

Eighth Sunday after Trinity

22 July 2018 Anno Domini

INTROIT (*Ps. 48:1, 3, 11, 14; antiphon: Ps. 48:9-10*)



*We have thought on your steadfast love, | O God, **
in the midst of your | temple.

*As your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends | of the earth. **

Your right hand is filled with | righteousness.

*Great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised **
in the city of our God, His holy | mountain.

*Within her | citadels **

God has made himself known as a | fortress.

*Let Mount Zion | be glad! **

Let the daughters of Judah rejoice because of your | judgments!

*This is God, our God forever and | ever. **

He will guide us for- | ever.

*Glory be to the Father and | to the Son **

and to the Holy | Spirit;

*as it was in the be- | ginning, **

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

*We have thought on your steadfast love, | O God, **
in the midst of your | temple.

*As your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends | of the earth. **

Your right hand is filled with | righteousness.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Grant to us, Lord, the Spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You, may be enabled by You to live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

GRADUAL (*Ps. 78:1*)

*Be a rock of ref- | uge for me, **

a strong fortress to | save me!

*In you, O LORD, do I take | refuge; **

let me never be | put to shame.

Old Testament: Jeremiah 23:16-29

¹⁶Thus says the LORD of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the LORD. ¹⁷They say continually to those who despise the word of the LORD, 'It shall be well with you'; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, 'No disaster shall come upon you.'" ¹⁸For who among them has stood in the council of the LORD to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened? ¹⁹Behold, the storm of the LORD! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest; it will burst upon the head of the wicked. ²⁰The anger of the LORD will not turn back until he has executed and accomplished the intents of his heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly. ²¹"I did not send the prophets, yet they ran; I did not speak to them, yet they prophesied. ²²But if they had stood in my council, then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way, and from the evil of their deeds. ²³"Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD, and not a God afar off? ²⁴Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD. ²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' ²⁶How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, ²⁷who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my name for Baal? ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has

straw in common with wheat? declares the LORD. ²⁹Is not my word like fire, declares the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?"

Epistle: Romans 8:12-17

¹²So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 7:15-23

¹⁵[Jesus said:] "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Thus you will recognize them by their fruits. ²¹"Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²²On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' ²³And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'"

Flesh, and the fulfillment of all prophecy. His alone are the words of eternal life. (John 6:68b). Do not put your trust in another. Pastors are called and sent by God, but one's faith should never be in their pastor, but only in the Word of God which he is given to speak. Make sure that it is the Word of Christ that you are hearing, the Holy Scriptures that are being proclaimed, and not just some pious-sounding human wisdom. The solid rock upon which the Church is built are the words of Jesus; everything else is sinking sand. When what is preached is not a vision of a preacher's own heart but that which comes from the mouth of the Lord, then you are hearing a true prophet.

²¹ Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

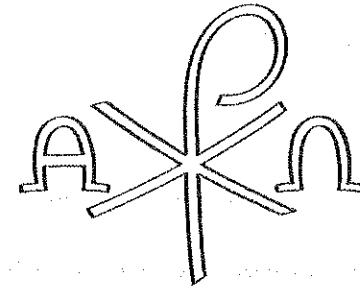
- "[To] do the will of God is not simply to keep the Ten Commandments, and merely render obedience to God. Forasmuch as we can not do this perfectly in this life, it is impossible, that we could boast that we had done the will of the Father; but this is doing the will of the Father, as Christ says, (John [6:40]): "This is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son and believeth on him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.'" (Ibid.).

²² On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' ²³ And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.' "

- Johann Spangenberg asks: "What will be the reward and end of the false prophets? Christ says, 'Every tree that does not bring forth good fruit will be cut down and cast into the fire.' In other words, He says, 'All those who forsake the faith and God's Word and build on their own godliness, works, and merits, and do nothing that God commanded, will be uprooted.'" They may think that they will carry out their deeds and preserve authority, but God prevents those lofty trees from growing in heaven. They reason as follows: 'Behold, we are the beautiful, fruitful trees planted in the Christian church. God must spare us and fence us about and give us the best care...' But they do not see what sentence Christ passes on them, namely, that the axe is already laid at the root of such unfruitful trees, that they will be cut down and cast into the fire; and, 'All plants that My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted' (Matt. 15 [1:13])." (Johann Spangenberg, *The Christian Year of Grace*, 274).



