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**4th Sunday after Pentecost**

“Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.” *Matthew 10:31*

**AS WE GATHER**

It is not easy to live in this world as a believer in the one true God. Faith is challenged, truth is questioned, and persecution is faced. Though hardships and challenges are there and will continue, we are reminded this is nothing new since the fall into sin. The Lord doesn’t leave us though in midst of doubt and despair as we deal with division and even danger. He gives His presence and assures His lasting promises. In the Old Testament, the prophet Jeremiah and his people faced hardships, yet they modeled how our witness and testimony can be ones of boldness and confidence as we sing to and praise the Lord, for He “delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers” (Jeremiah 20:13). As Paul would face countless challenges in his Gospel proclamation to the ends of the earth, he reminds us that, even amid the battle of sin, we have received grace and that the “free gift of God is eternal life” (Romans 6:23). Jesus also reminds us that as divisiveness and persecution can be expected even from those closest to us, because of His everlasting promises we are able to “fear not.” The psalmist also assures that the Lord remains our refuge and our fortress. The world around us won’t change until Christ returns, but the Lord doesn’t change either. In and through Him, with faith and confidence we keep our trust.

**+ CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION +**

(*LSB*, Divine Service, Setting Three, pg. 184-185)

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**HYMN** *“Come, Thou Almighty King”* (*LSB* 905)

**PSALM 91:1-10** (w/ Gloria Patri, *LSB*, pg. 186)

**KYRIE** (*LSB*, pg. 186)

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** (*LSB*, pg. 187-189)

**SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY** (*LSB*, pg. 189)

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Jeremiah 20:7-13 *(bulletin insert)*

**GRADUAL** *(bulletin insert, below Collect of the Day)*

**EPISTLE** Romans 6:12-23 *(bulletin insert)*

**ALLELUIA** (*LSB*, pg. 190)

**HOLY GOSPEL** Matthew 10:5a, 21-33 *(bulletin insert)*

**NICENE CREED** (*LSB*, pg. 191)

**HYMN** *“Lord of Our Life”* (*LSB* 659)

**SERMON *“Acknowledging God before the World”***

**OFFERTORY** (*LSB*, pg. 192-193)

**RETURNING OF OUR FIRST FRUITS**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

**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.*

**LITURGY** (*LSB*, pg. 194-198)

**DISTRIBUTION**

*“Jesus Comes Today with Healing”* (*LSB* 620)

**NUNC DIMITTIS** (*LSB*, pg. 199-200)

**THANKSGIVING** (*LSB*, pg. 200-201)

### SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS (LSB, pg. 201-202)

**BENEDICTION** (*LSB*, pg. 202)

**HYMN** *“Come, My Soul, with Every Care”* (*LSB* 779)

**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.**