

***Fifth Sunday After Pentecost (5<sup>th</sup> July, 2020)***

**Pastor Peter Ghalayini**

**M:** Jesus says: 'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,

**All:** **and I will give you rest.**

**M:** Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;

**All:** **for I am gentle and humble in heart,  
and you will find rest for your souls.'**

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

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

**Opening Hymn – LH 501**

**God himself is present**

- 1. God Himself is present:  
Let us now adore Him  
And with awe appear before Him.  
God is in His temple,  
All within keep silence,  
Humbly kneel in deepest reverence.  
He alone  
On His throne,  
Is our God and Saviour;  
Praise His name for ever.**
- 2. God Himself is present:  
Hear the harps resounding;  
See the hosts the throne surrounding,  
Holy, holy, holy,  
Hear the hymn ascending,  
Songs of saints and angels blending.  
Bow your ear  
To us here;**

**Hear, O Christ, the praises  
That your Church now raises.**

- 3. Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
Purify my spirit,  
Trusting only in your merit.  
Like the holy angels  
Worshiping before you,  
May I ceaselessly adore you.  
Let your will  
Ever still,  
Rule your Church terrestrial  
As the hosts celestial.**

*Music: J. Neander 1650-1680 (1680);  
Words: Gerhard Tersteegen (1697-1769)  
Tr. Frederick William Foster, 1789  
Recast, William Mercer, 1855, alt.  
In the public domain*

**M:** For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do.  
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:** The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, Lord have mercy,

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

*L:* The Lord is slow to anger and of great kindness. Christ have mercy,

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

*L:* The Lord is loving to everyone.  
Lord have mercy,

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

*M:* The Lord be with you,

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

*M:* Let us pray for strength in weakness.  
Almighty and merciful God,  
your Son revealed the wonder of your saving love in signs and miracles.  
Renew your people by your loving kindness, and sustain us in all our  
weakness by your mighty power.  
We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.

*C:* **Amen.**

### **First Reading – Zechariah 9:9-12**

#### *The humble king*

<sup>9</sup> Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. <sup>10</sup> I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the warhorses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth. <sup>11</sup> As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit. <sup>12</sup> Return to your fortress, you prisoners of hope; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you.

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

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

**Psalm 145:8-14** (*Spoken responsively*)

*M:* <sup>8</sup> The Lord is gracious and compassionate,  
slow to anger and rich in love.

*All:* <sup>9</sup> **The Lord is good to all;  
he has compassion on all he has made.**

*M:* <sup>10</sup> All your works praise you, Lord;  
your faithful people extol you.

*All:* <sup>11</sup> **They tell of the glory of your kingdom  
and speak of your might,**

*M:* <sup>12</sup> so that all people may know of your mighty acts

*All:* **and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

*M:* <sup>13</sup> Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,

*All:* **and your dominion endures through all generations.**

*M:* The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises

*All:* **and faithful in all he does.**

*M:* <sup>14</sup> The Lord upholds all who fall

*All:* **and lifts up all who are bowed down.**

**Second Reading – Romans 7:15-25a**

*The struggle of the sinner-saint*

<sup>15</sup> I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. <sup>16</sup> And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. <sup>21</sup> So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me.

<sup>22</sup> For in my inner being I delight in God's law; <sup>23</sup> but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. <sup>24</sup> What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death?

<sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord! So

then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in my sinful nature a slave to the law of sin.

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

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

*L:* Alleluia, alleluia.

Jesus said: 'I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,

*All:* **because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants.'**

**Alleluia.**

### **Gospel Reading – Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**

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

*Jesus reveals the Father, and the weary find rest in him*

Jesus said to the crowds: <sup>16</sup> "To what can I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling out to others: <sup>17</sup> "We played the pipe for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.' <sup>18</sup> For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' <sup>19</sup> The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is proved right by her deeds." <sup>25</sup> At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. <sup>26</sup> Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do. <sup>27</sup> "All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. <sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

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

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

Lord Jesus, thank you for revealing the Father.  
Help us to take your yoke  
and find rest in you.

Amen.

Hymn – The Church’s one foundation *LH 191*

1. The Church’s one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is His new creation  
By water and the Word:  
From heaven He came and sought her  
To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her,  
And for her life He died.
2. Elect from every nation,  
Yet one o’er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation  
One Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses  
With every grace endued.
3. Mid toil and tribulation,  
And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace for evermore;  
Till with the vision glorious  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious  
Shall be the Church at rest.
4. Yet she on earth hath union  
With God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy!

**Lord, give us grace that we,  
Like them the meek and lowly,  
On high may dwell with Thee.**

*Music: S.S. Wesley 1810-1876 (1864);  
Words: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900)  
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## **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.**

1. I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
‘Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, thou weary one, lay down  
Thy head upon my breast.’  
I came to Jesus as I was,  
so weary, worn and sad;  
I found in Him a resting-place,  
and He has made me glad.
2. I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
‘Behold, I freely give  
the living water; thirsty one,  
stoop down and drink and live.’  
I came to Jesus, and I drank  
of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched,  
my soul revived,  
and now I live in Him.
3. I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
‘I am this dark world’s light;  
look unto me, thy morn shall rise,  
and all thy day be bright.’  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I’ll walk  
till travelling days are done.

*Music: English Traditional melody, ad. R. Vaughan Williams 1872-1958 (1906)*

*Words: Horatius Bonar 1808–89; Words in the public domain.*

**L:** Thank you, Lord, for coming to us as a gentle king and bringing us victory over sin and death.

Make us more and more like you, humble and gentle and serving others.

**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. Be humble in spirit,  
and take the yoke of the Lord.

*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 Hymn – What a friend we have in Jesus** *LH 426*

**1. What a friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Everything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit,  
O what needless pain we bear,**

**All because we do not carry  
Everything to God in prayer.**

**2. Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged;  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful,  
Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness;  
Take it to the Lord in prayer**

**3. Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
Cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Saviour, still our refuge!  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer;  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,  
Thou wilt find a solace there.  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,  
Thou wilt find a solace there.**

*Music: C.C. Converse 1832-1918 (1870);*

*Words: Joseph Scriven (1820-1886)*

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