**2nd Sunday after Pentecost**

“Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.” *Galatians 3:23-26*

**AS WE GATHER**

As we enter the long Church Year season of Pentecost, the liturgical color green is commonly used for the many weeks ahead. Like many things planted by a gardener or farmer in spring, green shows growth and maturation of that which was planted. In the same way, at this time of the Church Year, we are reminded that that green carries the symbolic importance of our continued need and privilege as God’s people to grow and mature as disciples of Christ through the Holy Spirit given. The Readings in this Pentecost season often remind us of the Early Church continuing to grow and spread to all people, which has continued to us here and now beginning in our Baptism and through all the days the Lord grants us.

**PSALM** 143

**+ PREPARATION +**

**INVOCATION and OPENING SENTENCES** *Psalm 3, Luke 8:39*

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

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Arise, O Lord!

**People: Save me, O my God!**

Pastor: O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me;

**People: many are saying of my soul, there is no salvation for him in God.**

Pastor: Arise, O Lord!

**People: Save me, O my God!**

Pastor: But You, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.

**People: I cried aloud to the Lord, and He answered me from His holy hill.**

Pastor: Arise, O Lord!

**People: Save me, O my God!**

Pastor: I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the Lord sustained me.

**People: I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around.**

Pastor: Salvation belongs to the Lord; Your blessing be on Your people! Arise, O Lord!

**People: Save me, O my God!**

Pastor: Return to your home,

**People: and declare how much God has done for you.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION** *Isaiah 65:8–9*

Pastor: We come before our Lord in confession, no longer as slaves, but as God’s own children and as heirs of all He graciously gives.

**People: We confess we often remain captive and enslaved to our sin and have neglected the name You have given us as Your children.**

Pastor: Like those in Isaiah’s day, we are a rebellious people who walk in a way that is neither good nor faithful, following our own devices and desires.

**People: We, on our own, have no right to be called Your heirs or to receive Your blessings.**

Pastor: For the many times we forget Christ’s power and victory and all we ever need fear in this body and life,

**People: forgive us, renew us, and lead us, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: In spite of our sin, the Lord gives His grace and good news of hope, promise, and victory. To the people in Isaiah’s day and to us, He speaks: “ ‘Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it,’ so I will do for My servants’ sake. . . . I will bring forth offspring from Jacob, and from Judah possessors of My mountains; My chosen shall possess it, and My servants shall dwell there.”

Through the mercy and sacrifice of our Lord Jesus, and in spite of our sinful nature and willful breaking of His Law given out of love, He calls us His children and His heirs to set us free and to live in the victory He has won for us. Through Christ alone we have gained access to His grace by which we now stand. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**HYMN** *“Father Welcomes”* (*LSB* 605)

**COLLECT OF THE DAY** *(bulletin insert)*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Isaiah 65:1-9 *(bulletin insert)*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**GRADUAL** *(bulletin insert)*

**EPISTLE** Galatians 3:23—4:7 *(bulletin insert)*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** Luke 8:26-39 *(bulletin insert)*

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

**HYMN** *“Baptized into Your Name Most Holy”* (*LSB* 590)

**SERMON “*Heavenly Father; Earthly Father”***

# THE NICENE CREED *(LSB*,back inside cover)

# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH and LORD’S PRAYER

*(after each petition):* Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

 **People: hear our prayer.**

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**PEACE OF THE LORD**

**Divine Service and the Close Fellowship of Holy Communion**

*Our Lord speaks and we listen. His Word bestows what it says. Faith that is born from what is heard acknowledges the gifts received with eager thankfulness and praise. The gifts include the Holy Supper in which we receive His true body and blood to eat and drink. Those welcome to the table acknowledge the real presence of the body and blood of Christ, confess their own sinfulness, and in true faith wish to receive the forgiveness and strength promised through this Holy Sacrament, as* ***instructed*** *… and* ***in unity of faith*** *… with God’s people here in this congregation. It is our sincerest desire that you join in the intimacy of this fellowship. However,* ***if you are not, yet, an instructed and confirmed member-in-good-standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, please visit with the pastor about such a fellowship before communing****. If you wish to come forward for a blessing, you are welcome to join us at the rail to receive such. Please cross your arms in front of you to indicate that desire.*

**DISTRIBUTION**

 *“Amazing Grace”* (*LSB* 744)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### BENEDICTION

**HYMN** *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”* (*LSB* 643)

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH,**

Rev. Curt Hoover, Rev. Alebachew Teshome,

Rev. Craig Fiebiger, Rev. Doug DeWitt

2640 Buckner Road, Thompson’s Station, TN 37179, (615) 791-1880

[www.faithlutheran-tn.org](http://www.faithlutheran-tn.org)

 **All are welcome …**

 **… Christ is honored.**