

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, Lectionary 17 A

July 26, 2020 + Mount Olive Lutheran Church



Focus on the Season: The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 17 A

In today's gospel Jesus offers images from everyday life that reveal to us the reign of God. It is like a tree that becomes a safe and sheltering home, like yeast that penetrates and expands, like a treasured pearl, like a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

Keep this document open on the screen, to aid in your worship today. The links are embedded in this pdf, so you don't have to return to the email. However, you can also print these pages and use the links in the email.



Centering and Gathering

Light your candle. [Start the video by clicking here](#); it will continue through the Postlude.

PRELUDE: Concerto no. 6, op. 4: I – *Andante, Allegro* G. F. Handel
Recorded on the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 17 C, July 28, 2013; Cantor Cherwien, organist.

ENTRANCE HYMN: ELW 775, "Jesus, Priceless Treasure"
Sung at Mount Olive on the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 18 C, July 31, 2016.

Word

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY *(Apostolic greeting is on the video)*

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your reign of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING: Genesis 29:15-28; reader – Grace Wiechman, lector

¹⁵ Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" ¹⁶ Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷ Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. ¹⁸ Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." ¹⁹ Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." ²⁰ So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

²¹ Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." ²² So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. ²³ But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. ²⁴ (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) ²⁵ When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" ²⁶ Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. ²⁷ Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the

other also in return for serving me another seven years.”²⁸ Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

PSALM: Psalm 105:1-11, 45b *Sing along with the leaders in the video; the tone is there.*

¹Give thanks to the LORD and call up-¹ on God’s name; * make known the deeds of the LORD a-¹ mong the peoples.

²Sing to the¹ LORD, sing praises, * and speak of all God’s¹ marvelous works.

³Glory in God’s¹ holy name; * let the hearts of those who seek the¹ LORD rejoice.

⁴Search for the strength¹ of the LORD; * continually¹ seek God’s face.

⁵Remember the marvels¹ God has done, * the wonders and the judgments¹ of God’s mouth,

⁶O offspring of Abra-¹ ham, God’s servant, * O children of Jacob, God’s¹ chosen ones.

⁷The LORD¹ is our God, * whose judgments prevail in¹ all the world,

⁸who has always been mindful¹ of the covenant, * the promise made for a thousand¹ generations:

⁹the covenant¹ made with Abraham, * the oath¹ sworn to Isaac,

¹⁰which God established as a stat-¹ ute for Jacob, * an everlasting cove-¹ nant for Israel,

¹¹saying, “To you will I give the¹ land of Canaan * to be your allotted inheritance.”¹ Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39; reader – assisting minister Steve Berg

Paul writes: ²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.” ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ELW 175, “Alleluia”

Sung before and after the Gospel reading.

Sung at Mount Olive on the Third Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 13 C, June 30, 2019.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

³¹Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The reign of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³He told them another parable: “The reign of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

He told them another parable: ⁴⁴“The reign of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in her joy she goes and sells all that she has and buys that field. ⁴⁵Again, the reign of

heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷ “Again, the reign of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ “Have you understood all this?” he asked. They answered, “Yes.” ⁵² And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

SERMON

Hope

Pastor Crippen

Silence for reflection

HYMN: ELW 721, “O Christ the Same”

Sung at Mount Olive on the Reign of Christ, the last Sun. after Pentecost, Lect. 34 A, Nov. 26, 2017.

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

*Our Assisting Minister for today, Steve Berg, has prepared intercessory prayers for us to pray this morning. As our prayers rise up from all over the metro area and beyond, once more we are joined together in Christ. (Our weekly prayer list is on the last page.) Response: **Hear our prayer.***

PEACE *Please greet one another with Christ's peace.*

AT THE OFFERING

“O Herr hilf”

Heinrich Schütz

Recorded on the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 17 C, July 28, 2013

O Lord, help, prosper, and save us.

O blessed is he that comes in the Lord's name

Hosanna in the highest.

There are ways to continue to give of your gifts to our shared work at Mount Olive during this time apart. The Olive Branch has suggested ways both electronic and by mail. See:

<https://www.mountolivechurch.org/resources/olive-branch-newsletter/>

Sending

LORD'S PRAYER AND BLESSING

The Lord's Prayer is sung to the setting by Nikolay Kedrov, Sr., edited by D. Cherwien

Sung at Mount Olive on the Third Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 13 C, June 30, 2019

*The benediction is on the video. Response: **Amen***

HYMN: ELW 776, “What God Ordains is Good Indeed”

Introduction and setting from Cantata 75 “Wer nur den lieben Gött lasst walten”

J. S. Bach

Sung at Mount Olive on the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 17 C, July 28, 2013

DISMISSAL *Someone may lead the dismissal for the others:*

☞ Go in peace to love and serve as Christ.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

Recorded on the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 17 C, July 28, 2013; Cantor Cherwien, organist.



