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The Rev. Thomas R. Marcis Jr. – Senior Pastor  
Ben Ramthun – Vicar  
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Liturgy: Pastor Marcis  
Sermon: Vicar Ramthun  
Organist: Evelyn Orth

## ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 15

I Believe in Jesus Christ  
August 16, 2020 – 10:45 AM



### AS WE GATHER

The earthly ministry of Jesus was for the most part in a restricted geographical area. For the three years of His public work, He traveled in the area of Judea and Galilee with a singular sojourn through Samaria. But at least on one occasion, He went beyond familiar boundaries north to the district of Tyre and Sidon, in what today is Lebanon. There He brought healing for the daughter of a Canaanite woman, a person seen as a Gentile and an inferior by the Jews of His home area. The love of Jesus broke down barriers and reached across divides. As people who have been sought out by Jesus, we seek ways to extend His love as the Holy Spirit works in and through us.

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

#### HYMN

“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” *LSB 528*

- 1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing  
My great 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,  
To spread through all the earth abroad,  
The honors of Thy name.
- 3 Jesus! The name that charms our fears,  
That bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner’s ears,  
'Tis life and health and peace.
- 4 He breaks the pow’r of canceled sin;  
He sets the pris’ner free.  
His blood can make the foulest clean;  
His blood avails for me.
- 5 Look unto Him, ye nations; own  
Your God, ye fallen race.  
Look and be saved through faith alone,  
Be justified by grace.
- 6 See all your sins on Jesus laid;  
The Lamb of God was slain.  
His soul was once an off’ring made  
For ev’ry soul of man.

7 To God all glory, praise, and love  
Be now and ever giv'n  
By saints below and saints above,  
The Church in earth and heav'n. Text: Public domain

### INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

### OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: We have begun our worship in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Let us speak together the words of the Apostles' Creed regarding the Second Person of the Holy Trinity.

People: **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.**

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins. The section on confession in the Small Catechism informs and directs us with these words, which summarizes it well.

People: **Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.**

Pastor: Humble yourselves then before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

People: **O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature, I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed, I have continually transgressed Your Law. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all of my sins, and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.**

Pastor: God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

People: Amen.

Pastor: As you believe, so let it be. 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.

✘ WORD ✘

*(Psalm 34:4-8; Antiphon: Psalm 34:1)*

**INTROIT**

Pastor: I will bless the LORD at all times;  
**People: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.**  
Pastor: I sought the LORD, and he answered me  
**People: and delivered me from all my fears.**  
Pastor: Those who look to him are radiant,  
**People: and their faces shall never be ashamed.**  
Pastor: This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him  
**People: and saved him out of all his troubles.**  
Pastor: The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him,  
**People: and delivers them.**  
Pastor: Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!  
**People: Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!**  
Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
**People: to the Holy Spirit;**  
Pastor: As it was in the beginning,  
**People: is now, and will be forever. Amen.**  
Pastor: I will bless the LORD at all times;  
**People: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.**

**SALUTATION**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**People: Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Job 38:4–18*

(God tells Job of His lordship over all creation.)

[The Lord said to Job:] “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? “Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed’? “Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment. From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. “Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL**

*Psalm 34:9, 19 alt.*

**People: Fear the LORD, you His saints, for those who fear Him lack nothing!  
Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.**

## EPISTLE

Romans 10:5–17

*(Faith comes from hearing the Gospel.)*

Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) or “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

### VERSE

Matthew 14:27

People: **Alleluia. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.” Alleluia.**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

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

## HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22–33

*(Jesus walks on the water on the Sea of Galilee.)*

Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.” And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## HYMN OF THE DAY

“Amazing Grace” LSB 744

- 1 **Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found,  
Was blind but now I see!**
- 2 **The Lord has promised good to me,  
His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures.**

- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come;  
His grace has brought me safe thus far,  
His grace will lead me home.
- 4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail  
And mortal life shall cease,  
Amazing grace shall then prevail  
In heaven's joy and peace.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise  
Than when we'd first begun. Text: Public domain

## SERMON

"In the Presence of Power"  
Matthew 14:22-33

## CREEDAL HYMN

"We All Believe in One True God" *LSB* 953

- 1 We all believe in one true God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
Ever-present help in need,  
Praised by all the heav'nly host;  
All He made His love enfold,  
All creation He upholds.
- 2 We all believe in Jesus Christ,  
Son of God and Mary's son,  
Who descended from His throne  
And for us salvation won;  
By whose cross and death are we  
Rescued from all misery.
- 3 We all confess the Holy Ghost,  
Who from both in truth proceeds,  
Who sustains and comforts us  
In all trials, fears, and needs.  
Blessèd, holy Trinity,  
Praise forever be to Thee! Text: Public domain

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,  
People: hear our prayer.

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY

"I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus" *LSB* 729 vs 1 & 6

- 1 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,  
Trusting only Thee;  
Trusting Thee for full salvation,  
Great and free.
- 6 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;  
Never let me fall.  
I am trusting Thee forever  
And for all. Text: Public domain

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9–13*

**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.**

## 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.

## HYMN

“Christ Be My Leader” *LSB 861*

- 1 Christ be my Leader by night as by day;  
Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.  
Gladly I follow, my future His care,  
Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.**
  
- 2 Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth,  
Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth.  
Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand,  
Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.**
  
- 3 Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;  
Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.  
Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain  
Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.**

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