

**Fourth Sunday After Pentecost (28<sup>th</sup> June, 2020)**

**Pastor Peter Ghalayini**

**M:** The wages of sin is death,

**All:** **but the free gift of God is eternal life  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

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

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

**Opening Hymn – And Can It Be That I Should Gain? LH 67**

- 1. And can it be, that I should gain  
An interest in the Saviour's blood?  
Died He for me, who caused His pain -  
For me, who Him to death pursued?  
Amazing love! how can it be,  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?  
Amazing love! how can it be,  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?**
  
- 2. 'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies:  
Who can explore His strange design?  
In vain the first-born seraph tries  
To sound the depths of love divine.  
'Tis mercy all! let earth adore,  
Let angel minds inquire no more.  
Amazing love! how can it be,  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?**
  
- 3. He left His Father's throne above -  
So free, so infinite His grace -  
Emptied Himself of all but love,  
And bled for Adam's helpless race:  
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;  
For, O my God, it found out me!**

**Amazing love! how can it be,  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?**

**4. Long my imprisoned spirit lay,  
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;  
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray  
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;  
My chains fell off, my heart was free,  
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.  
Amazing love! how can it be,  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?**

**5. No condemnation now I dread:  
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine!  
Alive in Him, my living head,  
And clothed in righteousness divine,  
Bold I approach the eternal throne,  
And claim the crown,  
through Christ my own.  
Amazing love! how can it be,  
That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me?  
Amen! Amen!**

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)  
In Public Domain

**L:** Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace?  
By no means!  
Therefore let us confess our sins to God our Father and ask him in the  
name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**C:** **We confess to you, almighty God,  
before the whole company of heaven, and to each other,  
that we have sinned in thought, word and deed, by our own fault.  
Have mercy on us, for Jesus' sake, forgive us all our sins,  
and bring us to eternal life.  
Amen.**

*M:* As a called and ordained servant of the Word I announce the grace of God to all of you. On behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ, and by his command, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

*C:* **Amen.**

*L:* Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing;

*C:* **Lord have mercy,**

*L:* from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

*C:* **Christ have mercy.**

*L:* One before his presence with a song, Lord have mercy,

*C:* **Lord have mercy.**

*M:* The Lord be with you,

*C:* **And also with you.**

*M:* Let us pray for power to endure.

Almighty and merciful God,  
your dear Son willingly endured  
the agony and shame of the cross  
for our sake.

Give us courage and patience  
to take up our cross and follow him.

For he lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

*C:* **Amen.**

### **First Reading – Jeremiah 28:5-9**

#### *Jeremiah and the false prophet Hananiah*

<sup>5</sup> Then the prophet Jeremiah replied to the prophet Hananiah before the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> He said, "Amen! May the Lord do so! May the Lord fulfill the words you have prophesied by bringing the articles of the Lord's house and all the exiles back to this place from Babylon. <sup>7</sup> Nevertheless, listen to what I

have to say in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people: <sup>8</sup> From early times the prophets who preceded you and me have prophesied war, disaster and plague against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup> But the prophet who prophesies peace will be recognized as one truly sent by the Lord only if his prediction comes true.”

*R:* This is the Word of the Lord.

*All:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18** (*Spoken responsively*)

*M:* <sup>1</sup> I will sing of the Lord’s great love forever;

*All:* **with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.**

*M:* <sup>2</sup> I will declare that your love stands firm forever,

*All:* **that you have established your faithfulness in heaven itself.**

*M:* <sup>3</sup> You said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one,

*All:* **I have sworn to David my servant,**

*M:* <sup>4</sup> I will establish your line forever

*All:* **and make your throne firm through all generations.”**

*M:* <sup>15</sup> Blessed are those who have learned to acclaim you,

*All:* **who walk in the light of your presence, Lord.**

*M:* <sup>16</sup> They rejoice in your name all day long;

*All:* **they celebrate your righteousness.**

*M:* <sup>17</sup> For you are their glory and strength,

*All:* **and by your favor you exalt our horn.**

*M:* <sup>18</sup> Indeed, our shield belongs to the Lord,

*All:* **our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

**Second Reading – Romans 6:12-23**

*You have become slaves to righteousness*

<sup>12</sup> Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. <sup>13</sup> Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. <sup>14</sup> For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace. <sup>15</sup> What then? Shall

we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means!  
<sup>16</sup> Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup> But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance. <sup>18</sup> You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

