

MY BROTHERS,

SHOW NO PARTIALITY

AS YOU HOLD THE FAITH IN OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE LORD OF GLORY.

JAMES 2:1



Sunday, August 31, 2025

The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Service Theme

**WOUNDS THAT HEAL
THOSE WHO EXALT THEMSELVES
WILL BE HUMBLED**

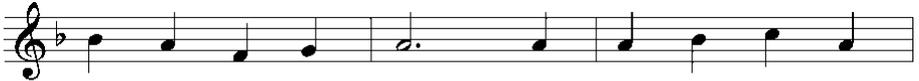
Everyone knows that humility is a positive trait and pride is a negative one. So, why bother talking about what we already know? Because despite that knowledge, we still helplessly fall into the trap of pride. We all desire acclaim, recognition, and praise. Jesus' sharp words this week teach us that seeking exaltation in futile and fleeing ways will only result in receiving the opposite. Those who attempt to exalt themselves will eventually be humbled by God. In contrast, Jesus promises that those who leave their exaltation to God will receive honor and glory far greater than any that can be awarded in this life. Our exaltation does not need to be our responsibility, because Jesus has already made it his.

737 Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way

CW 737



1 Lord, help us walk your ser - vant way wher -
2 You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord, but
3 No gold - en scep - ter but a towel you
4 You bid us bend our hu - man pride nor
5 Lord, help us walk your ser - vant way wher -



ev - er love may lead and, bend - ing low, for -
pow'r you laid a - side. You lived your years in
place with - in the hands of those who seek to
count our - selves a - bove the low - est place, the
ev - er love may lead and, bend - ing low, for -



get - ting self, each serve the oth - er's need.
ser - vant - hood, in low - li - ness you died.
fol - low you and live by your com - mands.
mean - est task that waits the gift of love.
get - ting self, each serve the oth - er's need.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

Tune: The Whole Book of Psalms, London, 1562

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The Service

Service of Word and Prayer (page 266)

I rejoiced with those who said to me,

“Let us go to the house of the Lord.”

How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord Almighty!

**Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are
ever praising you.**

The Lord is near to all who call on him,

to all who call on him in truth.

Time of the Church

Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees,

that I may follow it to the end.

Your word is a lamp for my feet,

a light on my path.

Faith comes from hearing the message,

and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Almighty God, grant to your Church the Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes from above. Let nothing hinder your Word from being freely proclaimed to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, so that we may serve you in steadfast faith and confess your name as long as we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament

Proverbs 25:6, 7a

Solomon provides common sense about humility and pride.

⁶Do not honor yourself in a king's presence.

Do not stand in a place reserved for great people,

⁷because it is better to be told, "Come up here,"

than for you to be humiliated before a ruler

whom your eyes have seen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

112A Light Dawns in the Darkness

Psalm 112A

Refrain



Tone



Blessed are those who / fear the LORD,
who find great delight in / his commands.
Wealth and riches are in their / houses,
and their righteousness endures for- / ever. *Refrain*

Surely the righteous will never be / shaken;
they will be remembered for- / ever.
Their hearts are secure, they will / have no fear;
in the end they will look in triumph / on their foes.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son
and to the Holy / Spirit,
as it was in the be- / ginning,
is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

Second Reading

James 2:1–13

James teaches that showing favoritism shows a lack of mercy and puts us at risk of God's judgment.

¹My brothers, have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ without showing favoritism. ²For example, suppose a man enters your worship assembly wearing gold rings and fine clothing, and a poor man also enters wearing filthy clothing. ³If you look with favor on the man wearing fine clothing and say, "Sit here in this good place," but you tell the poor man, "Stand over there" or "Sit down here at my feet," ⁴have you not made a distinction among yourselves and become judges with evil opinions? ⁵Listen, my dear brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom, which he promised to those who love him? ⁶But you dishonored the poor man. Don't the rich oppress you, and don't they drag you into court? ⁷Aren't they the ones who blaspheme the noble name that was pronounced over you? ⁸However, if you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. ⁹But if you show favoritism, you are committing a sin, since you are convicted by this law as transgressors.

¹⁰In fact, whoever keeps the whole law but stumbles in one point has become guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹For the one who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not commit murder." Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law of freedom. ¹³For there will be judgment without mercy on the one who has not shown mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day

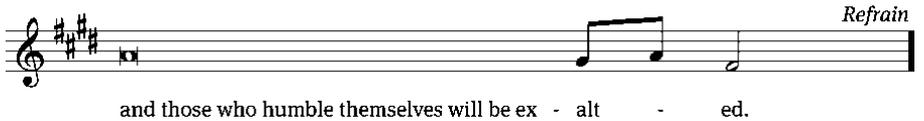
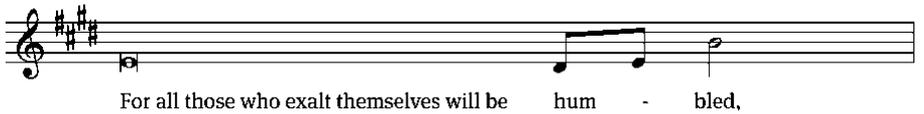
Luke 14:11



Refrain



Tone



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Gospel

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Jesus teaches some ways to demonstrate humility and promises that those who humble themselves will be exalted.

