ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The Problem With Dying

AS WE GATHER

Have you ever lost a loved one and felt the pain of knowing you won’t see them again on earth? Or maybe someone was such a big part of your life that you felt lonely when they left this earth. St. Paul struggled with the thought of being with Christ or remaining on earth to help others in their faith journey. Today's lessons and topic focus on the realities of losing loved ones. Feelings are feelings and loss is loss. But there still is great reason even in loss to hope in joy. Jesus says in our Gospel, "Do not be amazed at this for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out!" Death is not the final word; Christ has overcome even our last enemy - death!
GATHERING SONG

SING TO THE KING

Sing to the King who is coming to reign.  
Glory to Jesus, the Lamb that was slain.  
Life and salvation His empire shall bring,  
And joy to the nations, when Jesus is King.

CHORUS:  Come, let us sing a song,  
A song declaring that we belong to Jesus; He is all we need.  
Lift up a heart of praise.  
Sing now with voices raised to Jesus; sing to the King.

For His returning we watch and we pray;  
We will be ready the dawn of that day.  
We'll join in singing with all the redeemed,  
'cause Satan is vanquished and Jesus is King.  

CHORUS

* PREPARATION *

PASTORAL GREETING

OPENING SONG   ANCIENT OF DAYS  

Blessing and honor glory and power  
Be unto the Ancient of Days  
From ev'ry nation all of creation  
Bow before the Ancient of Days

CHORUS:  Ev'ry tongue in heaven and earth Shall declare Your glory  
Ev'ry knee shall bow at Your throne In worship  
You will be exalted O God And Your kingdom shall not pass away  
O Ancient of Days

Blessing and honor glory and power  
Be unto the Ancient of Days  
From ev'ry nation all of creation  
Bow before the Ancient of Days  

CHORUS

Your kingdom shall reign Over all the earth  
Sing unto the Ancient of Days  
For none can compare To Your matchless worth  
Sing unto the Ancient of Days (Repeat)

CHORUS
INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the * Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Great is the steadfast love of the Lord toward us,
People: and His faithfulness endures forever. Splendor and majesty are before Him, from this time forth and even forevermore.
Pastor: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and perform your vows to the Most High,
People: call upon Me in the day of trouble, says the Lord, and I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me.

A time for silent reflection

Pastor: Holy and gracious God,
People: I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ, I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me that my heart may know peace.
Pastor: By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. As a called and ordained 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.
People: Amen.
Pastor: May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of Jesus Christ.
People: Amen.

* WORD *

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Psalm 116

I love the Lord, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy. Because he turned his ear to me, I will call on him as long as I live.
The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came upon me; I was overcome by trouble and sorrow. Then I called on the name of the Lord: “O Lord, save me!”
The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion. The Lord protects the simplehearted; when I was in great need, he saved me.
Be at rest once more, O my soul, for the Lord has been good to you.
For you, O Lord, have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling, that I may walk before the Lord in the land of the living.
I believed; therefore I said, “I am greatly afflicted.” And in my dismay I said, “All men are liars.”

How can I repay the Lord for all his goodness to me?
I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.
Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints. O Lord, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the son of your maidservant; you have freed me from my chains.
I will sacrifice a thank offering to you and call on the name of the Lord. I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the house of the Lord—in your midst, O Jerusalem.
Praise the Lord.

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

EPISTLE: Philippians 1:19-26

For I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.
Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, so that through my being with you again your joy in Christ Jesus will overflow on account of me.

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

Congregation, please rise for the Holy Gospel.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 5:21-30

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

For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it. Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent
him.
“I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life. I tell you the truth, a time is coming when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.

“Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out—those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned. By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me.

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Christa Kirschner

SONG OF THE DAY

BETTER IS ONE DAY

Redman

How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty.
For my soul longs and even faints for You.
For here my heart is satisfied within Your presence.
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

CHORUS: Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere.
Better is one day in Your courts, better is one day in Your house,
Better is one day in Your courts than thousands elsewhere,
Than thousands elsewhere.

One thing I ask and I would seek: To see Your beauty,
to find You in the place Your glory dwells.
One thing I ask and I would seek: To see Your beauty,
to find You in the place Your glory dwells. CHORUS

My heart and flesh cry out for You, the Living God.
Your Spirit's water to my soul.
I've tasted, and I've seen. Come once again to me.
I will draw near to You. I will draw near to You, to You. CHORUS

SERMON

“Man’s Enemy”

Pastor John Larson

TEXT: I Corinthians 15:26

APOSTLES’ 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

LORD, REIGN IN ME

Over all the earth, You reign on high,
every mountain stream, every sunset sky.
But my one request, Lord, my only aim
is that You’d reign in me again.

