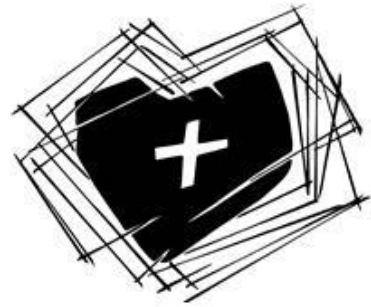


Cross of Christ and Cannon River  
Lutheran Churches  
*Faithful Through Generations*  
August 29, 2021



Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (John 6:63). Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We who were washed in the word when we were born in the font return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.

PRELUDE

Organist: Jeff Rudi

Welcome and Announcement

OPENING HYMN

*"Alabare"*

WOV#791

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

---

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. C: Amen.

L: Sisters and brothers, bear with one another in love, maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L: Holy and gracious God, **we confess that we have not led a life worthy of the calling to which we have been called. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not acted according to your will. Have mercy on us. Forgive us according to the riches of your grace and make us holy and blameless before you in love. Amen.**

L: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. You who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. **Amen.**

## **GREETING & KYRIE**

**ELW p. 203**

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

**1. Have mercy on us, Lord,  
and hear our solemn prayer.  
We come to hear your living word;  
it saves us from despair.**

**3. Have mercy on us, Lord;  
make sin and shame depart.  
Renew us with your saving pow'r;  
create in us new hearts!**

**2. Have mercy on us, Christ,  
and wash away our sin.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole  
that new life may begin.**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

**ELW p.204**

**1. Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.  
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:  
we exult you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.**

**2. Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.**

**3. Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;  
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:  
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.  
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!**

L: The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**THE FIRST READING** (*Bulletin Insert*)

**Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9**

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

**THE SECOND READING** (*Bulletin Insert*)

**James 1:17-27**

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

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**ELW p.205**

**C: Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

**THE GOSPEL**

**Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

The holy gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” <sup>6</sup>He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
<sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

<sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

<sup>21</sup>For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

*The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.*

**SERMON**

Deacon Todd Portinga

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“O Word of God Incarnate”**

**ELW#514**

**\*THE APOSTLE’S CREED: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**\*PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.)**

**\*The Peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.**

**\*LORD’S PRAYER: 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.**

**\*BENEDICTION: May God bless you and keep you. May God’s face shine on you and be gracious to you. May God look on you with favor and give you peace. C: Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**

***“I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me”***

**ELW#860**

**\*L: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

***(\*Please Stand)***