREETING**

P Christ has called us to this place,
gathered one and all by his Holy Spirit

C **We are followers of Christ**
who seek to hear the Word,
live the Word,
and share the Word.

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

*** KYRIE**

Assistant: In peace, in peace,

Assistant: *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,
Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff is for the Assistant, starting with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a half note D5. The second staff is for the Congregation, starting with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a half note D5. The lyrics are written below the notes.

*Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
for the unity of all... (Refrain)*

*Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise,
for the strength to live your Word... (Refrain)*

Congregation:

Help. save and de - fend us. O God. A - - - men.

The musical notation consists of one staff for the Congregation, starting with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a half note D5. The lyrics are written below the notes.

*** SALUTATION**

Presider: *Congregation:*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff is for the Presider, starting with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a half note D5. The second staff is for the Congregation, starting with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5, then a half note D5. The lyrics are written below the notes.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and to neither add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you. ⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

SECOND READING: James 1:17-27

The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

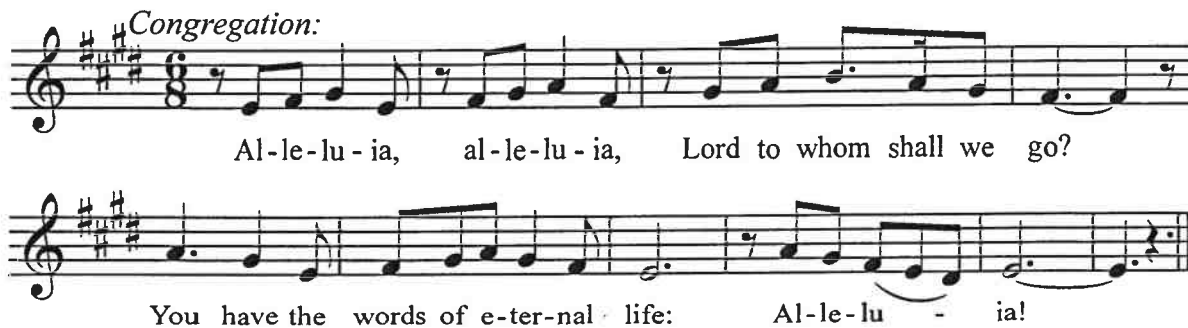
¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

*** GOSPEL VERSE**

Congregation:



Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia, Lord to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e-ter-nal life: Al-le-lu - ia!

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 7th chapter.

C **Speak, Lord, your servants are listening!**

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

Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

'This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
⁷in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.'

⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand:

¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." ²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON Pr. Sharon

Refrain

Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you. *End*

You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray. *Refrain*

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953
 Music: Eddie Espinosa
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CHANGE MY HEART
 PM

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*** 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

*** PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

THE OFFERING



*** THE OFFERTORY**

“Create in Me”

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Welcome to the Feast of Holy Communion.(Gluten free wafers available, ask the Pastors)

We believe that in the sacrament Holy Communion, the crucified and risen Christ is present, giving his true body and blood as food and drink. This real presence is a mystery. All who trust in Jesus and call upon his name as Lord are invited to receive Holy Communion. Guests who are with us, who regularly commune in their home congregations, are also welcome. Children who have not yet been instructed in receiving the sacrament are encouraged to come forward to receive a blessing.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed
our Lord Jesus took bread,
and gave thanks; broke it,
and gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take and eat;
this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper,
he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink,
saying: This cup is
the new testament in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

* THE 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.**

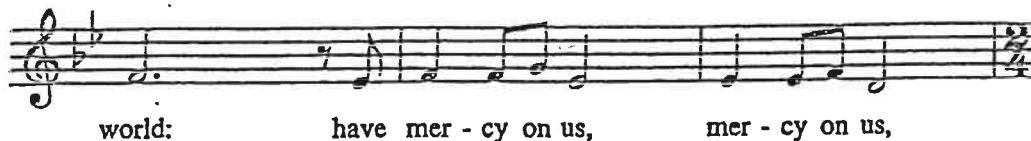
**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever
and ever. Amen**

* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The gifts of God for the people of God.

