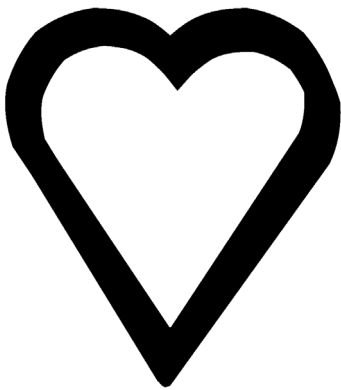


Pentecost 12

August 11, 2024

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 14 (Year B)

The psalmist sang praises magnifying the Lord, while in the Old Testament scripture for today, Elijah fled the wrath of his enemy, Queen Jezebel. There will always be those who are hard hearted and will not believe in God. They may want to hurt us, but God is always with us. We are called as God’s people to imitate his ways, putting aside anything that is false, so we might cling to God’s promise of eternity.



THIS WEEK’S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Reading: 1 Kings 19:1–8 Elijah Flees to the Wilderness

King Ahab of Israel told his wife, Queen Jezebel, that Elijah defeated all of the prophets of Baal. She was so incensed that she sent Elijah a message threatening his life. In fear, the prophet fled to the wilderness, where he laid down in utter depression. He was tended by an angel who fed and cared for him.

Psalm 34:1–8 The Lord Delivered Me From Fear

The psalmist encouraged Israel to join him in praising God for his goodness. “Magnify the Lord with me,” he said. “Let us exalt his name together.” This God is the one who rescues, delivers, and saves us from all our fears.

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:17—5:2 Imitate Christ

Paul warned the Christians at Ephesus not to be like the hard-hearted Gentiles who lived near them. They had fallen into impurities of every kind and had given in to their base desires. Paul urged the Ephesians to put away falsehood, speak the truth, build one another up, forgive each other, and thereby be imitators of Christ.

Gospel Reading: John 6:35–51 God’s Will Fulfilled

Jesus reiterated that he is the bread of life that came down from heaven to fulfill the will of the one who sent him. The will of God was that Jesus would not lose anyone or anything that God entrusted to him while on earth, but he would raise believers on the last day. Those who believe in Christ will have eternal life. These words puzzled and confounded those who heard it and did not believe.

Suggestions for the Day:

- Liturgical Color: Green
- Use the Kyrie OR the Hymn of Praise
- Use the Apostles’ Creed
- There are many people alive today whom we could (and perhaps do) imitate. Perhaps it’s a sports hero or a musician that we desire to emulate. Young people seem to be more prone to imitating famous people than adults are, but perhaps the ways in which we imitate idols just look different as we age. Paul told his friends that they should put away those things in their lives that do not give life. Instead, they ought to imitate the author of life himself: Jesus. Do what Jesus does. Love like Jesus loves.

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
Now Thank We All Our God	534	---	895	839	50	50
My Life Flows on in Endless Song	---	781	---	763	253	253
Be Thou My Vision	---	776	---	793	230	230
Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer	343	---	918	618	---	---
My God, How Wonderful Thou Art	524	---	---	863	2	2
O Bread of Life From Heaven	222	---	---	480	84	84
O Jesus, I Have Promised	503	---	---	810	79	79
We Praise You, O God	241	---	785	870	35	35
O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts	356	---	---	658	197	197
Eat This Bread	---	709	---	472	---	---

The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW=Lutheran Book of Worship, WOV=With One Voice, ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress); LSB=The Lutheran Service Book (Concordia Publishing), REC=The ReClaim Hymnal for Church and Home (ReClaim Resources), and *** means you can find it on SOWeR at “Hymns and Music.”

CONTEMPORARY SONGS

Praise Song Titles:
Lord, I Need You (CCLI# 5925687)
In Christ Alone (CCLI# 3350395)
One Thing Remains (CCLI# 5508444)
Firm Foundation (He Won’t) (CCLI# 7188203)
Who Am I? (CCLI# 4196651)

The contemporary song suggestions above are noted by their CCLI number. To print these songs, a congregation must have a CCLI license.