

But we have this treasure in jars of clay,
to show that the surpassing power
belongs to God
and not to us.

—2 Corinthians 4:7



Sunday, June 30, 2024
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Service Theme
**THE LIVING LORD COMPLETELY CHANGES
OUR VIEW OF DEATH**

Most people fear death to some degree. Some fear death because they assume it is the end. Others fear death because they assume it isn't the end at all, but that there is some sort of reckoning after death which might not go well for them. And have you seen what happens to a dead body? It is far from pretty. So, it is understandable that most people would fear death. Not so for those to whom God has given a top-down faith. Christianity teaches that for God's children death is not discipline but deliverance. The living Lord gives Christians such a radically different view of death that they can have confidence to face death in their effort to give Christ glory. They understand that death does not cut us down, but only raises us up. Finally, the Christian has been given the top-down faith that believes Jesus can wake us from death as easily as we can wake a sleeping child from his nap.

Hymn

CW 846 | Know of a Sleep in Jesus' Name

I know of a sleep in Jesus' name,
a rest from all toil and sorrow;
earth folds in her arms my weary frame
and shelters it till the morrow.
My soul is at home with God in heav'n;
my sorrows are past and over.

I know of a morning, bright and fair
when tidings of joy shall wake us,
when songs from on high shall fill the air
and God to his glory take us,
when Jesus shall bid us rise from sleep;
how joyous that hour of waking!

God's Son to our graves then makes his way;
his voice hear all tribes and nations.
The trumpet of God will sound the day
and shake all the earth's foundations.
He calls out aloud, "O dead, come forth!"
In glory we rise to meet him.

O Jesus, draw near my dying bed
and take me into your keeping
and say when my spirit hence is fled,
"This child is not dead, but sleeping."
And leave me not, Savior, till I rise
to praise you in life eternal.

Order of Service – Service of the Word

(From the Old Hymnal, page 38)

- M:** The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C:** And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.
- C:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**
- M:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give us strength to live according to his will.
- C:** **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

- M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.
- C:** *(Sing)* **Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues forever. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are they who take refuge in him.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(Sing)* Amen.

1st Lesson

Lamentations 3:22–33 (EHV)

God's people were suffering. But the prophet Jeremiah knew that suffering and impending death can focus our attention on what matters—the LORD's compassion and salvation.

²²By the mercies of the Lord we are not consumed, for his compassions do not fail. ²³They are new every morning. Great is your faithfulness. ²⁴My soul says, "The Lord is my portion. Therefore, I will hope in him."
²⁵The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. ²⁶It is good to hope quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

²⁷It is good for a man that he bears a yoke early in his life. ²⁸Let him sit alone and be silent, because the Lord has laid this upon him. ²⁹Let him stick his face in the dust. Perhaps there still is hope. ³⁰Let him turn his cheek toward the one who strikes him. Let him be filled with disgrace. ³¹For the Lord will not push us away forever. ³²Even though he brings grief, he will show compassion on the basis of his great mercy. ³³Certainly, it is not what his heart desires when he causes affliction, when he brings grief to the children of men.

Psalm 30
(From the Old Hymnal)

Refrain



At the works of your hands, O Lord, I
lift up my voice in song; I sing for joy.

Psalm tone



*

Sing to the LORD, you saints of his;*
praise his holy name.

For his anger lasts only a moment,*
but his favor lasts a lifetime;

weeping may remain for a night,*
but rejoicing comes in the morning.

Refrain

To you, O LORD, I called;*
to the Lord I cried for mercy.

Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me;*
O LORD, be my help.

You turned my wailing into dancing,*
that my heart may sing to you and not be silent.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

Second Lesson

2 Corinthians 4:7-15 (EHV)

St. Paul knew that serving Christ might result in death. But he also knew the one who raised Jesus from the dead will also raise us.

⁷We hold this treasure in clay jars to show that its extraordinary power is from God and not from us. ⁸We are hard pressed on every side, yet not crushed; perplexed, yet not despairing; ⁹persecuted, yet not forsaken; struck down, yet not destroyed. ¹⁰We always carry around in our body the death of the Lord Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. ¹¹To be sure, while we are living we are continually being handed over to death because of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our mortal flesh. ¹²So then, death is working in us, but life is working in you.

¹³Since we have that same spirit of faith, which corresponds to what is written: "I believed; therefore, I have spoken," we also believe, and therefore we speak. ¹⁴For we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will also raise us with Jesus and bring us (together with you) into his presence. ¹⁵In fact, all this is for your benefit, so that as grace increases, it will overflow to the glory of God, as more and more people give thanks.

Verse of the Day

Alleluia. The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him. Alleluia. (Lamentations 3:25)

C: *(sing)* **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**
These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Gospel Lesson

Mark 5:21-24a,35-43 (EHV)

Jesus raises the young daughter of a synagogue leader from the dead as easily as you would wake a sleeping twelve-year old from a nap.

²¹When Jesus had again crossed over in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered around him near the sea. ²²Then one of the synagogue rulers, named Jairus, came. When he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet ²³and repeatedly pleaded with him, "My little daughter is near death. Please come and place your hands on her so that she may be healed and live." ²⁴Jesus went with him,

³⁵While he was still speaking, people from the synagogue ruler's house arrived, saying, "Your daughter is dead. Why bother the Teacher anymore?"

³⁶But when Jesus heard this report, he told the synagogue ruler, "Don't be afraid. Only believe." ³⁷He did not allow anyone to follow him except Peter, James, and John the brother of James. ³⁸They went into the house of the synagogue ruler, and Jesus saw a commotion with people weeping and wailing loudly. ³⁹When he entered, he said to them, "Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping."

