

## **Blessed**

*The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

*July 3, 2022*

## **SERIES THEME - GOD'S WORDS POSSESS GOD'S POWER**

"Let there be light," God said (Genesis 1:3). God was not speaking a wistful wish into the darkness. He was declaring what would now be. "God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." God speaks and reality results.

When we speak words, they are often meaningless. Sometimes, one's words are meaningless because they are spoken without true knowledge. Other times, one's words are meaningless because they were spoken insincerely. Still other times, one might make a sincere promise, but he lacks the ability to do what he said, making his promise meaningless. Words are often meaningless. But everything God says is meaningful. God speaks with absolute knowledge. God never lies. And God's words possess God's awesome power. Thus, it is God's words that determine our reality. It is God's words that establish our faith, transform our hearts and minds, and direct our lives along meaningful paths.

During the first half of the Church Year, we focused on the life of Christ. As we begin the second half of the Church Year, we turn our attention to the teachings of Christ... to the Son of God's words. We gather each week to let the Holy Spirit do the work Jesus promised he would do in the way Jesus promised he would do it—through his Word.

## **SERMON THEME - BLESSED**

On this Sunday of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector, the focus will be on "Believing Humility," which the Tax Collector displays in the Gospel Lesson. He recognizes his immense sin and turns to Jesus for full and free forgiveness. This is the Christian life of repentance, worked in our hearts by the Holy Spirit through Word and Sacrament. In the sermon text from Psalm 32, we will see David inspired by the Spirit write about being convicted of his sin and the forgiveness the Lord shared with him through Nathan.

**Worship Leader**  
**Organist/Pianist**

Pastor Frederic Berger  
Quinton Corwin

## **Acknowledgments**

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, New International Version, NIV.  
Software distributed in partnership with Northwestern Publishing House.  
Created by Christian Worship: Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

## The Service, Setting 1 (page 154 in Christian Worship 21)

### **From Depths of Woe, Lord God, I Cry**

CW 650

*Please stand*

#### **Invocation**

In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

#### **Confession**

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just  
and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against You in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved You with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve Your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with His innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in Him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

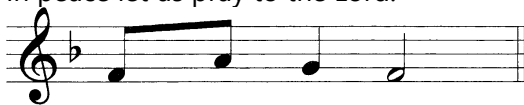
#### **Absolution**

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave His life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called 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.

**Amen.**

## Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**

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



**Lord, have mer - cy.**

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.



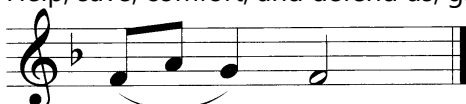
**Lord, have mer - cy.**

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



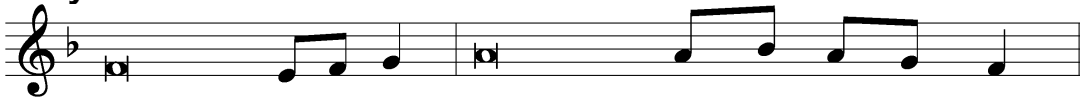
**Lord, have mer - cy.**

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



**A - men.**

## Glory Be to God



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



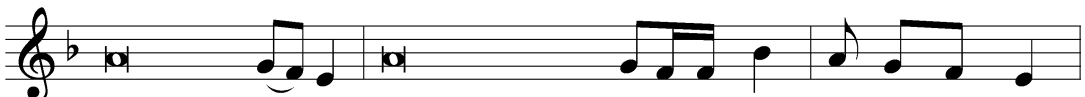
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



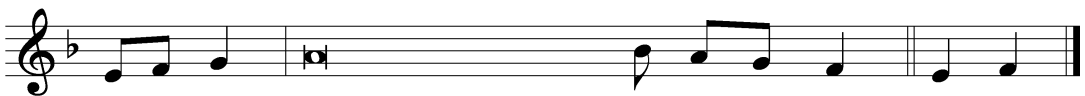
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

# The Word

## Salutation

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

## Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, we come to You in believing humility. We know how holy You are and as mere sinful humans how unworthy we are of anything good from You. And so we thank You for the mercies You offer to us every morning and for the gracious gifts You bestow on us. Today as we hear and study Your Word, reassure us of the forgiveness that is ours solely through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## First Reading

*2 Samuel 12:1-13*

*King David is here confronted with his sin. Listen to the prophet Nathan speak the Lord's law to convict David. In contrite humility, David no longer tries to ignore his sin, but acknowledges the grievous transgressions which he had committed against the Lord, Uriah, Bathsheba, and the nation.*

The LORD sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor.<sup>2</sup> The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle,<sup>3</sup> but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.

<sup>4</sup>"Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him."

<sup>5</sup>David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the LORD lives, the man who did this deserves to die!<sup>6</sup> He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity."

<sup>7</sup>Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul.<sup>8</sup> I gave your

master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. <sup>9</sup> Why did you despise the word of the LORD by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. <sup>10</sup> Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.'

<sup>11</sup> "This is what the LORD says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity upon you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will lie with your wives in broad daylight. <sup>12</sup> You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.' "

<sup>13</sup> Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

Nathan replied, "The LORD has taken away your sin. You are not going to die."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Second Reading**

*I Corinthians 15:1-10*

*Here the Apostle Paul expresses believing humility by confessing his own unworthiness and attributing anything worthwhile in his life to the grace of God.*

Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. <sup>2</sup> By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup> For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. <sup>6</sup> After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, <sup>8</sup> and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

<sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

*Please stand*





# Blessed

<sup>1</sup>Blessed is he  
whose transgressions are forgiven,  
whose sins are covered.

<sup>2</sup>Blessed is the man  
whose sin the LORD does not count against him  
and in whose spirit is no deceit.

<sup>3</sup>When I kept silent,  
my bones wasted away  
through my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup>For day and night  
your hand was heavy upon me;  
my strength was sapped  
as in the heat of summer. *Selah*

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you  
and did not cover up my iniquity.  
I said, "I will confess  
my transgressions to the LORD"—  
and you forgave  
the guilt of my sin.

*Please stand*

## **Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**Jesus Sinners Does Receive**

*CW 654*

**Prayer**

*The offering is brought forward during the hymn.*

**We Give Thee but Thine Own**

*CW 750*

*Please stand*

Blessed Lord, You have given us Your Holy Scriptures for our learning. May we so hear them, read, learn, and take them to heart that, being strengthened and comforted by Your holy Word, we may cling to the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **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.**

## **Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**Chief of Sinners Though I Be**

*CW 578*

## **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today:** 10:30 AM Worship

**Sunday:** 10:30 AM Worship

The second NELHS workday is coming up on **July 11th** from 8:00 am to 4:00 p.m. If you haven't contacted Cameron Handy about coming, please email him at [chandy@nelhs.org](mailto:chandy@nelhs.org) or call the office at 402-728-5236.

The installation of Justin Wilkens as Pastor at Bethel Lutheran and Grace Lutheran will be held at Bethel Lutheran Church in York on **July 17th** at 4:00 p.m.

**CONNECTION CARDS:** Visitors or members with changes in contact information, please fill out a connection card online at [www.bethelyork.com](http://www.bethelyork.com) on the member connect tab or scan this code.



Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/bethelyork](http://www.facebook.com/bethelyork)



Personal assisted listening devices are available.

**Given to the Lord:** Attendance: Worship 51, Offerings: Operating: Needed 2,583.54, Given 1,908.98, Parking Lot \$6,000.00 and Organ Fund \$1,000.00. **To God be the glory!**

800 N East Ave | York, NE | [www.bethelyork.com](http://www.bethelyork.com)