

# Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

## August 15<sup>th</sup> 2021

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### Welcome & Announcements

### Prelude

## Gathering Around the Word

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### Call to Worship

*from Psalm 111*

One: Praise the Lord!

**All: We will give thanks to the Lord with our whole hearts,  
In the company of those who do right.**

One: Great are the works of our God!

**All: God's righteousness stands forever.**

One: The Lord is full of mercy and compassion.

**All: God's handiwork is honesty and justice.**

One: God's deeds are majestic and glorious!

**All: Holy and awesome is God's name!**

### Hymn 361

*O Christ, the Great Foundation (vrs. 1&2)*

AURELIA

### Call to Confession

In a world with much evil, God continually works for good. In a culture that worships foolishness, God offers us wisdom as a gift. Let us confess our sin before the one who offers the promise of redemption and the grace of forgiveness.

### Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**God of Wisdom, we are your children,  
but we have turned away from your teachings  
and walked in our own ways.**

*Psalm 111:10*

**We have not lived by your commands;  
we have remained silent in the face of evil;  
we have practiced deceit;**

*1 Kings 3:14*

**we have not followed your ways of peace;  
and we have not honored all that is true and good.**

**We have lived carelessly  
and failed to understand your will.**

**We have resisted the holy wisdom you lovingly offer.**

*Proverbs 9:6*

**Forgive us our sin, O God,  
and lead us to sincere repentance  
through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## Assurance of Pardon

God's gift to us is this: no more must we fear death and punishment! Christ came to conquer death, driving out fear with his perfect love. A source of peace in our world of strife, Jesus offers that peace to every heart struggling to live in God's grace. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

**All: Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

## Response

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.*

# Listening to the Word

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## Prayer for Illumination of God's Word

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit open our ears and hearts to the message we are about to receive. Through the reading of your scriptures, feed us with your living Word, and reveal to us the way of everlasting life. In the name of Jesus Christ, **Amen.**

## First Reading

Ephesians 5:15-20

<sup>15</sup> So be careful to live your life wisely, not foolishly. <sup>16</sup> Take advantage of every opportunity because these are evil times. <sup>17</sup> Because of this, don't be ignorant, but understand the Lord's will. <sup>18</sup> Don't get drunk on wine, which produces depravity. Instead, be filled with the Spirit in the following ways: <sup>19</sup> speak to each other with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs; sing and make music to the Lord in your hearts; <sup>20</sup> always give thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

## Sharing Faith with the Younger Church

### Anthem

*Blest Are They*

David Haas

## Second Reading

1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14

<sup>10</sup> Then David lay down with his ancestors and was buried in David's City. <sup>11</sup> He ruled over Israel forty years—seven years in Hebron and thirty-three years in Jerusalem.

<sup>12</sup> Solomon sat on the throne of his father David, and his royal power was well established.

<sup>3</sup> Now Solomon loved the LORD by walking in the laws of his father David, with the exception that he also sacrificed and burned incense at the shrines.

<sup>4</sup> The king went to the great shrine at Gibeon in order to sacrifice there. He used to offer a thousand entirely burned offerings on that altar. <sup>5</sup> The LORD appeared to Solomon at Gibeon in a dream at night. God said, "Ask whatever you wish, and I'll give it to you."

<sup>6</sup> Solomon responded, “You showed so much kindness to your servant my father David when he walked before you in truth, righteousness, and with a heart true to you. You’ve kept this great loyalty and kindness for him and have now given him a son to sit on his throne. <sup>7</sup> And now, LORD my God, you have made me, your servant, king in my father David’s place. But I’m young and inexperienced. I know next to nothing. <sup>8</sup> But I’m here, your servant, in the middle of the people you have chosen, a large population that can’t be numbered or counted due to its vast size. <sup>9</sup> Please give your servant a discerning mind in order to govern your people and to distinguish good from evil, because no one is able to govern this important people of yours without your help.”

<sup>10</sup> It pleased the LORD that Solomon had made this request. <sup>11</sup> God said to him, “Because you have asked for this instead of requesting long life, wealth, or victory over your enemies—asking for discernment so as to acquire good judgment— <sup>12</sup> I will now do just what you said. Look, I hereby give you a wise and understanding mind. There has been no one like you before now, nor will there be anyone like you afterward. <sup>13</sup> I now also give you what you didn’t ask for: wealth and fame. There won’t be a king like you as long as you live. <sup>14</sup> And if you walk in my ways and obey my laws and commands, just as your father David did, then I will give you a very long life.”

## Sermon

# Responding to the Word

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**Hymn 378** *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee* (vrs. 1 & 4)

MARYTON

**Affirmation of Faith**      Apostles’ Creed

**Sharing our Prayers**

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Dedicating our Gifts**

*May God bless these gifts we bring, and with them accept the offering of our lives.*

*May God use our gifts and ourselves to feed, strengthen, and bless this world.*

**The Doxology**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise Christ, all creatures here below;*

*Praise God above, you heavenly host;*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**Charge & Benediction**

**Blessing**

**HYMN 654** *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

IN THE LORD I'LL BE EVER THANKFUL

**Postlude**