TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

God Knows Whom to Rescue

AS WE GATHER

The word "rescue" appears 129 times in the English Bible. The Lord promises to rescue His people and His people cry out for God's rescue. "Rescue" implies some kind of helplessness, a tragic situation without hope unless an outside force intervenes. For instance, a person trapped in a car in a ditch off the road during a winter storm might need to be "rescued."

2 Peter 2:9 says, "The Lord knows how to rescue the godly from trials and to hold the unrighteous for punishment on the day of judgment." It is part of the blessedness of being a believer. We need rescuing but we also have a Rescuer. One of the hymns we are singing this morning says, "Fatherlike He tends and spares us; Well our feeble frame He knows; In His hand He gently bear us, rescues us from all our foes."

Do you need a rescue? Are you the kind of person God rescues? This is the theme of today's message and service.
GATHERING SONG

THE LION AND THE LAMB
Brown/Johnson/Mooring

He's coming on the clouds, kings and kingdoms will bow down
And every chain will break, as broken hearts declare His praise
Who can stop the Lord Almighty?

CHORUS: Our God is the Lion, the Lion of Judah
   He's roaring with power and fighting our battles
   And every knee will bow before You
Our God is the Lamb, the Lamb that was slain
   For the sin of the world, His blood breaks the chains
   And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb
Oh every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb

So open up the gates, make way before the King of kings
Our God who calls the saved is here to set the captives free
Who can stop the Lord Almighty? CHORUS

※ PREPARATION ※

PRELUDE “God Loves You” W. Kirkpatrick and M. Heimermann
Jenna Lawrenz and Christa Kirschner, soloists

PASTORAL GREETING

OPENING SONG HOLY IS THE LORD Tomlin

We stand and lift up our hands, For the joy of the Lord is our strength.
We bow down and worship Him now. How great, how awesome is He.
And together we sing, ev'ry-one sing.

Holy is the Lord God Almighty. The earth is filled with His glory.
Holy is the Lord God Almighty. The earth is filled with His glory.
The earth is filled with His glory.

It is rising up all around. It’s the anthem of the Lord’s renown.
It is rising up all around. It’s the anthem of the Lord’s renown.

And together we sing, ev'ry-one sing. Holy is the Lord God Almighty.
The earth is filled with His glory. Holy is the Lord God Almighty.
The earth is filled with His glory. The earth is filled with His glory.
The earth is filled with His glory.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ※ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.
OPENING SENTENCES  Psalm 119:81–82, 88

Pastor: My soul longs for Your salvation;  
People: I hope in Your word.  
Pastor: My eyes long for Your promise;  
People: I ask, “When will You comfort me?”  
Pastor: In Your steadfast love give me life,  
People: that I may keep the testimonies of Your mouth.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Loving God,  
People: we confess our alienation from You both by nature and by choice. Help us to know and believe how much You love us. Let us abide in Your love even as You abide in us always. Heal us with forgiveness for Jesus’ sake.  
Pastor: Our dear Holy Trinity in mercy has given the Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus, 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.  
People: Amen.

WORD

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 19:15-26

With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Hurry! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away when the city is punished.”  
When he hesitated, the men grasped his hand and the hands of his wife and of his two daughters and led them safely out of the city, for the Lord was merciful to them. As soon as they had brought them out, one of them said, “Flee for your lives! Don’t look back, and don’t stop anywhere in the plain! Flee to the mountains or you will be swept away!”  
But Lot said to them, “No, my lords, please! Your servant has found favor in your eyes, and you have shown great kindness to me in sparing my life. But I can’t
flee to the mountains; this disaster will overtake me, and I’ll die. Look, here is a town near enough to run to, and it is small. Let me flee to it—it is very small, isn’t it? Then my life will be spared.” He said to him, “Very well, I will grant this request too; I will not overthrow the town you speak of. But flee there quickly, because I cannot do anything until you reach it.” (That is why the town was called Zoar.) By the time Lot reached Zoar, the sun had risen over the land. Then the Lord rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the Lord out of the heavens. Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, including all those living in the cities—and also the vegetation in the land. But Lot’s wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: Hebrews 11:17–31
(The people of God living by faith.)

By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death. By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.

By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph’s sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff. By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions about his bones. By faith Moses’ parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict. By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king’s anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel. By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the people had marched around them for seven days. By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.
Congregation, please rise for the Holy Gospel.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 12:49–53
(Division and perfect peace.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.
People: Glory to You, O Lord.

"I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is completed! Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Kathy Johnson

SONG OF THE DAY  WHOM SHALL I FEAR GOD OF ANGEL ARMIES  Tomlin

You hear me when I call. You are my morning song.
Though darkness fills the night, it cannot hide the light. Whom shall I fear?

You crush the enemy under my feet.
You are my sword and shield, though troubles linger still. Whom shall I fear?