In Our Prayers

- *Please pray throughout the week for the following persons: Dan Adams; Julie Erlandson; Nancy Flatgard; Leila Froehlich; Victor Gebauer; Leanna Kloempken; Mary Lee; Kandi Jo Nelson; Jerry Ostlund; Pariann Schenk; Sue Ellen Zagrabelny; Jodi Royce, daughter of Dan & Julia Adams and daughter-in-law of Evelyn Royce; Kjell Thompson, Reba Zumberge, relatives of Nancy Anderson; Danna Nelson, Jacques, friends of Jim Bargmann; Tom McCarr, friend of Keith Bartz; Arthur Kaemmer, friend of David Bryce; Nancy Stelling, friend of Marcia & Dan Burow; Lela Frazier, sister of Irene Campbell; Klarrisa Ramirez, friend of Gretchen Campbell-Johnson; Greg Eklund, son of Harry & Jeanette Eklund; Susan Bary, friend of Judy Graves; Dolores & David G. Gutierrez, Sr., Chris and David Gutierrez, Jr., parents and brothers of Consuelo Gutierrez-Crosby; Carol Halter (missionary in Hong Kong), friend of Eunice Hafemeister; Tami Huisinga, relative of Wes Huisinga; Craig Cunningham, brother-in-law of Brian Jacobs; Asher Strong, friend of Gene Janssen; Donald Johnson, father of Nicholas Johnson; Nicole Sanders and Ann Clark, daughter and friend of Mary Rose Kaliher; Danielle Pitzen, friend of Ellen Kormanik; Barbara Dahl, sister of Carla Manuel; Dani Olson, Harper Linqvist, Steve Camper, relatives and friend of Julie Manuel; Jan McCuen, mother of Matt McCuen; Martha Johnson, sister of Rhoda Nelson and aunt of Sherry Nelson; Janet Freeburg, friend of Lisa Nordeen; Michael Waechter, friend of Rod & Connie Olson; Kathleen Austad, sister of Jerry Ostlund; Jay Heffern, friend of Gary Pagel; Todd Erickson, friend of Jean & Doug Parish; Gloria Johnson, mother of Doug Parish; Rudd Rayfield, Jolie Meshbesh Hassler, Katelyn Bowden, Cindy Williams, father and friends of Robin Rayfield; Richard Reyer, father of Chuck Reyer; Leila Jeffers, mother of Lynn and Lisa Ruff; Scott Kingman, father of Anna Scott; Miranda and Nathan Alvis, niece and nephew of Tim Sneer; Carrie, friend of Paul & Melissa Stone; Norlene Bateman, aunt of Ted Thompson; Jennifer Kobylinski, cousin of Kathy Thurston; David Duran, friend of Kevin Vazquez; Andrew Weichman, Levi Boswell, son and nephew of Grace Wiechman; BJ Wilkes, Joshua Wilkes, Julius Underwood, and Lonnell Wilkes, son, nephew, grandson and brother of James Wilkes; Sandra Dycus, Becky Groska, Trisha Niemi-Haapoja, Diane Ristrom, Cathy Reid, Karen Swanson, Patrick Clark, Annie Hose-Ryan, Marcia Van Gorden, friends of Sue Ellen Zagrabelny; Anne-Marie Lundberg, cousin of Eric Zander; Judy Bonnes, Jan Harper (spouse of former Mount Olive vicar, the late Jean Hay); Barbara C. Johnson, friends of Mount Olive.*
- **At the death of:** Dennis Johnson, brother-in-law of Rhoda Nelson and uncle of Sherry Nelson.
- **Prayers for all in the health care system here and around the world** who put their lives at risk to care for those infected with COVID 19 and caring for all others who are ill as well.
- **Our continual prayers are offered for peace:** We pray for all of the world's governments, leaders and peoples, especially for those who work overseas toward peace: Solveig & Philip, daughter and son-in-law of Karen Johnson; and Tyson Crosby, relative of the Crosby family.