C I am not worthy to receive you, Lord;
but only say the Word and I shall be healed.

* LAMB OF GOD



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you
 take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,
 grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

ELW #879

1 For the beau - ty of the earth, for the beau - ty of the skies,
 2 For the won - der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de - light,
 4 For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
 5 For each per - fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;

for the love which from our birth o - ver and a - round us lies:
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
 for the mys - tic har - mo - ny link - ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth and friends a - bove; for all gen - tle thoughts and mild:
 for thy - self, best gift di - vine, to our world so free - ly giv'n:

Refrain
 Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac - ri - fice of praise.

"This Is My Father's World"

ELW #824

1 This is my Fa-ther's world, and to my lis-t'ning ears all
 2 This is my Fa-ther's world; the birds their car-ols raise; the
 3 This is my Fa-ther's world; oh, let me not for-get that,

na - ture sings, and round me rings the mu - sic of the spheres.
 morn - ing light, the lil - y white, de - clare their mak - er's praise.
 though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the rul - er yet.

This is my Fa-ther's world; I rest me in the thought of
 This is my Fa-ther's world; he shines in all that's fair. In the
 This is my Fa-ther's world; why should my heart be sad? The

rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the won - ders wrought.
 rus - tling grass I hear him pass; he speaks to me ev-'ry-where.
 Lord is king, let heav - en ring; God reigns, let earth be glad!

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C Amen.

*** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P Holy God,
you have welcomed us to this meal
and fed us with the Bread of Life.
Send us now to welcome others
and to be ambassadors of your peace,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

*** BLESSING**

P Let us bless our God:
C **praise and thanks to you.**
P May God the Father bless you and keep you,
may Christ be ever light for your lives,
may the Spirit of Love be your guide and path,
for all of your days.

C Amen.

*** SENDING HYMN**

"Drawn to the Light"

ELW #593



1 Peo - ple who walk in dark - ness have sought a light in the
2 How can we tell a heav - en from hell if ev - 'ry - one
3 Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none! The Lamb is the



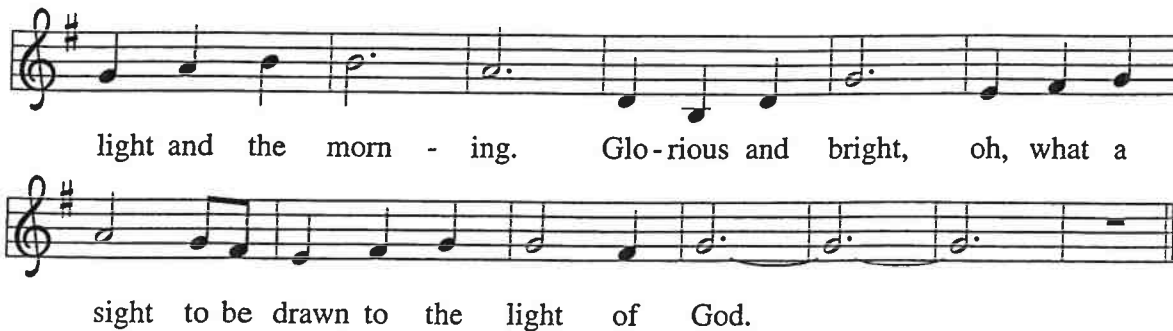
heart of the dark - est night. Just when we thought all would be
dwells in the dark of night? Morn - ing dis - pels, gent - ly com -
one who is shin - ing bright, bids us to come! Life has be -



lost, we were drawn to the light of God.
pels, and we're drawn to the light of God.
gun when we're drawn to the light of God.



Refrain
Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night, drawn to the



light and the morn - ing. Glo - rious and bright, oh, what a
sight to be drawn to the light of God.

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937
 Music: John C. Ylvisaker
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LA CROSSE
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*** DISMISSAL**

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE