

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 22

In the Vineyard of the Lord
October 4, 2020

AS WE GATHER

The vineyard is frequently used in Scripture to denote a special place in God's creation. To have a vineyard and enjoy its fruit is a blessing. When the prophet Isaiah speaks of the goodness of the Lord, he says that God's favored people "shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit" (Isaiah 65:21). Vineyards were planted with a fruitful harvest in mind. We are the Lord's planting, and we eagerly await our harvest home.

PRESERVICE MUSIC

Darwall's 148th - Charles Callahan

BELLS

WELCOME

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Stand

HYMN

Christ is Our Cornerstone - LSB 912



1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, On Him a - lone we build;
2 Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we im - plore,
△ 3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hal - lowed courts shall ring;



With His true saints a - lone The courts of heav'n are filled. On His
And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us ev - er - more Un - til
Our voic - es we will raise The Three in One to sing And thus



great love Our hopes we place Of pres - ent grace And joys a - bove.
that day When all the blest To end - less rest Are called a - way.
pro - claim In joy - ful song, Both loud and long, That glo - rious name.

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LITANY OF PREPARATION

Pastor: In the name of God the Father,
People: who created this world in which we live.
Pastor: In the name of God the Son,
People: who is the true vine onto which we are grafted.
Pastor: In the name of God the Holy Spirit,
People: who brings into us the water of life that we might live and bear fruit. Amen.
Pastor: God has indeed grafted us onto the true vine, Jesus Christ, and placed us into his beautiful vineyard, the Church, in order that we might bear fruit for him. We fail in so many ways, and yet he invites us to come to him with a true heart and admit to the sinfulness that he sees there.

People: Almighty God, we have not borne the fruit in our lives that you desire. Instead, because of our sinful nature, we have rejected you. Forgive us for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Pastor: We are truly blessed by God! For the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, who was rejected by sinful man, God forgives all your sins. He will nurture you and make you grow in grace, that you can indeed bear the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

People: God grant this for Jesus' sake. Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, You gave Your Son into the hands of sinful men who killed Him. Forgive us when we reject Your unfailing love, and grant us the fullness of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 5:1–7

¹ Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

² He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it;
and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

³ And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it?
When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

⁶ I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow
up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷ For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel,
and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting;
and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed;
for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Philippians 3:4b–14

⁴ though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all

things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith - ¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33–46

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

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

³³ “Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. ³⁴ When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵ And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. ³⁷ Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ ³⁹ And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰ When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹ They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

⁴³ Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. ⁴⁴ And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sit

SERMON

Together in the Kingdom of God

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

For the Fruits of His Creation - LSB 894



1 For the fruits of His cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to God.



For His gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks be to God. For the
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done. In our
For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks be to God. For the



plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
world - wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
won - ders that as - tound us, For the truths that still con - found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, Thanks be to God.
In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

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CREED Nicene Creed

**C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Jesus Christ and for all people according to their needs.
Merciful Lord, You have planted us as Your own vineyard, that we might bear good fruit for Your glory. Grant to us grace, that we may be faithful and show forth in our lives the good works that glorify You and serve Your purpose; let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the whole Christian community around the world that, as people united in faith, we are emboldened to witness to the good news that is ours in Christ Jesus; let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For all nations of the earth, that there be times of peace; for our own nation that it would seek to bring that which is good and God-pleasing; and for our own communities and neighborhoods; let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For faithfulness to carry out our callings with faithfulness, living each day with hope and confidence as we await the time of the great and glorious final harvest; let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the needs that are specially known to us at this time, including health and family concerns, situations of disability or bereavement, and the changes that are part of human life, [especially . . .]. With assurance that our petitions are heard; let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, prepare our hearts to receive the Lord's body and blood in this Holy Supper, that we may be strengthened in faith, and renewed in love; let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

Stand

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is good and right, O Lord, to offer You thanks and praise for having granted to us all things in Christ Jesus, our Savior, whose Baptism for us fulfilled all

righteousness and whose perfect obedience before the lies of the tempter has given us strength, that we may endure in His strength and answer Satan's taunts with the truth of Your Word, our strength and shield. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sing

SANCTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy

LSB 161

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, O Lord of heaven and earth. We give thanks to You for having sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, to be our Redeemer, saving us from the power of sin, death, and the devil. Invited by Your grace and made righteous by the sacrifice of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, we come to Your Table with gratitude and joy. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood that we daily grow as people of faith and peace, looking forward to the eternal feast yet to come in Your heavenly kingdom.

People: **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My \times body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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.

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God

LSB 163

Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

Stand

COMMON DISMISSAL

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have again welcomed us at Your Table and have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in Your glorious kingdom. Strengthen us through this blessed gift that we live with assurance and confidence, free from every fear. Grant that Your Holy Spirit enlighten us with His gifts that we be people who rejoice in Your promises and live to Your glory. Sanctify and keep us in the one true faith throughout this earthly life until we come at last to the company of saints and angels in light eternal. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Savior

People: 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.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN

Sent Forth by God's Blessing - LSB 643



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,
 2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,



The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.
 The tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face.



The Sup-er is end-ed. O now be ex-tend-ed
 Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,



The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
 Em-brac-ing His chil-dren of each tribe and race.



The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,
 With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;



Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
 U-nite us as one in this life that we share.



His grace did in-vite us, His love shall u-nite us
 Then may all the liv-ing With praise and thanks-giv-ing



To work for God's king-dom and an-swer His call.
 Give hon-or to Christ and His name that we bear.

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POSTSERVICE MUSIC

The Ash Grove - Mark Sedio