

# The Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020



## Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church and School

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### The Church Year

The Old Testament reading, 1 Kings 19:9-18, is the discussion between the Lord and Elijah at Horeb, the mountain of God. Elijah had fled to this place to escape the wrath of Jezebel. He asks the Lord to end his life because he feels he is the only believer left among the Children of Israel. The Lord reveals himself to Elijah in a gentle whisper, informs him that his work is not yet finished and tells him there are still 7,000 believers in Israel.

In the Epistle lesson, Romans 9:1-5, the Apostle Paul demonstrates his deep love for his own nation, the Jews. Their unbelief and their subsequent rejection by God is at once painful and perplexing to him because of the many and great blessing and privileges they had received from their loving and gracious God.

The Gospel lesson, Matthew 14:22-33, is the account of Jesus walking on the waters of the Sea of Galilee the night after he had fed the five thousand. As he approaches his disciples in their boat, Peter makes

the request to join Jesus on the water. He receives the Lord's permission. But when fear replaces faith he begins to sink. Jesus reaches out his hand and saves his disciple who has little faith.

A common thought that links the three lessons together is the warning that in spite of the many privileges which a child of God enjoys, the danger of losing that glorious position through unbelief is always present.

## The Service

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

**M:** In Holy Baptism, God gives us the Holy Spirit, who works in us both the desire to throw off the slavery of sin and the power to live a new life.  
May the Lord renew us in body, mind, and spirit.

### PRAYER

**M:** Let us pray.

Father of mercies and God of all comfort, you are our strength every morning, our salvation in times of distress. With contrite hearts and troubled spirits we come to you for healing and help. Create in us pure hearts, and wash away all our sins in the blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and refresh us with your Holy Spirit, that we may declare your praise and teach your saving ways, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

**C:** **Amen.**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**M:** Let us confess our sins to God and ask for his forgiveness.

**C:** **Almighty God, merciful Father,**

**I confess to you that I have not loved you with all my heart.**

**In what I have done and left undone,**

**I have pursued my ways instead of your ways.**

**I have not loved my brothers and sisters as myself.**

**For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity.**

**I am truly sorry for my sins.**

**I repent of them.**

**I beg for your mercy, O Lord.**

*Silence for meditation.*

**M:** Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ who suffered and died for us.

**C:** **Cleanse me from my sins.**

**Release me from my guilt.**

**Grant me your Holy Spirit to amend my sinful life.**

**M:** The almighty God has been merciful to us and has sent his Son to die for all. For his sake, God forgives our sins and calls us from darkness to his marvelous light.

Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** **Amen.**

### EXHORTATION

**M:** Our Lord Jesus Christ has forgiven us and reconciled us to God and has promised us the power to forgive and love each other. Relying on his promise, therefore, be reconciled with one another.

**C:** **Brothers and sisters, may the peace of Christ rule in our hearts, in our words, and in our actions.**

### FIRST LESSON — 1 KINGS 19:9–18

And the word of the Lord came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

<sup>10</sup>He replied, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets

to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too."

<sup>11</sup>The Lord said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by."

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. <sup>12</sup> After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. <sup>13</sup> When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.

Then a voice said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

<sup>14</sup> He replied, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets

## SECOND LESSON — ROMANS 9:1–5

I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it through the Holy Spirit— <sup>2</sup> I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. <sup>3</sup> For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race, <sup>4</sup> the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption to sonship;

## GOSPEL — MATTHEW 14:22–33

<sup>22</sup> Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>23</sup> After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup> and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

<sup>25</sup> Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. <sup>26</sup> When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear.

<sup>27</sup> But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

## HYMN 384 — By Grace I’m Saved, verses 1, 2

By grace I’m saved, grace free and boundless; My soul, believe and doubt it not.  
Why waver at this word of promise? Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?  
So then this word must true remain: By grace you, too, shall heav’n obtain.

to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

<sup>15</sup> The Lord said to him, “Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. <sup>16</sup> Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. <sup>17</sup> Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. <sup>18</sup> Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and whose mouths have not kissed him.”

theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. <sup>5</sup> Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

<sup>28</sup> “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”

<sup>29</sup> “Come,” he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

<sup>31</sup> Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”

<sup>32</sup> And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. <sup>33</sup> Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

By grace God’s Son, our only Savior, Came down to earth to bear our sin.  
Was it because of your own merit That Jesus died your soul to win?  
No, it was grace, and grace alone, That brought him from his heav’nly throne.

## Lord, Save Me!

Text: Matthew 14:22–33

## PRAYER

**M:** Let us pray.

God, our Father, by the sacrifice of your Son you reconciled the world to yourself. We thank you for the precious gift of forgiveness. Refresh us with the joy of our salvation, that we walk in the way of peace with our brothers and

sisters in Christ. Renew our minds and wills, that daily we may speak your word of peace, through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,**

**as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

#### **PRAYER FOR PEACE**

**M:** Lord God, all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works come from you. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments. Defend us from the fear of our enemies, that we may live in peace and quietness, through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

#### **BLESSING**

**M:** Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, † to whom be glory for ever and ever.

**C: Amen.**

#### **HYMN 384 — By Grace I'm Saved, verses 4, 5**

By grace to timid hearts that tremble, In tribulation's  
furnace tried—  
By grace, despite all fear and trouble, The Father's heart is  
open wide.  
Where could I help and strength secure If grace were not  
my anchor sure?

By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; In Jesus' promise I  
rejoice.  
For though I know my heart's condition, I also know my  
Savior's voice.  
My heart is glad; all grief has flown Since I am saved by  
grace alone.

### *News & Notes*

ESL - Our annual workshop is Thursday, September 10, from 7:00-9:00pm. Classes will begin on Thursday, September 17th, and will run through December 10th, with a break over the Thanksgiving holiday. As usual, volunteers should arrive for class by 6:45pm, to be prepared for student arrivals at 7:00pm. Class will conclude each night at 8:45pm, after a devotional given by our newest member of the team, Pastor Nicholson! Social distancing practices will be used.

Public School Information Classes will begin September 10.

NO fall church picnic this year due to COVID-19.

No Spiritual Growth meeting this week.