

**Contemporary**

# Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church Contemporary Worship

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 12, 2021

## *Help Our Unbelief*

***Welcome to all who gather to worship the Lord this day!*** “The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. ... The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart” (Psalm 19:7-8, NIV). Welcome to worship, where the Word of God refreshes us.

***Please sign*** your name in the Attendance pad at the end of the pew. If you are a guest, please take one of the visitor bags at the *Welcome Center* counter at the front entrance.

### **As We Gather**



In today's Readings, Isaiah reminds us of how God's Word sustains us when we are weary. This is a godly and "Gospel" use of the tongue rather than the ungodly use of the tongue that James writes about in today's Epistle lesson. When Jesus encounters person possessed by an unclean spirit. The young man's father is distraught and desperate. The father utters these words: "I believe; help my unbelief!" Jesus does help the man's unbelief by healing his son. Jesus helps our unbelief as well in all that He does. In His miracles and teaching, suffering and death, resurrection and ascension, Jesus calls us to faith. And He calls us to be His witnesses.

### **Welcome**

**Memory Verse of the Month:** "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up." (James 4:10)

## **Opening Song**

### **THROUGH ALL OF IT**

There are days of taking more than I can give,  
And there are choices that I made that I wouldn't make again.  
I've had my share of laughter, of tears and troubled times;  
This has been the story of my life.

**Chorus:** I have won, and I have lost.  
I got it right sometimes, but sometimes I did not.  
Life's been a journey; I've seen joy, I've seen regret.  
Oh, and You have been my God through all of it.

You were there when it all came down on me,  
When I was blinded by my fear, and I struggled to believe.

But in those unclear moments You were the One keeping me strong,  
This is how my story's always gone. **Chorus 2x**

Oh, and You have been my God through all of it.

By Molly Reed and Ben Glover 2014 9t One Songs/Ariose Music

## **Invocation**

Pastor: *In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

People: **Amen.**

## **Psalm of the Day** *Psalm 116:1–9; antiphon: v. 5*

<sup>5</sup> *Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;*  
**our God is merciful.**

<sup>1</sup> *I love the LORD, because he has heard*  
**my voice and my pleas for mercy.**

<sup>2</sup> *Because he inclined his ear to me,*  
**therefore I will call on him as long as I live.**

<sup>3</sup> *The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;*  
**I suffered distress and anguish.**

<sup>4</sup> *Then I called on the name of the LORD:*  
**“O LORD, I pray, deliver my soul!”**

<sup>5</sup> *Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;*  
**our God is merciful.**

<sup>6</sup> *The LORD preserves the simple;*  
**when I was brought low, he saved me.**

<sup>7</sup> *Return, O my soul, to your rest;*  
**for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.**

<sup>8</sup> *For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears,*  
**my feet from stumbling;**

<sup>9</sup> *I will walk before the LORD*  
**in the land of the living.**

<sup>5</sup> *Gracious is the LORD, and righteous;*  
**our God is merciful.**

## **Confession and Absolution**

## Song of Praise

### SHINE DOWN

**Chorus:** Shine down your light on me;  
Let the people see that in your presence darkness flees.  
Father of light shine down on me.  
Shine down your light on me;  
Let the people see that in your presence darkness flees.  
Father of light shine down on me. Father of light shine down on me.

There's a land full of glory in a place where there is no night;  
And in that holy city, burns the beacon of everlasting light;  
The light that keeps reaching to the people of ev'ry land.  
A love that is longing to fill the heart of ev'ry man. **Chorus**

There's no sun in that city, the Father's throne is its only light;  
The lamp of salvation, the hope that is always glowing bright.  
It scatters the darkness, swept away by his mighty hand;  
Now all the nations can worship, sing the song of that glorious Lamb. **Chorus**

By Billy Smiley, Mark Gersmehl, & Bob Farrell ©1984 Paragon Music CCLI #806791

### Prayer

**Old Testament:** *Isaiah 50:4–10* (God sustains and vindicates His people.)

**Epistle:** *James 3:1–12* (The tongue is small but powerful in speaking both good and evil.)

**Holy Gospel:** *Mark 9:14–29* (Jesus heals a demon-possessed boy.)

### Theme Song

#### JESUS

There is a truth older than the ages.  
There is a promise of things yet to come.  
There is One born for our salvation. Jesus.

There is a light that overwhelms the darkness.  
There is a kingdom that forever reigns.  
There is freedom from the chains that bind us. Jesus, Jesus.

**Chorus:** Who walks on the water, who speaks to the sea,  
Who stands in the fire beside me.  
He roars like a lion, He bled as the Lamb.  
He carries my healing in His hand. Jesus.

There is a name I call in times of trouble.  
There is a song that comforts in the night.  
There is a voice that calms the storm that rages. Jesus, Jesus. *Chorus 2x*

There is no one like You, Jesus. There is no one like You.

