SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

A Look at Original Sin.

AS WE GATHER

Today pastor preaches on "How Big is my Problem? Am I Really that Bad? (A Look at Original Sin) Paul, the greatest preacher besides Jesus who ever lived seems to think he had it bad in the sin department. He laments, "O wretched man that I am" and greatly regretted his days as a "blasphemer" and even called himself the "Chief of Sinners" on which is based the hymn of that same title, LSB 611. He further confessed the truth about his sinful condition, "For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it." (Romans 7:18-20).

Fortunately, God has not left us in our sinful condition without hope. Paul finishes his lament with a happy ending, sharing about the grace and forgiveness of God for sin, paid for on the cross, "Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!"
PRELUDE “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name” Flor Peters

PASTORAL GREETING

TOLLING OF THE BELL

HYMN “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name” LSB 940

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in Him.
People: We have been buried with Christ in Baptism and raised with Him through faith in the awesome power of God.
Pastor: As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in Him.
People: We were once dead in our trespasses. God made us alive together with Christ.
Pastor: As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in Him.
People: The debt of our sins has been paid by the sacrifice of Jesus.
Pastor: As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, walk in Him.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Gathered together as God’s people in Christ, rooted and established in the faith, we confess our sins to God and to one another.

A time of silence is observed.

Pastor: We have sinned against You, O God, in thought, word, and deed.
People: Forgive us and renew us, O Lord.
Pastor: We have not loved You with our whole heart.
People: Forgive us and renew us, O Lord.
Pastor: We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
People: Forgive us and renew us, O Lord.
Pastor: We owe You a debt of sin that none can pay.
People: Forgive us and renew us, O Lord.
Pastor: When we were dead in our trespasses, God blotted out our debt of sin, nailing it to the cross. Having forgiven all of our trespasses, God has made us alive together with Christ. 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.

People: Amen.
Kyrie (spoken)

Pastor    Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
People    Have mercy on us sinners.
Pastor    Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
People    Have mercy on us sinners.
Pastor    Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
People    Have mercy on us sinners, and grant us Your peace. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Amazing Grace” LSB 744

SALUTATION

Pastor:    The Lord be with you.
People:    And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor:    Let us pray.

Gracious Father, by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, You blotted out the debt of our sin forever. Raise us to new lives abounding in thanksgiving, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People:    Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Genesis 3:14-21

So the Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this,

“Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

To the woman he said, “I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat of it,’

“Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat
the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”

Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

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

EPISTLE: Romans 5:12-19

Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned—for before the law was given, sin was in the world But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come.

But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God’s grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! Again, the gift of God is not like the result of the one man’s sin: The judgment followed one sin and brought condemnation, but the gift followed many trespasses and brought justification.

For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!

Consequently, just as the result of one trespass was condemnation for all men, so also the result of one act of righteousness was justification that brings life for all men. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

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

Congregation, please rise for the Alleluia verse and the Holy Gospel.

VERSE Luke 11:9

Pastor: Alleluia! Alleluia!
People: I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find;
Pastor: knock, and it will be opened to you.
People: Alleluia! Alleluia!
HOLY GOSPEL: John 3:1-7

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

Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs you are doing if God were not with him.”

In reply Jesus declared, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.”

“How can a man be born when he is old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely he cannot enter a second time into his mother’s womb to be born!”

Jesus answered, “I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’”

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

HYMN OF THE DAY “Chief of Sinners Though I Be” LSB 611

SERMON “Big and Bigger” Pastor John Larson
TEXT: Romans 5:12-19

APOSTLES’ CREED Text found in the back of the Hymnal.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus invites to ask, and we shall receive; to seek, and we will find; and to knock, and the door will be opened. So we bring prayer for the Church, the world, and ourselves before almighty God, trusting in the promise of our Lord.

For the Church, that rooted and built up in Christ and established in faith, we abound in thanksgiving by offering our lives as instruments of serving the lost and the least of this world. For our Synod—our president, district presidents, pastors, teachers, and all servants of the Church, that we not become puffed up with pride or be made timid by our weaknesses, but instead together hold fast to our Head, the Lord Jesus:

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For this nation in which we live, in thanksgiving for the abundance of life and freedom that we enjoy; for the president and Congress, for our governor and local elected officials, that all work for the common good, and serve not themselves, but chiefly those who are cast down; that this nation so divided along political lines would repent of our hatred of those who
differ from us and, based on our one common humanity, discuss our differences with reason and kindness:

**People:** Lord, hear our prayer.
**Pastor:** For those in need in our community—the sick, those facing surgery, those with terminal illness—that they receive mercy and healing according to God’s will, that they find peace in the love of Jesus, and that their hearts may be opened to receive the love of Christ. We pray especially for…

**People:** Lord, hear our prayer.
**Pastor:** For this congregation, that, having been buried with Christ in Baptism and also raised with Him to new life, we find ways to connect with people in our community in order to share the amazing treasure of the love of Christ:

**People:** Lord, hear our prayer.
**Pastor:** Other petitions may be added here…

**People:** Lord, hear our prayer.
**Pastor:** In faith we entrust our prayers to You, heavenly Father. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.

**People:** Amen.

**THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**Pastor:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
**People:** And also with you.

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

“Amazing Grace”

Gordon Young

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**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.
THE LORD’S Supper

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. 
People: And also with you.  
2 Timothy 4:22
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.  
People: We lift them to the Lord.  
[Colossians 3:1]
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.  
[Psalm 136]

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who triumphed over all the forces of evil through His life-giving death on the cross by nailing the debt of sin we owe to the cross and blotting out that debt forever by the sacrifice of His life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:
SANCTUS

@ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow’r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.


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.
AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“It Is Well” Don Wyrtzen
Diana Gaide, pianist

“We Know That Christ Is Raised” LSB 603

“Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven” LSB 793

“Praise the Almighty” LSB 797

GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

Pastor: You have been buried and raised with Christ in Baptism. Your sins have been forgiven by the cross of Jesus. Your debt has been paid in full. Alive in Christ, go out into the world asking, seeking, knocking.

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.

HYMN “Praise the Almighty” LSB 797

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE  “Praise the Almighty”  Paul Manz
Romans 5:15-17

Trespass
- Adam (one sin)
  - Judgment
    - Condemnation
      - all
      - all
      - all
      - all
      - all

Gift
- all (many trespasses)
  - Gift of Grace
    - Jesus Christ
      - all
      - all
      - all
      - all
      - all
  - Justification
    - "...for those who receive God's abundant provision of grace..."
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

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<tr>
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<td>8:00</td>
<td>Norm Finfrock</td>
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<td>LECTOR</td>
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<td>Clyde Wiggins</td>
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<td>Cody Urbach</td>
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<td>USHERS</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>Hank Peepgrass, Members of the Congregation</td>
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<td>Jason Dierking, Members of the Congregation</td>
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<td>Les Young</td>
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<td>ALTAR GUILD</td>
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<td>Charmaine Rohde, Sharon Seible, Deb Shiflet</td>
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<tr>
<td>FLOWERS</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nancy Lugton, in honor of Charles &amp; Marjorie Lugton’s (parents) and Norman Kracke’s (uncle) birthdays</td>
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