

2020 06 28 Service of the Word.

IN THE NAME

P: "Fight the good fight of the faith.

C: Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called

P: And about which you made the good confession

C: In the presence of many witnesses."

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Friends in Christ: Let us confess our sins to God our Father and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: Lord God, our heavenly Father, I am a sinner and I have sinned against You, not only in my words and actions, but also in my secret thoughts and desires which I cannot fully know or understand, but which You know completely. I am sorry that I have displeased You, and repent of the evil I have done. For the sake of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, have mercy on me, forgive my sins, and graciously help me in my weakness. Amen.

P: Upon this your confession and prayer I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, 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. Peace be with you!

C: Amen.

PSALM 46

P: God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

**C: Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

Though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.

**The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
He utters His voice, the earth melts.**

The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Come, behold the works of the Lord,

how He has brought desolations on the earth.

He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;

He burns the chariots with fire.

“Be still, and know that I am God.

I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth!”

The Lord of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**C: Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

GREETING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Lord God, You have prepared for those who love You good things beyond our understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for You that we may love You in all things and above all things, and obtain what You have promised, which is more than we can desire. 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. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

P: Our Scripture reading for today comes from **1 Timothy 6:11b-16**

“Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honour and eternal dominion. Amen.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

APOSTLES CREED

C: 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.

SERMON for today is based on **1 Timothy 6:11b-16**

P: Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Sermon “Fight with all you’ve got!”

P: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray!

C: Gracious Father, we offer with joy and thanks what You have first given us — ourselves, our time, and our possessions — as signs of Your goodness and symbols of our love. Accept them for the sake of Jesus Christ, who offered Himself for us. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near to the Lord’s throne of grace and pray as He has commanded us, trusting in the Lord to hear the prayers of His people and answer our petitions according to His mercy.

O most merciful God, Lord of heaven and earth, we pray You to so rule and govern Your Church and all her pastors and ministers that she may be preserved in the pure doctrine of Your saving Word, defended against all adversity, and protected from all adversaries, that thereby faith may be strengthened and love increased in us.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant health, wisdom and integrity to all in authority over us. Endow them with Your Spirit and with respect for Your Word, that they would serve Your good pleasure for the maintenance of righteousness and the punishment of wickedness so that we all may lead a quiet and peaceful life in all godliness and honesty. According to Your gracious will, turn the hearts of our enemies and make them to walk with us in humility and peace.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our congregations as we plan to resume our services. Guide us with Your Holy Spirit and grant us Your wisdom and discernment so that by Your grace we can gather again to receive Your most precious gifts and to proclaim Your salvation.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant to those in trouble, want, sickness, anguish of labour, peril of death or any other adversity the healthful Spirit of Your grace for healing, strength, comfort and relief. Bless especially those who suffer for the sake of Your name and Your Word. Hear us especially on behalf of Bob and Pat Taplin in all their afflictions and on behalf of those we name in our hearts... Give them courage to stand firm in their afflictions and patience until the day of Your deliverance.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Preserve us from pestilence and every evil. Give to us favourable weather and cause the fruits of the earth to prosper, that we may enjoy them in due season and offer You praise and thanksgiving for all Your goodness to us. Lend Your blessing to all honourable vocations and honest industry, that we may serve where our skills and abilities may be of good use. Bless the arts and music, that we may please You and be encouraged by all that is good, right, true and beautiful.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give to all husbands and wives grace to live together in love and faithfulness. Bless the homes and families of Your people, that they may be places where Your name is honoured and love is nurtured. Give Your special grace to the widowed, the orphan, all mothers with child, the aged and the infirm, that we may grant them comfort, aid and protection.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All these things for which You would have us ask of You, we pray You to grant to us for the sake of the bitter sufferings and death of Jesus Christ, our Lord, through whom we are bold to call You Father and in whose name we pray, trusting in Your mercy and confident that You will give answer to our prayers; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

BLESSING

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 favour †, and give you peace.

C: Amen.