

**8-7-22**

**Opening Hymn** *Praise My Soul the King of Heaven* #410

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven, to His throne thy tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore his praises sing; Alleluia, Alleluia. Praise the everlasting King.

Praise him for his grace and favor to his people in distress; Praise him still the same as ever, slow to chide and quick to bless. Alleluia, Alleluia. Glorious in his faithfulness.

Father-like he tends and spares us; well our feeble frame he knows; in his hand he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes. Alleluia, Alleluia. Widely yet his mercy flows.

Angels, help us to adore him, ye behold him face to face; sun and moon bow down before him, dwellers all in time and space. Alleluia, Alleluia. Praise with us the God of grace.

**The Collect** Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## The Lessons

A reading from Genesis

*Genesis 1:1, 10-20*

The vision about Judah and Jerusalem that Isaiah, Amoz's son, saw in the days of Judah's kings Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah.

Hear the Lord's word, you leaders of Sodom. Listen to our God's teaching, people of Gomorrah! What should I think about all your sacrifices? says the Lord.

I am fed up entirely with burned offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts. I do not want the blood of bulls, lambs, and goats. When you come to appear before me, who asked this from you, this trampling of my temple's courts?

Stop bringing worthless offerings. Your incense repulses me. New moon, sabbath, and the calling of an assembly — I can't stand wickedness with celebration!

I hate your new moons and your festivals. They've become a burden that I'm tired of bearing. When you extend your hands, I'll hide my eyes from you. Even when you pray for a long time, I won't listen. Your hands are stained with blood. Wash! Be clean! Remove your ugly deeds from my sight. Put an end to such evil; learn to do good.

Seek justice: help the oppressed; defend the orphan; plead for the widow. Come now, and let's settle this, says the Lord. Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be white as snow.

If they are red as crimson, they will become like wool. If you agree and obey, you will eat the best food of the land. But if you refuse and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword. Thus says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The psalm for this morning is Psalm 50. *Psalm 50:1-7*

The Lord, the God of gods, has spoken;

**he has called the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.**

Out of Zion, perfect in its beauty,

**God reveals himself in glory.**

Our God will come and will not keep silence;

**before him there is a consuming flame, and round about him a raging storm.**

He calls the heavens and the earth from above

**to witness the judgment of his people.**

"Gather before me my loyal followers,

**those who have made a covenant with me and sealed it with sacrifice."**

Let the heavens declare the rightness of his cause;

**for God himself is judge.**

Hear, O my people, and I will speak:

**"O Israel, I will bear witness against you; for I am God, your God.**

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews     *Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16*

Faith is the reality of what we hope for, the proof of what we do not see.

The elders in the past were approved because they showed faith. By faith we understand that the universe has been created by a word from God so that the visible came into existence from the invisible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was going to receive as an inheritance. He went out without knowing where he was going.

By faith he lived in the land he had been promised as a stranger. He lived in tents along with Isaac and Jacob, who were coheirs of the same promise. He was looking forward to a city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

By faith even Sarah received the ability to have a child, though she herself was barren and past the age for having children, because she believed that the one who promised was faithful. So descendants were born from Abraham (and he was as good as dead). They were as many as the number of the stars in the sky and as countless as the grains of sand on the seashore. All these people died in faith without receiving the promises, but they saw the promises from a distance and welcomed them. They confessed that they were strangers and immigrants on earth. People who say

this kind of thing make it clear that they are looking for a homeland. If they had been thinking about the country that they had left, they would have had the opportunity to return to it. But at this point in time, they are longing for a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God isn't ashamed to be called their God — he has prepared a city for them.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Hymn** *Jesus is Lord of All the Earth* #178

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation.

*(Repeat refrain)*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.** *Luke 12:32-40*

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as

he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.        **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Gospel Hymn**    Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.    Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.

Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior.  
*(Repeat refrain)*

## **The Prayers of the People**

By the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to God our Creator in the name of Christ Jesus our Redeemer, making intercession for the Church, the world, and for all people according to their need.        *A brief silence*

Almighty God, thank you for the beauty of earth, sea, and sky. Thank you for blessings without number, and for all who have followed you in faith. Increase our faith and gratitude, and give us joy amidst suffering and comfort in sadness.

Give us the courage to invite friends and neighbors into a closer walk with you.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Keep this country in your care. Guide our leaders in paths of righteousness. Help us to preserve and extend the blessings of liberty and justice for all. Send your Spirit abroad in the world, so that people in every land may learn to do good, seek justice, help the oppressed; defend the orphan; plead for the widow. Help us to find our treasure not in possessions and power, but in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another. Bring your Spirit and peace to Ukraine.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be the strength and shield of all who risk their life in defense of others. Help them act with wisdom and integrity. When their work is done, let their homecomings be joyful, their bodies and minds be healed and refreshed, their service be honored, and their skills be used in new ways.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hear the prayers of those who ask for healing and those who seek comfort.

We especially remember before you: Downs IV, Holden, Brian, Tyler, Barbara and Anne. Grant healing and recovery for John (Holtzermann), Peg, Sandy, Dave, Beverly, and Mary

Jo. Give peace and strength for those going through cancer treatments, especially Jane, Downs III, Victoria, Alex, Connie and Douglas. Visit and comfort all who are under the care of skilled nursing, especially Timothy, Barbara, Kim and Mary Ann. Be near to all who are in hospice care.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, we thank you for breathing your eternal life into all who have died trusting in you, especially for those we name now.       *A brief silence*

Give each of us the daily bread we need. Help us to ask for, and to give, forgiveness. Strengthen us when we are tempted to turn aside from your good will; and deliver us from the snares of the Evil One. Bring us into the Kingdom that you have prepared for all whom you have redeemed through the merits of your dear Son, so that in the power of the Holy Spirit, we may praise, adore and bless you forever.

**Amen.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**Offertory Anthem** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* #657

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.
- 2 Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be alway blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
- 3 Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee: changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

**Closing Hymn** *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* #493

- 1 O for a thousand tongues to sing  
my dear Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of his grace!
  
- 2 My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim  
and spread through all the earth  
abroad the honors of thy Name.
  
- 3 Jesus! the Name that charms our fears  
and bids our sorrows cease;  
'tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'tis life and health and peace.