By Chris Tomlin 2016 Sixsteps Songs, Worship Together Music, S.D.G. Publishing

**Sermon:** “Lifted Up by the Lord’s Word” *by Pastor Scott Malme*

## **Apostles’ Creed**

**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, died and was 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.**

**Offerings:** “*Coins for Christ*” is an important part of the Mission funding at Pilgrim. Through this program all loose coins in the offering plate are donated to a mission project. During September, “*Coins for Christ*” is supporting **Orphan Grain Train**.

**As the offerings are received**, please sign the register in the pews, whether you are a member of Pilgrim Lutheran or a visitor. The person at the end of the pew should start and then pass it along. ***Thank you for making worship with us a priority this Lord’s Day.***

## **Offering Song**

### **BUILD MY LIFE**

Worthy of ev’ry song we could ever sing  
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring  
Worthy of ev’ry breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You. Oh, we live for you.

Jesus the name above ev’ry other name  
Jesus the only one who could ever save  
Worthy of ev’ry breath we could ever breathe  
We live for You, we live for You.

**Chorus:** Holy there is no one like You  
There is none beside You, open up my eyes in wonder  
And show me who You are and fill me with Your heart  
And lead me in Your love to those around me. ***(Repeat Song)***

I will build my life upon Your love  
It is a firm foundation  
I will put my trust in You alone  
And I will not be shaken. *(Repeat, then chorus)*

By 2016 Martin, Karl Andrew, Kaple Music, Capitol CMG Genesis, Housefires Sounds, Said And Done Music, sixsteps Music, Thankyou Music, [worshiptogether.com](http://worshiptogether.com) songs, Bethel Music Publishing CCLI CCLI Song # 7070345 CCLI License # 806791

## Prayers of the Church

### Lord's Prayer

Pastor: *Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray..*

**People: 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

Pastor: *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 favor and ✕ give you peace.*

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: *Go in peace. Serve the Lord.*

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## Closing Song

### AT THE CROSS (LOVE RAN RED)

There's a place where mercy reigns and never dies.  
There's a place where streams of grace flow deep and wide,  
Where all the love I've ever found comes like a flood,  
Comes flowing down.

**Chorus:** At the cross, at the cross I surrender my life.  
I'm in awe of You, I'm in awe of You.  
Where Your love ran red and my sin washed white,  
I owe all to You, I owe all to You, Jesus.

There's a place where sin and shame are powerless,  
Where my heart has peace with God and forgiveness,  
Where all the love I've ever felt comes like a flood,  
Comes flowing down. **Chorus**

Here my hope is found, here on holy ground.  
Here I bow down, here I bow down.  
Here, arms open wide, here You saved my life.  
Here I bow down, here I bow. **Chorus 2x**

I owe all to you, I owe all to You, Jesus. Jesus.

by Chris Tomlin 2014 Shout! Music Publishing



*Prayer Ministry is available for you immediately  
following today's service in the front of church.*



*See You Next Week  
With a Bible in Your Hand  
A Friend by Your Side  
And Joy in Your Heart*

### **Isaiah 50:4-10**

<sup>4</sup> The Lord GOD has given me  
the tongue of those who are taught,  
that I may know how to sustain with a word  
him who is weary.  
Morning by morning he awakens;  
he awakens my ear  
to hear as those who are taught.  
<sup>5</sup> The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious;  
I turned not backward.  
<sup>6</sup> I gave my back to those who strike,  
and my cheeks to those who pull out the beard;  
I hid not my face  
from disgrace and spitting.  
<sup>7</sup> But the Lord GOD helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like a flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame.  
<sup>8</sup> He who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who is my adversary?  
Let him come near to me.  
<sup>9</sup> Behold, the Lord GOD helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?  
Behold, all of them will wear out like a garment;  
the moth will eat them up.  
<sup>10</sup> Who among you fears the LORD  
and obeys the voice of his servant?  
Let him who walks in darkness  
and has no light  
trust in the name of the LORD  
and rely on his God.

### **James 3:1-12**

<sup>3</sup> Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup> For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. <sup>3</sup> If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. <sup>4</sup> Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup> So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! <sup>6</sup> And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire

the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup> For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, <sup>8</sup> but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup> From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup> Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? <sup>12</sup> Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

### **Mark 9:14-29**

<sup>14</sup> And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. <sup>15</sup> And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. <sup>16</sup> And he asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" <sup>17</sup> And someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. <sup>18</sup> And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." <sup>19</sup> And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." <sup>20</sup> And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. <sup>21</sup> And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. <sup>22</sup> And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." <sup>23</sup> And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible for one who believes." <sup>24</sup> Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" <sup>25</sup> And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." <sup>26</sup> And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." <sup>27</sup> But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. <sup>28</sup> And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" <sup>29</sup> And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."