THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST/EDUCATION SUNDAY

Restoration for Runaways

AS WE GATHER

The book is only twenty-one verse, but the impact of today’s Epistle is powerful! In his shortest New Testament letter, Paul appeals to a slave owner named Philemon on behalf of a repentant runaway named Onesimus. Within this bold appeal is the powerful display of Christ’s work of redemption for all who seek the renewed favor of their master. The death and resurrection of Jesus make an appeal on our behalf before the Father. For we, like Onesimus, have run away from Him. And we, like Onesimus, are offered restoration, full and free, when we come into Jesus’ presence in humble repentance and faith. Let’s do that together this day! As repentant runaways, let’s gather to receive the restoration our Master alone can give!
PRELUDE “Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus” James Mansfield

PASTORAL GREETING

TOLLING OF THE BELL

HYMN “Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus” LSB 660

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES Philemon 3, 6

Pastor: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
People: By God’s grace and peace, let us receive “the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ.”

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Father in heaven, in Your mercy You call us to turn from our sinful ways and live.
People: We confess that we have run away from Your presence. By what we do and what we fail to do, we have turned our backs on Your love. Forgive us, Father. Draw us again to the cross of Your Son that we may be restored in our relationship with You.
Pastor: Father, hear now the silent prayers of confession that we bring before You. In a time of silence, we bring our sins to Jesus, our Savior.

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are promised redemption and restoration in the presence of our Father, who hears your prayers, and for the sake of His Son, forgives you all your sins. Therefore as a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

WORD

Kyrie (spoken)

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, have mercy.
Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, have mercy.
Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, have mercy.
Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
People: Lord, have mercy.
Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY
Pastor: Let us pray.

Merciful Father, You gave up Your Son to the sacrifice of the cross in order to restore those who have run away from Your presence.
People: Grant us to faithfully follow Him who offered His life for us all.
Pastor: We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20
(The Lord is your life!)

See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship them, I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 1

Pastor: Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
People: nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
Pastor: but his delight is in the law of the LORD,
People: and on His law he meditates day and night.
Pastor: He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither.
People: In all that he does, he prospers.
Pastor: The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
People: Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
Pastor: for the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
People: but the way of the wicked will perish.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Epistle: Philemon 1-21
(Paul appeals on behalf of a repentant runaway.)

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our dear friend and fellow worker, to Apphia our sister, to
Archippus our fellow soldier and to the church that meets in your home:
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers, because I hear about
your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints. I pray that you may
be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every
good thing we have in Christ. Your love has given me great joy and
encouragement, because you, brother, have refreshed the hearts of the saints.
Therefore, although in Christ I could be bold and order you to do what you ought
to do, yet I appeal to you on the basis of love. I then, as Paul—an old man and
now also a prisoner of Christ Jesus—I appeal to you for my son Onesimus, who
became my son while I was in chains. Formerly he was useless to you, but now
he has become useful both to you and to me. I am sending him—back to you.
I would have liked to keep him with me so that he could take
your place in helping me while I am in chains for the gospel. But I did not want to
do anything without your consent, so that any favor you do will be spontaneous
and not forced. Perhaps the reason he was separated from you for a little while
was that you might have him back for good—no longer as a slave, but better
than a slave, as a dear brother. He is very dear to me but even dearer to you,
both as a man and as a brother in the Lord. So if you consider me a partner,
welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has done you any wrong or owes
you anything, charge it to me. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand. I will
pay it back—not to mention that you owe me your very self. I do wish, brother,
that I may have some benefit from you in the Lord; refresh my heart in Christ.
Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more
than I ask.

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    Galatians 6:14

Pastor:  Alleluia. Far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus
         Christ,
People:  by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.
         Alleluia.

(We count the cost of being Jesus’ disciples.)

Pastor:  The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.
People:  Glory to You, O Lord.
Large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and turning to them he said: "If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters—yes, even his own life—he cannot be my disciple. And anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it? For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him, saying, `This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' "Or suppose a king is about to go to war against another king. Will he not first sit down and consider whether he is able with ten thousand men to oppose the one coming against him with twenty thousand? If he is not able, he will send a delegation while the other is still a long way off and will ask for terms of peace. In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple. "Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; it is thrown out. "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."
[our] faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us,” let us pray to the Lord.

People: Father, grant that we know all the good things that come to us as we share Your Word.

Pastor: For all those who seek restoration with others, that the message of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation not only be received in humble faith, but also shared within the relationships we have, knowing that every one of us is dependent upon Christ’s mercy and love, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Father, help us to extend to others the mercy we receive from You.

Pastor: For all who are broken in heart, body, mind, and relationship, including those who are shut-in, hospitalized, in care centers, awaiting surgery, and recovering from medical procedures, especially . . . , that the Lord would refresh the hearts of His saints and work mightily for their good, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Father, grant healing and refreshment to all for whom we pray.

Pastor: . . . Special intercessions may be added here. . . let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

INSTALLATION OF TEACHERS AND STAFF (SUNDAY SCHOOL AND WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE)

OFFERING

OFFERTORY “Indescribable”

Tomlin
Bob Estes, trombone

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.

2 Timothy 4:22
[Colossians 3:1]
[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, for
the blessings You freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for the redemptive love shown to us when You sent Your one and only Son into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, handing Him over to death that we might not die eternally. All who have run away from Your presence are welcomed anew into Your arms of mercy through the restoring work of Jesus Christ. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

961 Sanctus


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 HYMNS

“You Are My All in All”  Jernigan
Bob Estes, trombone

“Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior”  LSB 619
“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”  LSB 425

GENERAL COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION  *Based on Philemon 3, 6*

Pastor:  Grace go with you and peace flow through you, for they are gifts from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

People:  *By God’s grace and peace, we have been blessed with “the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ.”*

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.

HYMN  “All People That on Earth Do Dwell”  LSB 791
Verses 1 & 5
CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO THIRD GRADERS
PRESENTATION OF CATECHISMS TO 7TH GRADERS
SUNDAY SCHOOL PERFECT ATTENDANCE AWARDS

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE “All People That on Earth Do Dwell” Michael Burkhardt
Serving in Worship

OFFICIANT and CELEBRANT
Pastor John Larson

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES
Michael Zehnder

ORGAN ASSISTANT
Diana Gaide

AGAPE
Rose Berger, Bri Fort, Brian Johnson, Lisa O’Neal, Ken Price, Bob Shiflet, Larry Westra

ELDER
Norm Finfrock
8:00
Roger Gaide
10:30

LECTOR
Judy Finnessy
8:00
Ted Lemke
10:00

ACOLYTE
Chrissy Coon
8:00
Erik Schwerin
10:30

USHERS
Art Gordon, Ian Avedissian, Ann Ranisate
8:00
Jason Dierking, Espen Erling, Nolan Pierce, Cody Urbach
10:30

SERVER
Les Young
10:30

ALTAR GUILD
Sally Atchison, Gloria Gaudreault, Cathy Utecht

FLOWERS
Bob & Carol Stamp, in joyful celebration of their 63rd wedding anniversary.

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