

## THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



### We Do Not Lose Heart

June 9, 2024

#### AS WE GATHER

In the face of a world seeming to be falling apart, and maybe even your personal “world,” God’s Word has great and convincing comfort and hope for you this day. That hope, however, begins with knowing the real cause of our troubles. It is our sin and alienation from God that is at the root of all anger, frustration, bitterness, and death. We easily “lose heart” when all seems hopeless for us. The center and substance of hope in God is Jesus Christ whose resurrection from all that is darkness and death to us is the means and strength of faith to endure and stand firm through all that troubles us. For “if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you” (Romans 8:11). Far from being merely a blind hope for future deliverance, believing in the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come far outweighs everything and anything that can happen to us now. Living in this hope, we do not lose heart.

## ✠ Welcome and Announcements ✠

**OPENING HYMN** "I Know that my Redeemer Lives" 461 vs 1-4

### INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**OPENING SENTENCES** *Psalm 124:8; 130:3-5*

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the LORD,

**People: who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities,

**People: O Lord, who could stand?**

Pastor: But with You there is forgiveness,

**People: that You may be feared.**

Pastor: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

**People: and in His word I hope.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: From God's own Word we understand it is our sin that causes our troubles, doubt, fears, and death. For this reason, God's own Son became our Savior, taking the sin of the world upon Himself and paying our debt with His own death on the cross. All who have been baptized in His name have died with Him and live in the forgiveness of our sin. Let us therefore implore Him again and again for His forgiveness and life.

**People: O God, I confess to You that I have sinned against You in my thoughts, words, and deeds by my own fault. For the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, forgive me my sins and restore to me the hope of Your eternal salvation.**

Pastor: God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith. I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

*(Share the peace of Christ with those around you)*

## **HYMN OF PRAISE** “Now Thank We All Our God” 895

### **SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People:**           **And also with you.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty God, You sent Your own beloved Son into our flesh to free us from the guilt and death of our sin. As He is risen from death and lives and reigns in victory, so raise us anew this day and always to the certain hope of eternal life in His name; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:**           **Amen.**

### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**    *Genesis 3:8–15*           (The first promise of a Savior from sin)

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

The LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done this,  
cursed are you above all livestock  
and above all beasts of the field;  
on your belly you shall go,  
and dust you shall eat  
all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and her offspring;  
he shall bruise your head,  
and you shall bruise his heel.”

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE**    *2 Corinthians 4:13–5:1*    (Therefore we do not lose heart.)

Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, “I believed, and so I spoke,” we also believe, and so we also speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

So we do not lose heart. Though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

For we know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**VERSE**    *Psalms 127:1a*

Pastor: Alleluia, alleluia! Unless the LORD builds the house,

**People: those who build it labor in vain. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**HOLY GOSPEL**     *Mark 3:20–35* (Jesus accused by His family and teachers of the Law)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the third chapter.

**People:**            **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Then [Jesus] went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, “He is out of his mind.”

And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, “He is possessed by Beelzebul,” and “by the prince of demons he casts out the demons.” And he called them to him and said to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end. But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

“Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him. And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you.” And he answered them, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People:**            **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**     8:00 AM     “Lord Take My Hand and Lead Me” 722  
   11:00 AM     “Precious Lord Take My Hand” 739

**SERMON**     “We Do Not Lose Heart”     2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

**CREED**      *Apostles Creed*

**People:**      I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**OFFERING**      Piano Solo “Beautiful Savior”  
                            To the Glory of God and in honor of Valerie Seaman’s birthday.

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray.  
          Lord God our heavenly Father, we give You thanks and praise for Your good creation and for Your re-creation of a people of eternal hope and life, Your holy church throughout the world. Keep, we pray, all pastors and believers in the joyful hope of the resurrection and the life of the world to come. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**           **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Help all people of the world and especially of our own nation to not lose heart in the face of earthly troubles but to endure with faith in Your gracious promises of the forgiveness of sins and the hope and peace of Your new creation. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**           **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: In the midst of trouble, anxiety, sickness, or fear of death, comfort, heal, and raise up all who call upon You in their need, [*especially* . . .]. Bless all who minister healing and deliverance to those in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**           **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For the many brave and faithful believers who have gone before us, we give You thanks. Help us to remember all who have fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith, that we may likewise live all our days with our heavenly goal in mind. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People:**       **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People:**       **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER** *Matthew 6:9–13*

**All:**     **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.**

### **PRAYER** For Guidance In Our Calling

**All:**       **Lord, God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**     *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**People:**         **Amen.**

**HYMN**         “I Know That My Redeemer Lives” 461 vs. 5-8

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