TIME AFTER PENTECOST — LECTIONARY 27

INTRODUCTION

Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
- 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on; 3 "In the mid-dle a - ges of your life, not too old, no lon - ger young,



I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold. you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long. I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one, When the eve-ning gent-ly clos-es in and you shut your wea-ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell."

I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun."

I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



4 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.



I re-joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold."

Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937 Music: John C. Ylvisaker Text and music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker WATERLIFE 9796 D

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* 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.

* HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for ev er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho-ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth: Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove; Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Je-sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa-ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand. For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

* SALUTATION

- P The Lord be with you
- C And also with you

* PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC 5:30 Praise Choir 8:30 Chancel Choir 11:00

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:18-24

Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other "one flesh." The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).

¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner.

²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

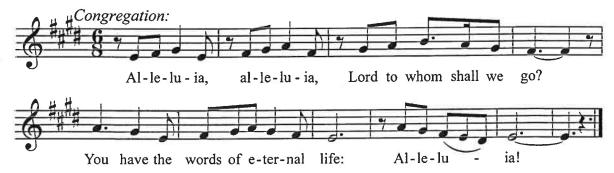
"This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken."

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5 "Stewards of the Mysteries of God" (Hear the Word)

4 Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. ² Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. ³ But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. I do not even judge myself. ⁴ I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵ Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive commendation from God.

* GOSPEL VERSE



- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 10th chapter.
- C Speak, Lord, your servants are listening!

* GOSPEL: Mark 10:2-16

Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.

²Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?"

³He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" ⁴They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." ⁵But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' ⁷For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God!

SERMON Pr. Jon



Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923-2007 Music: Stephen P. Folkemer, b. 1952 Text and music @ 1990 Augsburg Fortress

ABIDING PRESENCE 7676 D

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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 Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

A brief silence.

- P God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever.
- C Amen.

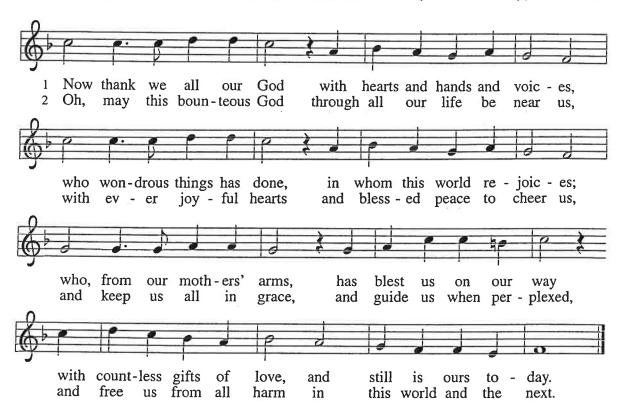
THE OFFERING



* THE OFFERTORY

"Now Thank We All Our God" (vv. 1 & 2 only)

ELW #839



Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878 Music: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662 NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT 67676666 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

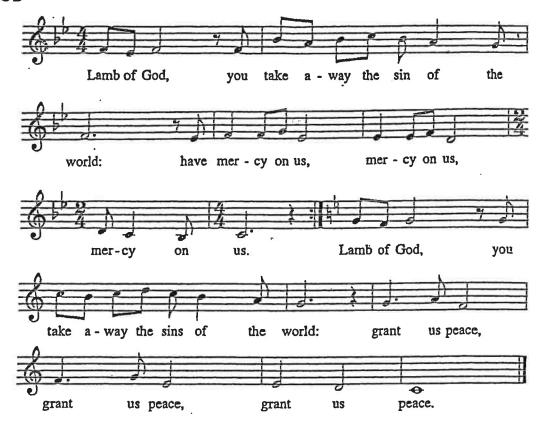
Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.

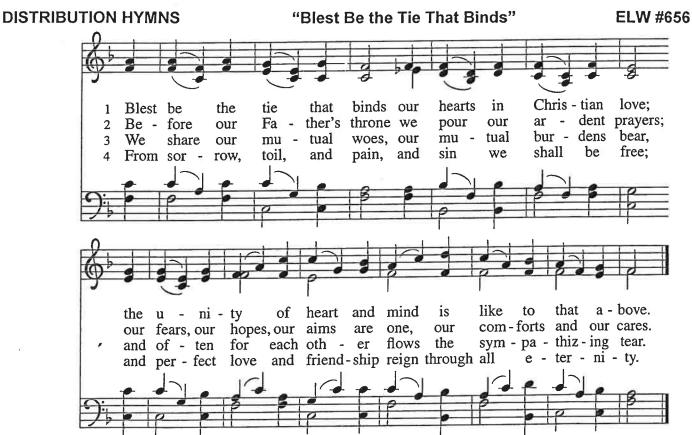
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.

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.







- 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,

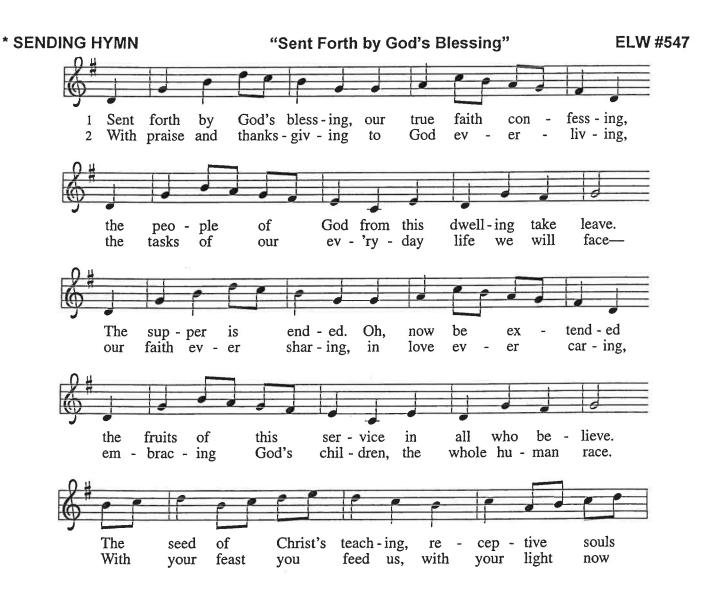
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

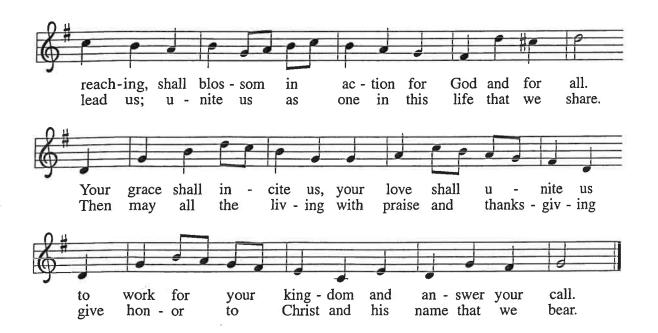
C Amen.

* BLESSING

Pastor and Congregation

As you go on your way may Christ go with you, May he go before you to show you the way; May he go behind you to encourage you, Beside you to befriend you, Above you to watch over, Within you to give you peace. In the name of the Father, Son and Spirit.





Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt. Music: Welsh folk tune Text © 1964 World Library Publications THE ASH GROVE 66116611 D

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- * DISMISSAL
- P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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