

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 26, 2020

8:30am



You Are A Treasure

AS WE GATHER

Today, our Lord provides three more parables about the Kingdom of God. As people finding hidden, priceless treasure or a valuable pearl might sell other possessions for these, so the Kingdom (really, Jesus Himself) is **worth more** than all that we have. Like last Sunday's parables, Jesus' third parable is about the Last Day, providing urgency for being in the Kingdom now. In His great love, Moses reminded the people before they entered the Promised Land that God had chosen them (and now us) as His people, "His treasured possession." With His protection and defense, Paul affirms nothing "will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus."

WELCOME – Pastor

RINGING OF THE BELL

Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid



1 Cre - a - tor Spir - it, by whose aid The world's foun - da - tions
 2 O Source of un - cre - at - ed light, The bear - er of God's
 3 Giv - er of grace, de - scend from high; Your sev'n - fold gifts to
 4 Im - mor - tal hon - or, end - less fame At - tend the al - might - y



first were laid, Come, vis - it ev - 'ry hum - ble mind; Come,
 gra - cious might, Thrice - ho - ly fount, thrice - ho - ly fire, Our
 us sup - ply; Help us e - ter - nal truths re - ceive And
 Fa - ther's name; The Sav - ior - Son be glo - ri - fied, Who



pour Your joys on hu - man - kind; From sin and sor - row
 hearts with heav'n - ly love in - spire; Your sa - cred, heal - ing
 prac - tice all that we be - lieve; Give us Your - self that
 for all hu - man - kind has died; To You, O Par - a -



set us free; May we Your liv - ing tem - ples be.
 mes - sage bring To sanc - ti - fy us as we sing.
 we may see The glo - ry of the Trin - i - ty.
 clete, we raise Un - end - ing songs of thanks and praise.

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *1 Peter 2:9; Isaiah 43:1; Colossians 3:12*

Pastor: You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession,

People: that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Pastor: Now thus says the LORD, He who created you, O Jacob, He who formed you, O Israel:

People: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine."

Pastor: Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,

People: compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Heavenly Father, Creator of life and light,

People: we confess that we have not reflected Your great love to us in sending Your Son to give up everything, including life itself, so that You may own us as Your beloved people. We have not loved the people around us as ourselves.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, our Redeemer,

People: we confess that we have not borne Your name to the world. We have not loved You with all our heart, mind, and strength.

Pastor: O Holy Spirit, the Comforter,

People: we confess that we have not shown Your love to the people near and dear to us, nor to those with whom we learn, work, and play.

Pastor: O Holy Trinity,

People: **forgive us and comfort us; surround us with Your love so that we may be the treasured possessions You desire us to be. Forgive us for Your name's sake. Amen.**

Pastor: Rejoice and be glad! Our Lord Jesus Christ visited this dark world and gave His perfect life in payment for your sins. He has restored You to be fit for the Kingdom of God. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

You treasure us, O Lord, and You steadfastly love Your chosen people.

People: **In the midst of even the worst things that can happen to us, we are more than conquerors through the love of Jesus.**

Pastor: Help us to know the peace that Your presence brings in the midst of our troubles,

People: **and guide us toward the kingdom You promised;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING Deuteronomy 7:6-9 (*God has chosen you to be a people for His treasured possession.*)

Reader: ⁶ For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession.

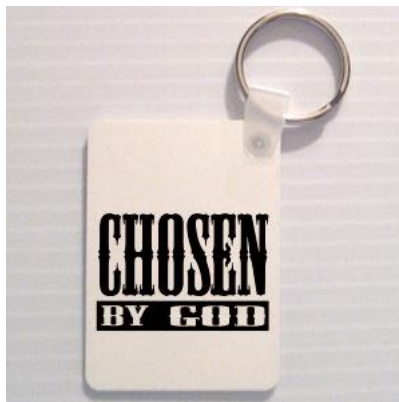
⁷ The LORD did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples.

People: ⁸ **But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt.**

Reader: ⁹ Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



The **Key** thing to remember, we are God's treasured possession!

HOLY GOSPEL READING Matthew 13:44-52 (Parables of the Kingdom)

Reader: ⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

People: ⁴⁵ **"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.**

Reader: ⁴⁷ "Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. ⁴⁸ When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore. Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. ⁴⁹ This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked.

People: **"Yes," they replied.**

Reader: ⁵² He said to them, "Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old."

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

THE APOSTLES CREED

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.

727 On Eagles' Wings

1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord: "My refuge,
My rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain

**And He will raise you up on eagles' wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His hand.**

2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
And famine will bring you no fear;
Under His wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield. **Refrain**

4 For to His angels He's given a command
To guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone. **Refrain**

MESSAGE – Pastor Fairbairn

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: As the Lord's treasured possession, a people loved and redeemed through our Savior Jesus Christ, let us bring acclamations of praise, cries for justice, pleas for mercy, and requests for peace for all those in need in our lonely and broken world and for ourselves.

Your steadfast love sustains the Church throughout the world. Strengthen the Church wherever two or three are gathered in Your name. Guide the Church into all truth. Empower our proclamation of the Gospel, so that the world may know the joy of Your kingdom. Bless the work of missionaries and church leaders. Enable all congregations of our Synod to be sources of God's love and redemption to the people in the communities in which they live. God of steadfast love,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: You promise that nothing in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Guide the rulers of our nation and of all the nations of the world toward justice, wisdom, mercy, and peace. Watch over our military personnel, and make Your comforting presence known to their families. Protect innocent people in war-torn nations. Preserve us from acts of terrorism. Reconcile us with our enemies. God of steadfast love,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: You work all things together for good for those who love You. Let Your love sustain and encourage those who are facing health troubles. Bless those who are in danger, those who are feeling lonely or depressed, and those who feel separated from You. Help them to see that even in the midst of suffering, You are there, and that nothing in all creation can separate them from Your love for us in Christ Jesus. God of steadfast love,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: You redeemed us from slavery to sin through our Lord Jesus. Guide us to recognize Your kingdom at work in this world, and help us so to love You, that we serve our neighbors selflessly. God of steadfast love,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Christ Jesus, the one who died and rose, is interceding for us. We boldly entrust our prayers to You, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

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.

