

**July 24, 2022**

**7th Sunday after Pentecost**



***Introduction to the day***

*Persistence in prayer is encouraged by Jesus and wins the attention of God when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus—is to be nurtured with prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God’s own. “When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.”*

**This Week at PiC**

Wednesday – 6:30pm Bibles and Blizzards at DQ

## GATHERING SONG *Lord of Light* (ELW 688)



1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and  
2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -  
3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may  
4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent



suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom  
ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance  
low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,  
day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing



as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -  
of the cross is still re - vealed, by the vic - to -  
with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the na - tions  
peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that



fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.  
ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:  
from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of the sun:  
pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:

### *Refrain*



Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your will be done.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: Genesis 18:20-32**

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>20</sup>Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! <sup>21</sup>I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

<sup>22</sup>So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. <sup>23</sup>Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup>Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup>Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" <sup>26</sup>And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." <sup>27</sup>Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup>Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." <sup>29</sup>Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." <sup>30</sup>Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." <sup>31</sup>He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." <sup>32</sup>Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 138**

<sup>1</sup>I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I sing your praise;

**<sup>2</sup>I bow down toward your holy temple  
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness;  
for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.**

<sup>3</sup>On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

**<sup>4</sup>All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD,  
for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

<sup>5</sup>They shall sing of the ways of the LORD,  
for great is the glory of the LORD.

**<sup>6</sup>For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly;  
but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;  
you stretch out your hand,  
and your right hand delivers me.

**<sup>8</sup>The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.  
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

## **SECOND READING: Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]**

A reading from Colossians.

<sup>6</sup>As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ.

<sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; <sup>12</sup>when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup>erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it. [

<sup>16</sup>Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. <sup>17</sup>These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup>Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, <sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.]

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL: Luke 11:1-13**

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”<sup>2</sup>He said to them, “When you pray, say:

Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread.

<sup>4</sup>And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

<sup>5</sup>And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ <sup>7</sup>And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ <sup>8</sup>I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

<sup>9</sup>“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup>Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup>Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”  
 The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Ask the Complicated Questions* (ACS 1005)



1 Ask the com - pli - cat - ed ques - tions.  
 2 Seek the dis - con - cert - ing an - swers,  
 3 Knock on doors of new i - de - as,  
 4 For in strug - gle we dis - cov - er



Do not fear to be found out; for our God makes  
 fol - low where the Spir - it blows; test com - pet - ing  
 test as - sump - tions long grown stale, for Christ calls from  
 truth both sim - ple and pro - found; in the knock - ing,



strong our weak - ness, forg - ing faith in fires of doubt.  
 truths for wis - dom, for in ten - sion new life grows.  
 shores of won - der, dar - ing us to try and fail.  
 ask - ing, seek - ing, we are o - pened, an - swered, found.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting in God’s extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

Rooted and built up in Christ, we pray for the church. Embolden church leaders to take risks for the sake of the gospel, and equip the baptized to proclaim your extravagant love for the whole world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Rejoicing in the works of your hands, we pray for the natural world. Make rivers and lakes, oceans and all waterways, sparkle with your radiance. Protect water sources (*local water sources may be named*) and strengthen those who defend them. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Interceding on behalf of the vulnerable, we pray for the peoples of the world. Inspire all rulers and governing authorities with your justice. Guide the work of legislators and public officials, that they advocate for the well-being of those they serve. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Persistent in prayer, we pray for our neighbors in need. To all who have hunger, give daily bread. To all who have bread, give hunger for justice. Open us to the cries of those who suffer (*especially*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Abounding in thanksgiving, we pray for this congregation. Bless the prayer and fellowship ministries in this place. Call us together in times of praise and blessing, trouble and sorrow, in your holy name. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Buried with Christ in baptism and raised with him to new life, we give thanks for your saints who rest in your eternal presence. Join our voices with theirs as we sing of your great glory. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SENDING SONG *May God Bless Us: Bwana awabariki* (ACS 986)



*Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki, Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki,*  
May God bless us and keep us; may God bless us and keep us;



*Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki mi - le - le.*  
may God bless us and keep us ev - er - more.



*U - ki - mcha Bwa - na; Bwa - na a - wa - ba - ri - ki.*  
Re - vere the Lord; . . . may God bless us and keep us.