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THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Study Notes for the Christian Layperson

by: Rev. Derrick C. Brown

Collect of the Day:

Grant to us, O Lord, the Spirit to think and do always such things as are right, that we, who cannot do anything that is good without You may be enabled by You to live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Introit:

Psalm 48:1, 3, 11, 14 (antiphon: Psalm 48:9-10) — *Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised*

Psalm:

Psalm 26 (antiphon: v. 12) — *I will bless the LORD*

Old Testament Reading:

Jeremiah 23:16-29 — *The Lord's rebuke against Israel's lying prophets*

Gradual:

Psalm 31:2b, 1a — *In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.*

Epistle:

Romans 8:12-17 — *Heirs with Christ*

Verse:

Psalm 78:1 — *Alleluia. Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! Alleluia.*

Matthew 7:15–23 ESV

Author and Date:

Matthew Levi the Apostle and Evangelist around AD 50. This is a portion of Jesus' great Sermon on the Mount.

¹⁵ "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.

- This warning must be read and taken within its context. It is part of a sermon that Jesus preached to a large crowd of people. (Matthew 5:1–7:28). He wasn't giving instructions only to a select few, an elite group of men on whom the Church would rely for instruction. He was talking to the whole Church. He was talking to every man, woman, and child who wears and bears the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – both upon their head and heart.
 - God has indeed established and instituted an Office in the Church for the teaching of His Holy Word and the administration of His Sacraments. The incumbents of this Office—usually referred to as the Office of the Ministry or the Pastoral Office—are charged to preach the gospel, administer the sacraments, teach the whole counsel of God, and watch over the flock committed to their care.
 - Still, a pastor can only serve what God has entrusted to Him to serve. He cannot believe for another. He cannot think for another. He cannot get inside of someone's head and turn their thoughts from lies to the truth. The person who is most responsible for your spiritual care—that you receive the truth and are protected from lies that would destroy your faith—is you. Thus it is to you—the individual Christian, whomever you may be, that Jesus says, "Beware of false prophets."
- "[When] a Christian is attentive, and has no more than the catechism, the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Word of the Lord, Baptism and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, he can well defend and maintain himself against all heresies. For the Lord Christ here commands, and gives power to all Christians, to be judges over all doctrines, and enables them to understand what is right and wrong. For thou must be as sure as thou livest, that this is the word of God; yea, even more certain, or else it is not possible to holdout. But no man can judge false teaching but the spiritual man. (1 Cor. [2:15]): 'He that is spiritual judgeth all things.'" (Martin Luther, *Explanatory Notes on the Gospels*, 25).
- Who are these false prophets, these wolves in sheep's clothing of whom our Lord is referring to?
 - They are not those who blatantly deny that God is triune. While they are indeed false prophets and teachers, those who deny the triune nature of God are merely heretics seeking to overthrow the Christian Faith – for there is no salvation apart from faith in the Triune God.
 - Likewise, those who openly deny who Jesus is are not the false prophets of whom the Lord warns against. While those who reject what is plainly taught

in God's Word and confessed in the creeds – that Jesus is true God and true man, are indeed false prophets and teachers, yet again, such are merely heretics who seek to overthrow the Christian Faith – for to deny that Jesus is God is to deny God and His Word, and thus to call Him a liar. Of such, Christ Himself says elsewhere: "If you do not believe that I am, you will die in your sins." (John 8:24 NKJV).

- Those who profess to be Christians, such as Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, Christian Scientists, and Unitarian Universalists, yet believe, teach, and confess contrary to God's Word, boldly and blatantly denying the Holy Trinity and the true deity of Christ, while such are indeed false teachers and prophets, they are not the savage wolves that Jesus warns of here. No, for these heretics, these followers of the devil are wolves in wolves' clothing. Their treachery is plain, and thus easily recognizable.
- Rather, the false prophets of whom the Lord Christ warns of are far more dangerous, for they appear to be harmless. False prophets don't advertise themselves as false prophets; they don't appear as wolves. They appear as sheep; they wear the clothing of sheep. They portray themselves as insiders who are defending the truth against error. They claim to come in the Lord's name, preaching and teaching the Lord's words.

¹⁶ You will recognize them by their fruits.

- A true prophet preaches repentance. A false prophet will teach people to justify, rationalize, and overlook sin.
- A true prophet preaches justification by grace through faith. A false prophet will teach that one needs to live a holy life, be a good person, and follow various rules and regulations established for such "right living", in order to be saved (or at least in order to prove one is saved).

Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

- Regarding "bad fruit", Luther has this to say: "This is primarily not said of outbreking and palpable sins; but really of the fruits of false doctrine, which indeed have an attractive appearance, and yet, in truth, are not good." (*Ibid.*, 26).
- How can you be sure of who a true prophet is? Well, to begin with, there is really only one true Prophet, and that is Christ Himself. He alone speaks the words of God without flaw and without fail. He is the Word of God in the

News and Notes of Interest

Please use our new Narthex to enter and exit the Sanctuary!

After the early service, join us from 9:15am-9:30am for Coffee & Goodies in the new Fellowship Hall! Stick around for Sunday School and Adult Bible Class! We are currently studying the Old Testament book of Leviticus in our Adult study.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is currently on Summer Break! We will resume classes for children and youth on Sundays & Wednesdays after Labor Day.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: 7/22 Ruth Albers
7/23 Alexx Uecker, Glen Krueger 7/25 Micah Mackay
7/26 Ron Steiner 7/28 Ashley Mars, Jo Metzger, David Harrifeld

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES: 7/26 Zach Christensen
7/27 Sharac Henderson

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: 7/26 Brad & Bobbie Bosle
7/27 Darrell & Ruth Larson, Shawn & Jamie O'Shea
7/28 Bill & Sue Fintel

HIGHER THINGS DEVOTIONALS & PORTALS OF PRAYER available in the Narthex July 1-August 11, 2018. Please check in this weeks bulletin for Bulletin Study Notes for the Christian Layperson.

MEMBERS: Now that we have a new Fellowship Hall, the Trustees are seeking comments so we can maintain the church and its appearance as efficiently as possible. Please put your written comments, along with your signature, in Gary Ockinga's mailbox by Friday, August 31st.

HEARTLAND LUTHERAN SCHOOL is again a part of the Third City Steak Feed which will be held on Sat., August 4 at GICC. Tickets are \$19 and proceeds from the event will go to support HLHS programs, please call 308-385-3900.

LIFEQUOTE " Please join us in praying for those who make, administer, and judge our laws that they may reflect the truth, love, and life of our Lord Jesus Christ in their policies and actions until the Savior returns to bring our redemption and resurrection to fulfillment in new creation and everlasting kingdom." *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

LCMS STEWARDSHIP (Trinity 8)

Romans 8:16 - "The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God." Children are called to grow up into the image of their Father. That's the basis not only of our generosity, but of our entire life of Christian living. God sets the pattern and we follow. God is kind to us in Christ, and so we desire to be kind. God is loving to us in Christ, and so we desire to love. God is generous and open-handed to us in Christ, and so we desire to be generous and open-handed.

Eighth Sunday after Trinity

July 22nd
8:00am & 10:30am



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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402-462-9023

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peacelutheranhastings@gmail.com

Pastor Marcus J. Mackay peacemackay@gmail.com

Cell 402-831-1084 Parsonage 402-462-9800

Welcome to Peace!

We are glad that you are here as we gather around the Word and Sacraments of our Lord Jesus Christ! If you have not already done so, we ask that you sign the Guest Book at the entrance to the church. Contact information can be written in the Fellowship Book located in the aisle side of each pew. If you do not have a church home and are interested in becoming a member here at Peace, please contact Pastor Mackay 402-831-1084.

The Lord's Supper is a Gift. . . and as with all our Lord's gifts, we desire to give and receive them as He intends. The Lord's Supper is for our benefit, but it can be received unworthily. *"Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord"* (1 Corinthians 11:27). Therefore, in faithfulness to our Lord, and in love for you, Peace follows the practice of closed communion.

All Guests must visit with our pastor before coming to the Altar to receive the Lord's Supper. If you do not have opportunity to visit with our Pastor prior to the service, he is more than willing to visit with you during the week.

The Divine Service utilizes beautiful Liturgies and Hymns that the Christian Church has passed down for generations, all the while retelling the story of salvation and enacting the work of Christ among us. This bulletin contains an outline to assist you in locating the various parts of the service within our Hymnal. The inserts have the Scriptures & Propers for the Day, as well as Notes about this particular Sunday or Festival of the church year. May God strengthen you today with His Word and Sacrament!

