

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 12

Hidden Treasure
July 26, 2020



AS WE GATHER

Treasures are hard to find and even harder to hold on to. Jesus describes the kingdom of God as a great treasure hidden in a field, a pearl of great price, and a net full of fish. But this treasure is one of God's own making. He esteems us His treasured possession and delivers up His own Son that we might be His own and live under Him in His kingdom without end. On earth that treasure is hidden in the dirt, found side by side among cheap trinkets, and in nets that hold good and bad fish. But one day, it will all be clear. They will be set apart and the false treasures exposed. For now, it is enough to believe His Word and trust in His promise and hold steadfast to His Son.

✘ PREPARATION ✘

Heavenly Father, we humbly come before you as a Christian family through the name of our Lord Jesus, thanking you for allowing us to congregate here today, thanking you for your love and care. We honor you for this worship time that we have come together to learn and obtain your mercies from the throne of grace. O God, Jesus taught that where our treasure is, there will our hearts be also. In this hour, we come bringing our treasures—all that we have and all that we are. We come seeking your treasure—treasure that does not fade, decay, or disappoint. Share with us the treasure of heaven, that we may boldly share it with others. You know each and every one of us here today, help us Lord to know you better so that we can glorify and praise your name forever, thank you for this opportunity and may your name be glorified now and forever more in Jesus name we pray and believe.

WELCOME TO GOD'S HOUSE.... Welcome to Christ Church! Come and let us worship God with our whole heart....We come as mustard seeds of faith. We come as leaven for the world. We come as treasures and pearls of great price, enriching the world with our witness. Let us start this service by reminding ourselves: That it is not we who chose Christ, but Christ who chose us, that we are not here because of our goodness but because of Christ's grace, that we are not here to enlighten ourselves, but to allow Christ to enlighten us, that we have not come to be entertained but to worship God with heart, soul, mind and strength. Let's worship together!

PRAISE WORSHIP - Minister Terry Dale

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Do good, O Lord, to those who hold fast to Your name

People: and to those upright in heart.

Pastor: But those who turn aside to their crooked ways,

People: the Lord will lead away with evildoers.

Silence for self-examination

Pastor: Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.

People: O Lord, have mercy upon us poor, miserable sinners. We have offended You in thought, word, and deed. We have sinned against our neighbor. Spare us, O God, who confess our sins to You and who hide not our faults from Your eyes. Restore the penitent and forgive us all our sins according to the promise of Your mercy revealed to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. As He suffered and died to cover our sins, cover us with His righteousness, and grant us grace that today and every day we live upright, sober, and godly lives to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Through the mercy of God in Christ Jesus, our Savior, you have been made children of God in Baptism and live because of His mercy. 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.

Pastor: May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Peace be with you.

People: And also with you.

✠ **WORD** ✠

HYMN OF PRAISE MUSIC

“Praise God From”

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love, that, receiving what You have promised, we may love what You have commanded; 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 *Deuteronomy 7:6–9* (Because the Lord loves you, He has chosen you to be His treasured possession.)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SELECTION - Minister Terry Dale

EPISTLE *Romans 8:28–39* (Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ our Savior.)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Matthew 13:35b*

People: **Alleluia. I will open My mouth in parables; I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 13:44–52* (The kingdom of God is like a hidden treasure.)

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth 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

We Bring Our Tithes and Offering To The Lord

SERMON

SELECTION - Minister Terry Dale

CREED Apostle Creed

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Leader: Lord of mercy, hear the prayers of Your people who call upon You in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Almighty God, Your love once created all things and set apart a people of Your promise. Grant to us faith that we believe Your Word, heed the call of Your love, and find peace in Your gift of salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Blessed Father, Your love is our great treasure and Your kingdom Your gift. Grant that we with bold voice make known Your salvation to all the ends of the earth.

Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Merciful God, You established Your Church and endowed her with Your Word and Your Sacraments. Bless all Peoples and missionaries as they serve us in Your name with Your gifts and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Mighty God, You have set over us leaders who exercise the authority of the state for our protection against enemies and for justice against evildoers. Bless our president, the Congress of these United States, and all who make, administer, and judge our laws. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: Compassionate God, Your Son was wounded for our transgressions, and in His wounds are healing and strength. Hear us on behalf of all the sick, those who suffer, the grieving, and the dying, [*especially* . . .]. Grant them all that is needed to support them in their hour of need. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Leader: God of grace, You have given to us the gift of work and the privilege of using the fruits of our labors for the support of our families and ourselves. Give us a generous heart that we give aid to the poor and honor to You with the worship of our hearts and the tithes and offerings of our hands. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Local concerns may be added here.

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

People: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

BENEDICAMUS

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

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 to love and serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SELECTION - Minister Terry Dale