<sup>19</sup> I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness. <sup>20</sup> When you were slaves to sin, you were free from the control of righteousness. <sup>21</sup> What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are now ashamed of? Those things result in death! <sup>22</sup> But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. <sup>23</sup> For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

L: Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus said: 'Whoever welcomes you welcomes me,'

All: **and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me.'**  
**Alleluia.**

**Gospel Reading – Matthew 10:40-42**

**(Spoken) Glory to you, O Lord,**

*Whoever welcomes you welcomes me*

<sup>40</sup> Jesus said to his twelve disciples: "Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup> Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. <sup>42</sup> And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is

my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

*L:* This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*All:* *(Spoken)* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Lord Jesus, thank you for coming to us from God.  
Help us to serve you by serving others.**

**Amen.**

**Hymn – Lord Of Creation**      *LH 379*

- 1. Lord of creation, to you be all praise!  
Most mighty your working,  
most wondrous your ways;  
Your glory and might  
are beyond us to tell,  
And yet in the heart  
of the humble to dwell.**
  
- 2. Lord of all power, I give you my will,  
In joyful obedience your tasks to fulfil.  
Your bondage is freedom:  
Your service is song:  
And, held in your keeping,  
my weakness is strong.**
  
- 3. Lord of all wisdom, I give you my mind,  
Rich truth that surpasses  
man’s knowledge to find.  
What eye has not seen and  
what ear has not heard  
Is taught by your Spirit  
and shines from your Word.**
  
- 4. Lord of all bounty, I give you my heart:  
I praise and adore you**

**for all you impart:  
Your love to inspire me,  
Your counsel to guide,  
Your presence to cheer me,  
whatever betide.**

- 5. Lord of all being, I give you my all:  
If e'er I disown you, I stumble and fall;  
But, sworn in glad service  
your Word to obey,  
I walk in your freedom  
to the end of the way.**

*Music: Irish traditional melody, Church use: 'Church Hymnary' 1927;  
Words: Jack C. Winslow (1882- )*

## **Sermon**

*All:* **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, dead, and 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.

**Offering Hymn – How Great Thou Art**

*LHS 881*

- 1. O Lord my God,  
when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works  
thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars,  
I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy power throughout  
the universe displayed:**

***Refrain:***

*Then sings my soul,  
my Saviour, God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul,  
my Saviour God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great thou art!*

- 2. And when I think that God,  
his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross  
my burden gladly bearing  
he bled and died to take away my sin:**

***Refrain:***

*Then sings my soul,  
my Saviour, God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great thou art!*



*Then sings my soul,  
my Saviour God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great thou art!*

3. And when I think that God,  
his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross  
my burden gladly bearing  
he bled and died to take away my sin:

*Refrain:*

*Then sings my soul,  
my Saviour, God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul,  
my Saviour God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great thou art!*

4. When Christ shall come,  
with shout of acclamation,  
and take me home,  
what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall come in humble adoration  
and there proclaim:  
'My God, how great thou art!'

*Refrain:*

*Then sings my soul,  
my Saviour, God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul,  
my Saviour God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great thou art!*

L: Thank you, Lord, for making us your people  
and for letting us hear your word.  
Help us gladly to receive your message  
and your messengers,  
and to give of ourselves and our possessions for your kingdom.

All: **Amen.**

### Prayer of the church

All: **Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive  
those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom,  
the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.**

M: Go in peace, not to serve sin,  
but to serve God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

M: 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 favour,  
† and give you peace.

All: Amen.

Closing song– Because We Bear Your Name AT 292

1. Lord Jesus, we belong to you,  
you live in us, we live in you;  
we live and work for you –  
*because we bear your name.*
2. Help us receive each other, Lord,  
for you receive the least of us  
and come to us in them –  
*because we bear your name.*
3. Bless those who give us any gift,  
because they know that we are yours;  
reward them with your grace –  
*because we bear your name.*
4. Let us acknowledge those as friends  
who use your name to right a wrong,  
but have not joined us yet –  
*because we bear your name.*
5. Let nothing that we do or say  
offend the weak so that they fall  
and lose their faith in you –  
*because we bear your name.*
6. Keep us from missing out on life;  
give hands that help, and single sight,  
and feet that walk your way –  
*because we bear your name.*
7. You are the salt that cleanses us,  
so clean us out, and make us fit  
for common life with you –  
*because we bear your name.*

Words: © 1985 John Kleinig

Music: © 1985 Robin Man



