

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 9

Sick and Tired

The Lord Who Gives Rest

July 5, 2020



AS WE GATHER

Paul is talking to himself in today’s Epistle, for although he knows what’s right, he finds it virtually impossible to do. That’s because he (and all of us) have this sickness called sin, for which we ourselves have no antidote. Worse, it keeps producing evil symptoms in our thoughts, words, and deeds. As a result, we are both sick in spirit and tired from struggling. Zechariah foresaw the solution; we can see his prophecy fulfilled as Jesus entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, there to die for us and rise victorious. In the Gospel, our Lord thanks our heavenly Father for revealing to us that He is indeed the One we need to overcome our sickness of sin. Indeed, thanks to our Savior, as David penned in the psalm, that when people call out to Him, God hears their cry and saves them. Rest is elusive; as each day ends, we must confess with Paul in today’s Epistle that we had “the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out.” In our tiredness, the mirror shows that we are wretched indeed. But Zechariah wrote of a day when the battle would be over, thanks to a coming king, who would set the prisoners free. His description points us to Jesus on Palm Sunday; His death and resurrection have set us free from our bondage to sin. His compassion for us shows in His prayer of thanksgiving to our heavenly Father. In our Savior, we find the rest we need each day. Compared to the failing struggle we engage in daily; His yoke is easy; His burden is light. As David wrote in the psalm, “The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.” He gives rest for the soul!

✘ PREPARATION ✘

SELECTION - Minister Terry Dale

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES *Zechariah 9:9*

Pastor: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
People: **Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!**

Pastor: Behold, your king is coming to you;
People: **righteous and having salvation is He.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Matthew 11:28; Romans 7:21, 24*

Pastor: By ourselves, we are not righteous and cannot free ourselves; our only hope is to be given Christ's righteousness and thereby be saved. Let us therefore confess our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and our sinful condition.

Pastor: Merciful God,
People: **I confess to You and in the presence of my brothers and sisters that I daily sin much and deserve nothing but punishment. Not only am I by nature sinful and unclean, but also with St. Paul, "I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?"**

Pastor: Jesus said, "Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." He offers full and free pardon for all your sins and even your sinful condition. By His death and resurrection, He provides rest, not only from physical turmoil and emotional stress; in Him, we find rest for the soul! As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

☩ **WORD** ☩

INTROIT *Psalm 91:2, 9–10; antiphon: v. 1*

Pastor: He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say to the LORD,

People: “My refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust.”

Pastor: Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—

People: **the Most High, who is my refuge—**

Pastor: no evil shall be allowed to befall you,

People: **no plague come near your tent.**

**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.**

**He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.**

KYRIE

Pastor: O Lord,

People: **have mercy on us.**

Pastor: O Christ,

People: **have mercy on us.**

Pastor: O Lord,

People: **have mercy on us, and give us Your peace. Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE MUSIC “Praise To The Lord The Almighty” TLH 39 Sts. 1-2

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, whose yoke is easy and burden light, who has promised that we will find rest for our souls,

People: when we are weary, strengthen our resolve; when disheartened, lift our spirits; and when opposed on all sides, surround us with Your strong love,

Pastor: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Zechariah 9:9–12* (Through the prophet, the Lord promises an end to spiritual warfare.)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SELECTION - Minister Terry Dale

GRADUAL *Romans 11:33, 36*

Leader: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

People: How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

Leader: For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

People: To Him be glory forever. Amen.

EPISTLE *Romans 7:14–25a* (Unable to stop sinning, Paul finds deliverance only in Jesus Christ.)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Matthew 11:28*

Leader: Alleluia. Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden,

People: and I will give you rest. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 11:25–30* (Jesus invites His hearers to come to Him for true rest.)

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.
People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

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

SELECTION - Minister Terry Dale

SERMON

SELECTION - Minister Terry Dale (We Bring Our Tithes and Offering To The Lord)

CREED The Nicene Creed

People: 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 the 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 on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader: Let us pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ and everyone in their circumstances.

Zechariah promised that the coming One would “speak peace to the nations.” Lord over all, move the leaders of the world’s nations to seek and find common ground so that peace breaks out across borders and displaced persons are able to return to their homes. Protect and guide

armed forces deployed abroad and all who keep the peace within their nations and communities. We bring our petition to You, gracious Lord,
and there find rest for our souls.

People:

Leader: The psalm proclaims that “Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,” O God, but we also give You thanks for this temporal nation and the blessings You have so graciously bestowed on us through it. Here we have found prosperity and peace; here we may respond to Your love and offer You our thanks and praise. In Your mercy, continue to use the powers that be in this world to give us the freedom we enjoy. We bring our petition to You, gracious Lord,

People: and there find rest for our souls.

Leader: David looked for the day when “one generation shall commend Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts.” Guide, protect, and direct the Church’s leaders, heavenly Father, so that many people hear of Your ancient promises, the deliverance of Your people from Egypt, Your Son’s entry into history as one of us, and His sacrifice for our sins and victorious resurrection, opening heaven to all who call on You in faith. We bring our petition to You, gracious Lord,

People: and there find rest for our souls.

Leader: Paul confessed, “I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.” O Holy Spirit, hear the cries of those trapped in their various addictions, burdened with criminal records, and mired in societies of fear and terror. Surround them with faith-based organizations and compassionate counselors so that they find strength and opportunity to turn their lives around, praising You for gracious deliverance. We bring our petition to You, gracious Lord,

People: and there find rest for our souls.

Leader: Jesus invited, “Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Listen to the prayers of those near and dear to us with problems of health or finances or mourning loved ones or failed relationships, [*including . . .*]. Use medical professionals, trained advisers, and loving neighbors, so that they look forward to the blessings You have in mind for them in Your wisdom and mercy. We bring our petition to You, gracious Lord,

People: and there find rest for our souls.

Leader: Into Your hands we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

[Colossians 3:1]

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

[Psalm 136]

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS Holy, Holy, Holy" [TLH 246 Sts. 1]

1. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee; Holy holy, holy, merciful and mighty! God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20;

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

PAX DOMINI

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

People: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS – Music "Come Unto Me Ye Weary" [TLH 276]

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift,

People: and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another;

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you with rest and keep you in His care.
The Lord make His face shine on you and invigorate you for service in His name.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace today and always.

People: Amen.

HYMN - Minister Terry Dale or Music “Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing” TLH 50

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!