⁴⁰They laughed at him. But after he put everyone out, he took the father of the child, her mother, and those who were with him and went in where the child was. ⁴¹Grasping the hand of the child, he said to her, "Talitha, koum!" (When translated, that means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise!") ⁴²Immediately the little girl stood up and began to walk around. (She was twelve years old.) They were completely and utterly amazed. ⁴³Then he gave them strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and he told them to give her something to eat.

C: (sing) Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn

CW 831 Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me

- 1 **Why should cross and trial grieve me?
Christ is near with his cheer;
never will he leave me.
Who can rob me of the heaven
that God's Son for me won
when his life was given?**
- 2 **When life's troubles rise to meet me,
though their weight may be great,
they will not defeat me.
God, my loving Savior, sees them;
he who knows all my woes
knows how best to end them.**
- 3 **God gives me my days of gladness,
and I will trust him still
when he sends me sadness.
God is good; his love attends me
day by day, come what may,
guides me and defends me.**
- 4 **From God's joy can nothing sever,
for I am his dear lamb,
he, my Shepherd ever.
I am his because he gave me
his own blood for my good,
by his death to save me.**
- 5 **Since I know God never fails me,
in his voice I'll rejoice
when grim death assails me.
Trusting in my Savior's merit,
safe at last, troubles past,
I shall heav'n inherit.**

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Sermon Text & Theme

2 Corinthians 4:5-12 ... **“CROSS now, GLORY later”**

⁵ For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶ For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

⁷ But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. ⁸ We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. ¹⁰ We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. ¹¹ For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may be revealed in our mortal body. ¹² So then, death is at work in us, but life is at work in you.

Apostles' Creed

(CW p.41)

**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.**

Offertory Prayer

Prayer for our Nation before Canada Day

Eternal God, with your almighty power and wisdom you guide and guard the universe you created. Every planet and every star remain in place according to your design. You know the far reaches of space and observe even heavenly lights we cannot see.

Lead us to marvel every day at the wonders of your creation.

You created our planet to proclaim the depth of your majesty and love. At your command the world turns, the breezes blow, and the waters surge. Here you placed the crown of your creation, your human creatures, and gave us the bounty of the earth for our provision and pleasure.

Help us to value and protect the blessings of nature you have given us.

You have created the family, arranged society, and established governments to provide order and stability in our lives. You command us to respect and support the authorities that function with your permission. You teach us to love all people, those who are like us and those who are not, and to care for those in need of help.

Move us to love others as your Son loved us.

Guard and guide us when you allow serious diseases, financial uncertainty, and social unrest to torment our country. You surely punish the wicked in troubled times, but you also call people to turn away from sin to your forgiving love.

Lead us to repent and examine our thoughts, words, and actions.

Enable the medical community to discover cures for diseases and plagues that afflict our planet. Preserve the lives of your people that we may continue to share your love with others. Spare the lives of those who do not know you so they may find you and be saved.

Give us confidence to place our bodies and lives into your protecting hand.

Allow farms and factories, businesses and institutions, schools and communities to prosper and provide the blessings you desire to bestow on us. Use the blessing of wealth to enable us to spread the gospel throughout the world.

Teach us to be faithful stewards of your blessings and lead us to manage them according to your will.

Free us from all thoughts, words, and actions of prejudice and pride. Help us to see in all people the faces of those who have been redeemed by the innocent life and precious blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died and rose for everyone from every nation under heaven.

Help us to overcome the racial tensions that affect our land.

Give wisdom to the leaders of our land and bend their will to yours. Drive away party spirit and harsh rhetoric that often deepen the divisions among people. Help our nation find contentment in helping and protecting one another.

Guide us so we may avoid the pitfalls of anger and arrogance.

Keep in your care all those who are sick and suffering in these troubled times. Restore health according to your will. Comfort those you are leading to heaven with the anticipation of their eternal home.

Move us to pray fervently for those in need.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We come to you on behalf of the people and nation we love.

Hear us for the sake of Jesus, your Son and our Savior. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

(CW p.43)

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: *(sing)* **Amen.**

Blessing

(CW p.44)

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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.

C: (Sing) Amen. Amen. Amen.

Hymn

CW 774 God Bless Our Native Land

**God bless our native land;
firm may she ever stand
thro' storm and night!
When the wild tempests rave,
Ruler of wind and wave,
do thou our country save
by thy great might.**

**For her our prayers shall rise
to God above the skies;
on him we wait.**

**Thou who art ever nigh,
guarding with watchful eye,
to thee aloud we cry:
God save the state!**

Announcements

Church Cleaners:

July 7 – Andrew // July 14 – Peter

Church Picnic

Our picnic may be a good 6 weeks away (August 11th to be exact), but “friendship evangelism” can start right now. As we think about spreading the gospel (evangelism) we can begin with our friends or family. As you think about people you love in your life, is there one you could begin a gospel a gospel conversation with? Don’t worry, you don’t have to pick the most intimidating on your list. Start simple (unless you love a challenge of course!) Don’t worry if the person has a church or not. Just identify one person. Then pray for them. All this week ask God to open their hearts to be receptive and that God gives you courage and opportunity. This is step one. Stay tuned for more steps, encouragement, and tools to help you practice friendship evangelism

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

Su (30) 9:30 am Lay-led Worship

We (3) 5:30 pm "Test the Spirits" Bible Info class

Th (4) 10:30 am Longfield Manor Devotion
6:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)

Fr (5) 4:30 pm Youth Confirmation (D)

Su (7) 9:30 am Worship (with Communion)

10:45 am Bible Information Class

3:00 pm **Worship in Poltimore**

We (10) 5:30 pm "Test the Spirits" Bible Info class

Th (11) 6:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)

Fr (12) 4:30 pm Youth Confirmation (D)
6:30 pm Friday Fellowship

Su (14) 9:30 am Worship

10:45 am Bible Information Class



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