

***Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost (16<sup>th</sup> August, 2020)***

**Pastor Peter Ghalayini**

**M:** Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel,

**All:** **'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.'**

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

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

**Opening Hymn – Jesus shall reign where'er the sun** *LH 219*

- 1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
Does it's successive journeys run;  
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,  
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.**
- 2. To Him shall endless prayer be made,  
And praises throng to crown His head;  
His name like sweet perfume shall arise  
With every morning sacrifice.**
- 3. People and realms of every tongue  
Dwell on His love with sweetest song,  
And infant voices shall proclaim  
Their early blessings on His name.**
- 4. Blessings abound where'er He reigns:  
The prisoners leap to lose their chains;  
The weary find eternal rest,  
And all who suffer want are blest.**
- 5. Let every creature rise and bring  
Honours peculiar to our King;  
Angels descend with songs again,  
And earth repeat the loud Amen.**

*Music: T. Williams' 'Psalmodia Evangelica' 1789;*

*Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.*

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*M:* Jesus said,  
'For out of the heart come evil intentions,'  
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:* May God be merciful to us and bless us,  
Lord have mercy.

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

*L:* Let your ways be known upon earth,  
Christ have mercy.

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

*L:* Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
Lord have mercy

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

*M:* The Lord be with you,

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

*M:* Let us pray for boldness in prayer.  
Thank you, God of the nations,  
for calling all kinds of people into your kingdom, even though none of us  
deserve your great love.  
Make us confident in praying to you  
for our own needs  
and for the needs of others.

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 – Isaiah 56:1,6-8**

*God's people will include foreigners*

<sup>1</sup>This is what the Lord says: 'Maintain justice and do what is right, for my salvation is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed.

<sup>6</sup>And foreigners who bind themselves to the Lord to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant – <sup>7</sup> these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.'

<sup>8</sup>The Sovereign Lord declares – he who gathers the exiles of Israel: 'I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered.'

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

M: <sup>1</sup> May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face shine on us –

All: <sup>2</sup> **so that your ways may be known on earth,  
your salvation among all nations.**

M: <sup>3</sup> May the peoples praise you, God;

All: **may all the peoples praise you.**

M: <sup>4</sup> May the nations be glad and sing for joy,

All: **for you rule the peoples with equity  
and guide the nations of the earth.**

M: <sup>5</sup> May the peoples praise you, God;

All: **may all the peoples praise you.**

M: <sup>6</sup> The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us.

*All:* <sup>7</sup> **May God bless us still, so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.**

**Second Reading – Romans 11:1,2a,29-32**

*The salvation of the Jews as well as the Gentiles*

<sup>1</sup>I ask then: did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2</sup>God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew. Don't you know what Scripture says in the passage about Elijah – how he appealed to God against Israel: <sup>29</sup>for God's gifts and his call are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup>Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God's mercy to you. <sup>32</sup>For God has bound everyone over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

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

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

*L:* Alleluia, alleluia.

Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel,

*All:* **I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.**

**Alleluia.**

**Gospel Reading – Matthew 15:10-28**

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

*The healing of an unclean woman's daughter*

<sup>10</sup>Jesus called the crowd to him and said, 'Listen and understand. <sup>11</sup>What goes into someone's mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them.' <sup>12</sup>Then the disciples came to him and asked, 'Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this?' <sup>13</sup>He replied, 'Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be pulled up by the roots. <sup>14</sup>Leave them; they are blind guides. If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit.' <sup>15</sup>Peter said, 'Explain the parable to us.' <sup>16</sup>'Are you still so dull?' Jesus asked them. <sup>17</sup>'Don't you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the

stomach and then out of the body? <sup>18</sup> But the things that come out of a person's mouth come from the heart, and these defile them. <sup>19</sup> For out of the heart come evil thoughts – murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander. <sup>20</sup> These are what defile a person; but eating with unwashed hands does not defile them.' <sup>21</sup> Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup> A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, 'Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.' <sup>23</sup> Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, 'Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.' <sup>24</sup> He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.' <sup>25</sup> The woman came and knelt before him. 'Lord, help me!' she said. <sup>26</sup> He replied, 'It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs.' <sup>27</sup> 'Yes it is, Lord,' she said. 'Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table.' <sup>28</sup> Then Jesus said to her, 'Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.' And her daughter was healed at that moment.

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

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

**Lord Jesus, thank you for your mercy to all people.  
Give us faith to ask for your help in all our needs,  
knowing your great love for us.**

**Amen.**

**Gospel Hymn – Glorious things of thee are spoken TIS 446**

- 1. Glorious things of Thee are spoken,  
Zion, city of our God:  
he whose word cannot be broken  
formed Thee for his own abode.  
On the Rock of Ages founded,  
what can shake Thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded,  
Thou may'st smile at all Thy foes.**
- 2. See, the streams of living waters,  
springing from eternal love,  
well supply Thy sons and daughters  
and all fear of want remove:  
who can faint while such a river  
ever flows their thirst to assuage —**

grace, which like the Lord the giver  
never fails from age to age.

3. Saviour, since of Zion's city  
I, through grace, a member am,  
let the world deride or pity,  
I will glory in Thy name:  
fading is the worldlings' pleasure,  
all his boasted pomp and show;  
solid joys and lasting treasure  
none but Zion's children know.

*Music: Cyril Vincent Taylor 1907-91,  
Words: John Newton 1725-1807 alt.  
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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.

**Offering Hymn – By Grace I'm Saved LHS 329**

- 1. By grace I'm saved,  
grace free and boundless;  
My soul, believe and doubt it not;  
Why stagger at this word of promise?  
Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?  
No; then this word must true remain:  
By grace you too will life obtain.**
- 2. By grace! None dare lay claim to merit;  
Our works and conduct have no worth,  
God in His love sent our Redeemer,  
Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;  
His death did for our sins atone,  
And we are saved by grace alone.**
- 3. By grace God's Son, our only Saviour  
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.**
- 4. By grace! This ground of faith is certain;  
As long as God is true, it stands.  
What saints have penned by inspiration,  
What in His Word our God commands,  
Our faith in what our God has done,  
Depends on grace– grace through his Son.**
- 5. By grace to timid hearts that tremble  
In tribulation's furnace tried,  
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,  
The Father's heart is open wide.  
Where could I help and strength secure  
If grace were not my anchor sure?**
- 6. 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 Saviour's voice.  
My heart is glad, all grief has flown  
Since I am saved by grace alone.**

*L:* Thank you, Lord, for accepting us and people from all backgrounds into your kingdom - Gentiles as well as Jews, the outsiders as well as those who have grown up in the church.  
Help us to accept other people and welcome them, as you do.  
Use us and our gifts to reach out to those in need.

*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, trusting in the Lord for all you need.

*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 – Now thank we all our God LH 437**

- 1. Now thank we all our God  
With hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done,  
In whom His world rejoices;  
Who from our mother's arms  
Hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.**
  
- 2. O may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us.  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in His grace,  
And guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next.**
  
- 3. All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and Him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven:  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and heaven adore,  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore.**

*Music: C. Crueger 1598-1662 (1647)*

*Words: Nun danket alle Gott, Martin Rinckart (1586-1649)*

*Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt. In the public domain.*