

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT GETHSEMANE! May 23, 2021

TODAY'S FOCUS

We continue an eight-week series on the book of Acts with part 7: Persecution Is Never Far Away (Neither is the Lord!). No matter how close trouble or persecution comes, remember that Jesus is closer still! Keep listening to Jesus! ***We also celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit given at Pentecost.***

+ ALL GLORY TO FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT +

LSB 804 O WORSHIP THE KING

sts. 1–2, 5

- 1 O worship the King, all-glorious above.
O gratefully sing His pow'r and His love;
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.
- 2 O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.
- 5 Frail children of dust and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail.
Thy mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend!

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INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
G Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 43:3, 5b; 66:4

- P** Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful,
C **and kindle in them the fire of Your love. Alleluia.**
- P** Send out Your light and Your truth; let them lead me;
C **let them bring me to Your holy hill and to Your dwelling!**
- P** Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him,
C **my salvation and my God.**
- P** All the earth worships You and sings praises to You;
C **they sing praises to Your name.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Psalm 38:18, 22; 140:6; 145:8

- P** With confidence I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **for the LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**
- P** I confess my iniquity; I am sorry for my sin.
C **Make haste to help me, O Lord, my salvation!**
- P** I say to the LORD, You are my God;
C **give ear to the voice of my pleas for mercy, O LORD!**
- P** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open and all desires are known and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

P In repentance, let us now confess our sins unto our gracious God.

C **Almighty God, merciful Father, we acknowledge our sinful nature and repent of our sins in thought and in word and in deed. For the sake of Jesus, our Lord, grant us Your divine absolution so that, as Your redeemed people, we be fit places for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and serve You in time and for eternity. Have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to life everlasting.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. To them that believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C **Amen.**

LSB 804 O WORSHIP THE KING

st. 6

6 O measureless Might, ineffable Love,
While angels delight to hymn Thee above,
Thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall sing to Thy praise.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, on this day You once taught the hearts of Your faithful people by sending them the light of Your Holy Spirit. Grant us in our day by the same Spirit to have a right understanding in all things and evermore to rejoice in His holy consolation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

+ GOD'S WORD FOR US +

FIRST READING

Acts 20:17–31 NIV

^{20:17} From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the elders of the church. ¹⁸ When they arrived, he said to them: “You know how I lived the whole time I was with you, from the first day I came into the province of Asia. ¹⁹ I served the Lord with great humility and with tears and in the midst of severe testing by the plots of my Jewish opponents. ²⁰ You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house. ²¹ I have declared to both Jews and

Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus.

²² “And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. ²³ I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. ²⁴ However, I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God’s grace.

²⁵ “Now I know that none of you among whom I have gone about preaching the kingdom will ever see me again. ²⁶ Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of any of you.

²⁷ For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God.

²⁸ Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. ²⁹ I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock.

³⁰ Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. ³¹ So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

2 Timothy 3:10–17 NIV

^{3:10} You, however, know all about my teaching, my way of life, my purpose, faith, patience, love, endurance, ¹¹ persecutions, sufferings—what kinds of things happened to me in Antioch,

Iconium and Lystra, the persecutions I endured. Yet the Lord rescued me from all of them. ¹² In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, ¹³ while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. ¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23 NIV

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

^{13:1} That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the lake. ² Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat in it, while all the people stood on the shore. ³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was

shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root.

⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹ Whoever has ears, let them hear.”

¹⁸ “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means:

¹⁹ When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. ²⁰ The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. ²¹ But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. ²² The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. ²³ But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

LSB 650 HOLY SPIRIT, EVER DWELLING

1 Holy Spirit, ever dwelling In the holiest realms of light;
Holy Spirit, ever brooding O'er a world of gloom and night;
Holy Spirit, ever raising Those of earth to thrones on high;
Living, life-imparting Spirit, You we praise and magnify.

2 Holy Spirit, ever living As the Church's very life;
Holy Spirit, ever striving Through us in a ceaseless strife;
Holy Spirit, ever forming In the Church the mind of Christ:
You we praise with endless worship For Your gifts and
fruits unpriced.

3 Holy Spirit, ever working Through the Church's ministry;
Quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving, Setting captive
sinners free;
Holy Spirit, ever binding Age to age and soul to soul
In communion never ending, You we worship and extol.

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*MESSAGE: ACTING ON OUR FAITH, PART 7 "PERSECUTION IS
NEVER FAR AWAY (NEITHER IS THE LORD!)*

NICENE CREED

**☐ 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.**

INSTALLATION OF SERVANTS OF THE CONGREGATION

OUR PRAYERS

+ SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION +

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNION

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.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

☩ 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 ✝ 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.”

+ COMMUNION HYMN +

LSB 496 HOLY SPIRIT, LIGHT DIVINE

sts. 1–4

- 1 Holy Spirit, light divine, Shine upon this heart of mine;
Chase the shades of night away, Turn the darkness into day.
- 2 Let me see my Savior’s face, Let me all His beauties trace;
Show those glorious truths to me Which are only known to Thee.
- 3 Holy Spirit, pow’r divine, Cleanse this guilty heart of mine;
In Thy mercy pity me, From sin’s bondage set me free.
- 4 Holy Spirit, joy divine, Cheer this saddened heart of mine;
Yield a sacred, settled peace, Let it grow and still increase.

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BENEDICTION

- P** 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.

C Amen.

HWC 345 BLESSED ASSURANCE

- 1 Blessed assurance Jesus is mine
Oh what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of salvation purchase of God
Born of His Spirit washed in His blood **(CHORUS)**

CHORUS

**This is my story this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long
This is my story this is my song
Praising my Savior all the day long**

- 2 Perfect submission perfect delight
Visions of rapture now burst at my sight
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy whispers of love **(CHORUS)**
- 3 Perfect submission all is at rest
I in my Savior am happy and blest
Watching and waiting looking above
Filled with His goodness lost in His love. **(CHORUS)**

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