CHORUS: I know who goes before me, I know who stands behind:
The God of angel armies is always by my side!
The One who reigns forever, He is a friend of mine.
The God of angel armies is always by my side!

My strength is in your name, for you alone can save.
You will deliver me. Yours is the victory.
Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear? CHORUS

And nothing formed against me shall stand!
You hold the whole world in Your hands.
I’m holding on to your promises; You are faithful, You are faithful.

And nothing formed against me shall stand!
You hold the whole world in Your hands.
I’m holding on to your promises; You are faithful, You are faithful,
You are faithful. CHORUS X2

The God of angel armies is always by my side!
SERMON
“The Type of People God Rescues” Pastor Don Ginkel
TEXT: Genesis 19:15-26

NICENE CREED
Text found in the back of the Hymnal.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE
Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: And also with you.

OFFERING

THE HEART OF WORSHIP Redman

When the music fades, all is stripped away,
and I simply come; Longing just to bring something
that's of worth that will bless Your heart.

CHORUS: I'll bring You more than a song,
For a song in itself is not what You have required.
You search much deeper within
through the way things appear;
You're looking into my heart.
I'm coming back to the heart of worship,
And it's all about You, all about You, Jesus.
I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it,
When it's all about You, all about You, Jesus.

King of endless worth, no one could express
how much You deserve. Though I'm weak and poor,
all I have is Yours, ev'ry single breath. CHORUS

HOLY COMMUNION AT ASCENSION

The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have been instructed and have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with “Amen!”, a word of affirmation and belief.
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.


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 ✞ 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.”

LORD’S PRAYER  Matthew 6:9–13  Text found in the back of the Hymnal.
DISTRIBUTION SONGS

LIVING HOPE

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation, I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness, Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished, the end is written
Jesus Christ, my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy?
What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken, I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior, I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ, my living hope

CHORUS: Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope (TWICE)

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me

Then came the morning that sealed the promise
Your buried body began to breathe
Out of the silence, the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave has no claim on me
Jesus, Yours is the victory, (whoa!) CHORUS

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation in Your name
Jesus Christ, my living hope
Jesus Christ, my living hope
Oh God, You are my living hope
O COME TO THE ALTAR

Are you hurting and broken within
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin
Jesus is calling
Have you come to the end of yourself
Do you thirst for a drink from the well
Jesus is calling

CHORUS: O come to the altar
The Father's arms are open wide
Forgiveness was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes
Come today there's no reason to wait
Jesus is calling
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy
From the ashes a new life is born
Jesus is calling CHORUS X2

Oh what a Savior Isn't he wonderful
Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Bow down before him For he is Lord of all
Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Oh what a Savior Isn't he wonderful
Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Bow down before him For he is Lord of all
Sing alleluia Christ is risen CHORUS X2

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown
Tell the world of the treasure you've found

HOW HE LOVES US

He is jealous for me,
Love's like a hurricane, I am a tree,
Bending beneath the weight of His wind and mercy.
When all of a sudden,
I am unaware of these afflictions eclipsed by glory,
And I realize just how beautiful You are,
And how great Your affections are for me.

And, oh, how He loves us, oh,
Oh, how He loves us, How He loves us all.
CLOSING SONG  MY LIGHTHOUSE  Rend Collective

In my wrestling and in my doubts; In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through; You are the peace in my troubled sea (whoa-oh),
You are the peace in my troubled sea.

In the silence, You won't let go; In the questions, Your truth will hold
Your great love will lead us through; You are the peace in my troubled sea (whoa-oh),
You are the peace in my troubled sea.

My lighthouse, my lighthouse; Shining in the darkness. I will follow You, oh,
My lighthouse, my lighthouse; I will trust the promise
You will carry us safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh); Safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh); Safe to shore.

I won't fear what tomorrow brings; With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through; You are the peace in my troubled sea (whoa-oh),
You are the peace in my troubled sea.

DISMISSAL

Pastor:  Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
People:  Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS
“If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake.”

Genesis 18:26, ESV
Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT: Pastor Don Ginkel
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES: Michael Zehnder
ORGAN ASSISTANT: Gwen Geisler
YOUTH BAND: Ashley Boeding, Brooke Boeding, Larry Boeding, Lilly Brinkman, Kayden Erling, Will Kopriva

ELDER: 8:00 Bill Redden  
10:00 Roger Gaide

LECTOR: 8:00 Clyde Wiggins  
10:00 Jude Donovan

ACOLYTE: 8:00 Chrissy Coon  
10:00 Hannah Schmitt

USHERS: 8:00 Barry Kratzer, Members of the Congregation  
10:00 Jason Dierking, Members of the Congregation

SERVER: 10:00 Denise Lucero

ALTAR GUILD: Phyllis McConnell, Sharon Seible, Laurel Shurtleff

FLOWERS: Edna & Linda Achziger, in loving memory of Carla and Lloyd Winn and by Jerry & Judy Peterson, in joyful celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary

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