

Service of Daily Prayer

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Athens Lutheran Church - Athens, TN - August 16, 2020

As We Gather

The African American spiritual “Give Me Jesus” begins “In the morning when I rise, Give me Jesus,” words that remind us that our Savior, Jesus, is with us at all times. The same truth is expressed in another hymn in which English hymnist Timothy Dudley-Smith writes: “Christ be my Leader by night as by day; Safe through the darkness, for He is the way.” Jesus Christ, whom we confess in the Creed, is always there to comfort and to guide us. Our songs of praise, whether new to us or old favorites, can well express our thanksgiving for His loving care.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Versicles

In the morning, O Lord, You hear my voice;
in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for You and watch.
My mouth is filled with Your praise,
and with Your glory all the day.
O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth will declare Your praise.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Reading

Isaiah 56:1, 6–8
God’s house of prayer is for all people.

Reading

Romans 11:1–2a, 13–15, 28–32
God will have mercy on both Jew and Gentile.

Reading

Matthew 15:21–28
Jesus heals the daughter of a beseeching woman.

Final Reading Response

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L In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

The Third Article

Sanctification

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.

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

Koine Worship Song - Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Sermon

Rev. Don Coulter

Time of Prayer

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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 of the Day

Almighty and everlasting Father, You give Your children many blessings even though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation grant us steadfast confidence in Your loving-kindness and mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your

Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

In the morning

Almighty God, merciful Father, who created and completed all things, on this day when the work of our calling begins anew, we implore You to create its beginning, direct its continuance, and bless its end, that our doings may be preserved from sin, our life sanctified, and our work this day be well pleasing to You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Luther's Morning Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

P 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 favor and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

Then go joyfully to your work.

Stewardship Sentence

Matt. 15:27 – *“Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.”* These are the words of faith, for faith means receiving what God gives. And God has given us so much more than just the crumbs that fall from the table. He has given us life and salvation, body and soul, eyes and ears, possessions and income. Our stewardship starts with faith in the God who is the greatest Giver.

Lectionary Summary for Next Week - August 23, 2020

Isaiah 51:1–6; Romans 11:33—12:8; Matthew 16:13–20

The Lord Jesus Christ Is the Son of the Living God

Jesus asked His disciples: *“But who do you say that I am?”* (**Matt. 16:15**). The question is also put to us: Who do you say that He is? Flesh and blood do not reveal this to us, but by the ministry of the Gospel, the Father in heaven reveals His Son to us on earth, who has become flesh and suffered death for our salvation. Thus, we

believe and confess that He is “*the Christ, the Son of the living God*” (**Matt. 16:16**). As He died for our transgressions and was raised for our justification, He looses us from all our sins and preserves our life within His Church, against which even “the gates of hell shall not prevail” (**Matt. 16:18–19**). His salvation is forever, and His righteousness “*will never be dismayed*” (**Is. 51:6**). He comforts us with the Gospel in His Church, so that “*joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song*” (**Is. 51:3**). Therefore, “*according to the measure of faith that God has assigned*” (**Rom. 12:3**), we also offer ourselves “*as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God*” (**Rom. 12:1**) through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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