CHORUS: Lord, reign in me, reign in Your power;
over all my dreams, in my darkest hour.
You are the Lord of all I am,
so won’t You reign in me again.

Over every thought, over every word,
may my life reflect the beauty of my Lord;
‘Cause You mean more to me than any earthly thing.
So won’t you reign in me again. CHORUS X2

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Rev. John (Associate Member) and Hope (Adult Confirmation) Bergren
Cliff Michaelsen (Transfer)
Gerideane Tracey (Transfer)
Carla Yule (Adult Confirmation)

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.
WORTHY IS THE LAMB

Thank you for the cross, Lord.
Thank you for the price you paid.
Bearing all my sin and shame, in love you came And gave Amazing Grace.

Thank you for this love, Lord.
Thank you for the nail-pierced hands.
Wash me in Your cleansing flow, now all I know...Your forgiveness and embrace.

Worthy is the Lamb
Seated on the throne.
We crown You now with many crowns
You reign victorious!
High and lifted up
Jesus, Son of God.
The darling of Heaven, crucified...
Worthy is the Lamb.

ONCE AGAIN (JESUS CHRIST)

Jesus Christ, I think upon Your sacrifice;
You became nothing, poured out to death.
Many times, I've wondered at your gift of life,
And I'm in that place once again,
I'm in that place once again.

CHORUS: Once again, I look upon the cross where You died.
I'm humbled by Your mercy and I'm broken inside.
Once again I thank You, once again I pour out my life.

Now You are exalted to the highest place,
King of the Heavens, where one day I'll bow.
But for now, I'll marvel at Your saving grace,
And I'm full of praise once again,
I'm full of praise once again. CHORUS (2x)

Thank You for the cross.
Thank You for the cross.
Thank You for the cross, my friend.
Thank You for the cross.
Thank You for the cross.
Thank You for the cross, my friend. CHORUS
HOW DEEP THE FATHER’S LOVE FOR US  

How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon a cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything  
No gifts no power no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from His reward  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom

GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.  
Numbers 6:24–26

People: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!  
People: Thanks be to God.
CLOSING SONG  HEAVEN IS IN MY HEART  Graham Kendrick

CHORUS: Oh!... heaven is in my heart, Oh!... heaven is in my heart
    Oh!... heaven is in my heart, Oh!... heaven is in my heart

The kingdom of our God is here (Heaven is in my heart)
The presence of His majesty (Heaven is in my heart)
And in His presence joy abounds (Heaven is in my heart)
The light of holiness surrounds (Heaven is in my heart)  CHORUS

His precious life on me He spent (Heaven is in my heart)
To give me life without an end (Heaven is in my heart)
In Christ is all my confidence (Heaven is in my heart)
The hope of my inheritance (Heaven is in my heart)  CHORUS

We are a temple for His throne (Heaven is in my heart)
And Christ is the foundation stone (Heaven is in my heart)
He will return to take us home (Heaven is in my heart)
The Spirit and the Bride say come (Heaven is in my heart)  CHORUS

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

1 Corinthians 15:55

DEATH
where is your victory?
where is your sting?
The last enemy to be subdued and destroyed is death
1 CORINTHIANS 15:26
Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT
Pastor John Larson

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES
Michael Zehnder

ORGAN ASSISTANT
Diana Gaide

AGAPE
Rose Berger, Bri Fort, Lisa O’Neal, Ken Price, Bob Shiflet

ELDER 8:00
Don Loptien

10:00
Michael Lawrenz

LECTOR 8:00
Ted Lemke

10:00
Margo Pasha

ACOLYTE 8:00
Chrissy Coon

10:00
Espen Erling

USHERS 8:00
Barry Kratzer, Members of the Congregation

10:00
Jason Dierking, Members of the Congregation

SERVER 10:00
Jude Donovan

ALTAR GUILD
Phyllis McConnell, Sharon Seible, Laurel Shurtleff

FLOWERS
Nancy Lugton, in joyful celebration of Patrick Muldoon’s 23rd birthday TODAY!

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