



Sunday, July 24, 2022  
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

**Thought:** Did you ever wonder why Jesus was often “in prayer?” Some might think that because he is God’s Son, they would always be “in tune” with what is happening. Yet, Jesus was tempted in the wilderness with the possibility of failing God’s Word. Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane....”Father if this cup could but pass, but not my will but your will be done. Often Jesus either by himself or with a few of the disciples went away from the crowds to pray. Near his life’s end, he chided his disciples, “could you not stay awake with me for one hour,” in prayer. In Philippians chapter 2 it says....”he emptied himself and became obedient, obedient to even death upon the cross.” Finally from the cross Jesus pleaded with God...”Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.” Jesus prayed expecting connection, expecting God who listens and understands. Jesus prayed as conversation that is never one sided. So shouldn’t we?

## Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### Prayer Concerns

### Sharing of the Peace

### Call to Worship

A: We gather in the presence of God's steadfast love.

**C: God, we come seeking your restoration and healing.**

A: We gather by the gift of God's own Spirit.

**C: God, we come to listen, we come that we might be heard.**

A: Let us worship and pray.

**C: God, we come in trust that you are already here, and already ahead of us, leading the way.**

**Gathering Hymn** – "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

ELW 742

[https://youtu.be/8SCorW9r\\_Is](https://youtu.be/8SCorW9r_Is)

What a Friend We Have in Jesus Epic Youth Watsonville

### Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

### Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

P: Gracious God, forgive us for prayerlessness. How seldom we seek your face!

**C: How infrequently we enter your presence! Our lives are consumed with our own wants and preoccupations. By the cross of Christ our Savior, deliver us from the dungeons of selfishness.**

P: We are free to love you and others with undivided hearts. In the name of Christ we pray.

**C: Amen.**

## The Greeting

P: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Let it be so! Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise** – “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” ELW 752  
(sung twice)

<https://youtu.be/BK3KJTyUqX0>

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Ken Medema

## Prayer of the Day

A: Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve.

**C: Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## The Word

**Old Testament reading – Genesis 18:20-32**

***Abraham bargains with God for the righteous of Sodom and Gomorrah***

<sup>20</sup>Then the LORD said, “How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! <sup>21</sup>I must go down and see whether

they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know.”

<sup>22</sup>So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD.

<sup>23</sup>Then Abraham came near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup>Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup>Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?” <sup>26</sup>And the LORD said, “If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake.” <sup>27</sup>Abraham answered, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup>Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?” And he said, “I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there.” <sup>29</sup>Again he spoke to him, “Suppose forty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of forty I will not do it.” <sup>30</sup>Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there.” He answered, “I will not do it, if I find thirty there.” <sup>31</sup>He said, “Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it.” <sup>32</sup>Then he said, “Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.”

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

### **Psalm 138**

*You steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.*

<sup>1</sup>I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.

**<sup>2</sup>I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

<sup>3</sup>When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

**<sup>4</sup>All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

<sup>5</sup>They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

**<sup>6</sup>The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.**

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

**<sup>8</sup>You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

### **Epistle reading – Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19)**

*Continue to live your lives in Jesus, rooted and built up on him and established in the faith*

<sup>6</sup>As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; <sup>12</sup>when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

<sup>13</sup>And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup>erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it. [<sup>16</sup>Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. <sup>17</sup>These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup>Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, <sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body,

nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

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

**Holy Gospel – Luke 11:1-13**

[https://youtu.be/f\\_AXzNXkb9Q](https://youtu.be/f_AXzNXkb9Q)

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to childlike trust and persistence in prayer.*

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."<sup>2</sup>He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come.<sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread.<sup>4</sup>And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."<sup>5</sup>And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' <sup>7</sup>And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.'<sup>8</sup>I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

<sup>9</sup>"So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup>Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup>Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

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

**Children of God time**

<https://youtu.be/V-OliSmKZCM>

**Homily – "Behind Door Number Three!"**

<https://youtu.be/438Y4rFFarY>

**Hymn of the Day** – “Lord, Teach Us How to Pray Aright” ELW 745

[https://youtu.be/2Yo\\_Qj9oV5E](https://youtu.be/2Yo_Qj9oV5E)

Lord, Teach Us How to Pray Aright Koine

**Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead,  
on the third day, he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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: Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

A: Rooted and built up in Christ, we pray for the church. Embolden church leaders to take risks for the sake of the gospel, and equip the baptized to proclaim your extravagant love for the whole world. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Rejoicing in the works of your hands, we pray for the natural world. Make rivers and lakes, oceans and all waterways, sparkle with your radiance. Protect water sources (*local water sources may be named*) and strengthen those who defend them. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Interceding on behalf of the vulnerable, we pray for the peoples of the world. Inspire all rulers and governing authorities with your justice. Guide the work of legislators and public officials, that they advocate for the well-being of those they serve. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Persistent in prayer, we pray for our neighbors in need. To all who have hunger, give daily bread. To all who have bread, give hunger for justice. Open us to the cries of those who suffer (*especially those we have named and those we now name in our hearts*). Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Abounding in thanksgiving, we pray for this congregation. Bless the prayer and fellowship ministries in this place. Call us together in times of praise and blessing, trouble and sorrow, in your holy name. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A: Buried with Christ in baptism and raised with him to new life, we give thanks for your saints who rest in your eternal presence. Join our voices with theirs as we sing of your great glory. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

**C: Amen.**

### **Offering and Offertory Prayer**

A: God of abundance:

**C: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your**

**goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,**

A: in the name of Jesus.

**C: Amen.**

A: Heavenly Father, you graciously listen to our prayers.

**C: You lovingly grant us what is needful.**

A: Accept these gifts – signs of our understanding.

**C: Tokens of our love.**

A: Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### **Preface**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C: Come, Holy Spirit.**

### **Words of Institution**

### 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.**

### Distribution

### Communion Music

#### Post Communion Blessing – Pastor

P: Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you  
and keep you in His grace.

**C: Amen.**

### Post Communion Prayer

A: Lord Jesus Christ, in teaching us to pray, you have led us to the Father.

**C: In feeding us at this table, you have given us a foretaste of  
heaven's feast.**

A: Not only do you grant us our requests –

**C: You give us more than we would dare to ask. Thank you, Lord  
Jesus.**

A: We bless you now and evermore.

**C: Amen.**

### Benediction from Numbers 6

**Sending Hymn** – “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead us” ELW 789

<https://youtu.be/GDUyc3QTP9I>

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us Antipolo UMC

**Dismissal**

A: Help us to prayerfully seek ways that you might lead.

C: **We leave in prayer to serve.**

**Postlude –**