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

If you brought your offering today, you are welcome to leave it in the offering plates you will find at the front of the church or in the main hallway. Thank you.

BENEDICTION

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. *Numbers 6:24–26*

People: Amen.

INVITATIONS

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

- 1 Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing,
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Your love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us; O refresh us,
Trav'ling through this wilderness.

- 2 Thanks we give and adoration
For Your Gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of Your salvation
In our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
To Your truth may we be found.

May We Help You? Anyone who desires special private prayer with the Worship Leader may do so by remaining in the gym until all worshippers have departed. At that time, come forward and speak with the Worship Leader.

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WHERE WE SERVE

<i>Preacher</i>	<i>Pastor Christopher Fairbairn</i>	
<i>Officiant</i>	<i>Pastor Jim Frusti</i>	
<i>Music Director</i>	<i>Paul Ventimiglia</i>	
<i>Elder</i>	<i>Tom Norton</i>	
<i>Ushers</i>	<i>John Hasse</i> <i>Gary Sixt</i> <i>Pat McGuigan</i>	<i>Charleen Hill</i> <i>Bob McGuigan</i>

<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Krause Family</i>	
<i>Altar Society</i>	<i>Nancy Berg</i>	<i>Marlene Shoebridge</i>
	<i>Dottie Siefker</i>	
<i>Tech Crew</i>	<i>Daniel Goodman</i>	
<i>Welcome Center</i>	<i>Sue Poole</i>	
<i>Counters</i>	<i>Dave Tischler</i>	<i>Shibu George</i>

News & Notes

Attendance Last week :
Sunday 7.19.20 - 8:30am - 57
11:00am - 46 = 103 Communion - 78

Bible Study and Small Group Opportunities –
SUNDAYS: *Join us for bible study and fellowship @ 9:45am in the church Parish Hall.*
TUESDAYS: *Bible Study in the church Parish Hall @6:30pm July 7th – August 11, 2020.*
SATURDAYS: *Men’s Bible Study – Every second and fourth Saturday @ 9:30am – Parish Hall.*

Donations needed each week for Church and School – \$9,808
Received week of 7.19.2020 for Church (Envelopes plus loose plate) \$10,298
**total includes online giving*

Today’s flowers are:

In honor of their wedding anniversary from Pastor and Lisa Fairbairn.

Please arrange to pick up your flowers after the 11am Sunday Service.

Our School is Reaching Out for Help - Thank you for all the support you have given to the school over the years. As we make plans to open this fall, face-to-face five days a week, we are wondering if anyone knows of an inexpensive source to purchase plastic face shields?
 Please send information to principal@stpaulnorthville.org



The Great Grocery Bag Event
St. Paul Lutheran Church of Northville

When: **Month of July**
Why: **To assist those in need through food donations for Northville Civic Concern**
How: **Check the list below. Shop and purchase any amount of food. (Even one item is greatly appreciated!) Return the groceries to the Parish Hall or Church Office.**

Non- Perishable Food Item(s)

Paper Products

Canned Fruit**

Fruit Juices

Canned Vegetables

Canned Soups (not broth)*

Tuna and Canned Meats*

Spaghetti Sauce

Pasta/Rice

Kraft Macaroni and Cheese*

Canned Macaroni (Chef Boy-Ar-Dee, etc.)

Cereal, hot or cold

Peanut Butter*

Jelly/Jam*

Cleaning Products:

Laundry Soap (100oz. or less)*

Dish Detergent (hand washing)*

Misc.:

Crackers*

Cookies*

Paper Towels*

Facial Tissues

Toilet Paper*

Hygiene Products:

Bar Soap

Shampoo

Toothpaste

***items always needed **always in shortest supply**

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL DATES ON FOODS ARE CURRENT

Thank you for your generous support

The FAMILY OF GOD Mission continues to serve the people in southwest Detroit six days a week. Our volunteers from St Paul prepared and delivered food July 15th that fed 75 people. About 25 came into the building to eat, 25 take-out-boxes were picked up at the door and another 25 meals were delivered throughout the community to the homeless by Pastor Tyler Cronkright after their worship service that night. Please continue to lift up our brothers and sisters in Christ that are physically and spiritually hungry for the Word of God and the staff who faithfully attend to their needs.

Many thanks to Janet & Bill Kovalach for their Thrivent Action card to pay for the groceries and supplies for our meal in July. The brownie bakers this month were Bernice Baggett, Joyce Carr, Mary Lewis, Shirley Mapes and Kathy Verseman. The cooks were Marti Gilchrist, Barbara Hoffmeier, Kim Johnson, Linda Johnson, Doris Oltersdorf and Janet Wisner. The servers were Chris Burgess, Chris Dempster, Barbara and Will Hoffmeier. Our menu was Au Gratin Potatoes with ham, peas and carrots, buttered rolls, cranberry relish, brownies and individual beverages. Our next meal will be Wednesday, August 19th. If you'd like to help please contact the Hoffmeier's #248.756.3035.