Prayers of the Church

Mourning + Family of Dan Warrings + Family of Mark Zimmerman + Family of Alice LeBeau + Family of Mildred "Elaine" Ackerman **Expecting** + Erica Siebert + Kayla Reutzcl **Hospice, Recovering, Surgery, or Hospitalization** + Ward Fitzke + Brenda Christensen + Ramona Holtzen + Mary Fredricks + LeRoy Thom + Viola Melvin + Harlan Wherley + Allen Glathar + Deb Johnson + Janice Callan + Kay Krueger + Carol Krause + Al Kress **Health Issues** + Carol Smith + Randy Russell + Jesse Beran **Cancer** + Andy Jacques + Ed Elshof + Marilyn Houston **Military** + Gary Thompson + Ross Peters

In His Service

Presiding Minister: Rev. Marcus J. Mackay

Organist: Dr. Phil Hesterman Cantor: Mr. David Witt A/V: Tim Yurk

Acolytes: 7/22 8:00am James Ellis 10:30am Allic Janssen

7/29 8:00am Hunter Fowler 10:30am Violet Nunnenkamp

Altar Guild: July: Jena M., Brenda C. Aug: Diane G., Diane S.

Ushers: 8:00am Wes C., Zach C. 10:30am Kevin H., Mike Nissen

Elders: 7/22 Don N. 402-460-6430 7/29 Wes C. 402-984-4650

Bus Drivers: 7/22 Harold H. 402-984-9666 7/29 Kevin H. 402-984-2904

Gifts of Time and Treasure

<u>Last Sunday's Attendance</u>	102	<u>Sunday Year to Date Attendance</u>	121
<u>Last Sunday's Offering</u>	\$ 4,149.15	<u>Jan-June Income</u>	\$ 77,105.00
<u>Weekly Need</u>	\$ 3,378.85	<u>Jan-June Expense</u>	\$ 101,420.00

<u>OTD II Capital Campaign Jan-May Income</u>	\$ 34,408.00
<u>May '18 Remaining Balance</u>	\$ 195,555.00

*A complete accounting of all financials are provided at each Quarterly Voters' Meeting.
Questions? Contact our Treasurer, Mrs. Jan Hinze jan@balancedbookslc.com*

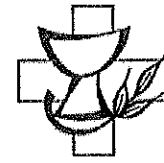
The Lord's Week

Sunday, July 22nd	8:00am	Divine Service
	9:30am	Quarterly Voters' Meeting
	10:30am	Divine Service
Sun-Fri		Sr. Youth at Higher Things Conference in Lawrence, KS
Wednesday, July 25th	2:00pm	Calling & Caring
Sunday, July 29th	8:00am	Divine Service
	9:15am	Bible Class
	10:30am	Divine Service

*Church Office hours are 9:00am to 12:00 noon and 1:00pm to 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.
The office may be closed on occasion due to holidays and errands. Our Secretary is Mrs. Jeri Dush,
Church Office 402-462-9023 or peacechurchhastings@gmail.com*

Beware of False Prophets

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves" (Matt. 7:15). Deceit has its strength in masquerading as the truth. False prophets speak a vision of their own heart, not from the mouth of the Lord (Jer. 23:16-29). They deny the judgment of the Lord, speaking peace to the unrepentant, when in truth there is condemnation and wrath. *"You will recognize them by their fruits"* (Matt. 7:20). The "fruits" of a true prophet are not outward righteousness or success but faithfulness in proclaiming the Word of the Lord. This is the will of the Father in heaven, that pastors take heed to the flock, the Father's adopted ones (Rom. 8:12-17), warning them against the wolves and their lies, and shepherding the Church of God which He purchased with His own blood (Acts 20:27-38). For indeed, the cross is that good tree bearing good fruit—namely, the body and blood of Christ, given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.



DIVINE SERVICE
Setting Four

Prelude & Ringing of Bells

Hymn #589

Confession & Absolution p.203

Service of the Word

Introit *insert*

Kyrie & Gloria in Excelsis

Salutation & Collect

Old Testament Reading *insert*

Gradual

Epistle Reading

Alleluia and Verse

Gospel Reading

Apostles' Creed p.207

Sermon Hymn #745

Sermon Mt. 7:15-23

"Bearing Good Fruit"

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Service of the Sacrament p.208

Preface & Sanctus

Prayer & Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini & Agnus Dei

Distribution #635 #585 #602

Nunc Dimittis

Post-Communion Collect

Benedicamus & Benediction

Hymn #577

Announcements

Postlude