¹One Sabbath day, when Jesus went into the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat bread, they were watching him closely.

⁷When he noticed how they were selecting the places of honor, he told the invited guests a parable. ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not recline in the place of honor, or perhaps someone more distinguished than you may have been invited by him.

⁹The one who invited both of you may come and tell you, ‘Give this man your place.’ Then you will begin, with shame, to take the lowest place.

¹⁰“But when you are invited, go and recline in the lowest place, so that when the one who invited you comes, he will tell you, ‘Friend, move up to a higher place.’ Then you will have honor in the presence of all who are reclining at the table with you.

¹¹“Yes, everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”

¹²He also said to the one who had invited him, “When you make a dinner or a supper, do not invite your friends, or your brothers, or your relatives, or rich neighbors, so that perhaps they may also return the favor and pay you back.

¹³“But when you make a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, ¹⁴and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. Certainly, you will be repaid in the resurrection of the righteous.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

729 Son of God, Eternal Savior

CW 729



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and
2 Bind us all as one to - geth - er in your Church's
3 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and



truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us,
sa - cred fold, weak and health - y, poor and wealth - y,
oth - ers live. Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed;
truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us



hal - lows all our hu - man race, you our head, who, throned in
 sad and joy - ful, young and old. Is there want or pain or
 free - ly may your ser - vants give. Yours the gold and yours the
 hal - lows all our hu - man race, by your pray - ing, by your



glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead: fill us with your
 sor - row? Make us all the bur - den share. Are there spir - its
 sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea; we but stew - ards
 will - ing that your peo - ple should be one, grant, O grant our



love and pit - y, heal our wrongs and help our need.
 crushed and bro - ken? Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.
 of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
 hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Sermon

James 2:1-13

Express your Faith in Christ

- 1) Not by showing favouritism to some,
- 2) But by expressing mercy to all.

690 Blest Are They

CW 690



1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it, theirs is the
 2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones, they shall in -
 3 Blest are they who show mer - cy, mer - cy
 4 Blest are they who seek peace, they are the
 5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate all be -



king - dom of God. Blest are they,
 her - it the earth. Blest are they who
 shall be theirs. Blest are they, the
 chil - dren of God. Blest are they who
 cause of me. Re - joice and be glad,



full of sor - row, they shall be con - soled.
hun - ger and thirst, they shall have their fill.
pure of heart, they shall see God!
suf - fer in faith, the glo - ry of God is theirs.
yours is the king - dom; shine for all to see.



Re - joice and be glad! Bless - ed are



you, ho - ly are you! Re - joice and be glad!



Yours is the king - dom of God!

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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.**

Prayer

Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;
in your faithfulness and righteousness, come to my relief.

Spare us, Lord, from the lies of the devil and the attacks of our conscience. Comfort and save us in your patient compassion.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Guide us, Lord, to the wisdom of your Word and the power of your promises. Take away our confusion and doubt.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Hear us, Lord, when we come to you in prayer. Make us confident to take you at your word and to follow you in faith.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Empower us, Lord, to walk in your ways and live in your truth. Fill us with your love, that we may love you and one another.

Have mercy on us, Jesus.

Prayer of the Day

O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by your Holy Spirit to follow the example of your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Time of the Church

Almighty God, by your Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified. Receive our prayers for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocations and ministries they may truly serve and honor you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Blessing

The almighty and merciful Lord—the Father, the T Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless us and keep us.

Amen.

766 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

CW 766



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of
2 Still your chil - dren wan-der home-less; still the hun - gry
3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re -
4 Sent from wor - ship as your ser - vants, forth in your dear



hu - man need, who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
cry for bread; still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
veal - ing light in its height and depth and great - ness,
name we go, to the child, the youth, the a - ged,



of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, we, your ser - vants,
still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, your
dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, mak - ing known the
love in liv - ing deeds to show; hope and health, good -



bring the wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart, con - se -
deep com - pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul, use the
needs and bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear, stir - ring
will and com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, that your



crat - ing to your pur - pose ev - 'ry gift that you im - part.
love your Spir - it kin - dles still to save and make us whole.
us to tire - less striv - ing, your a - bun - dant life to share.
ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know and live.

Announcements

Church Cleaners

September 7 – Peter // September 14 – Barnabas

Regular Worship Schedule - September 7th

Our regular worship schedule starts next Sunday,

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

- Su (31) 9:30 am *Worship***
- We (3) 9:30 am Communicating Christ (Adult)
- Th (4) 10:30 am Devotion at Longfield Manor
5:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)
- Fr (5) 4:30 pm Youth Confirmation (D)
- Su (7) 9:00 am **Sunday School / Bible Study****
10:30 am *Worship with Communion*
11:45 am *First Fellowship*
3:00 pm **Worship in Poltimore**
- We (10) 9:30 am Communicating Christ (Adult)
7:00 pm New Communicating Christ (Adult)
- Th (11) 5:30 pm Youth Confirmation (W)
- Fr (12) 6:00 pm Friday Fellowship
- Su (14) 9:00 am **Sunday School / Bible Study****
10:30 am *Worship with Communion*
11:45 am *Coffee Hour*



Divine Word
Evangelical Lutheran Church
1081 Greenbank Rd.,
Ottawa, ON., K2B 5A8
613-825-1629
www.divinewordottawa.ca