

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 16

Passing on the Most Trusted Tradition: Jesus

August 22, 2021



AS WE GATHER

What is your favorite family tradition? Perhaps it is an annual celebration such as Halloween, Thanksgiving, or Christmas. Perhaps it is a more common tradition—an old family recipe or a favorite game. Traditions are passed down from generation to generation. They are often wonderful and meaningful. But sometimes we pass down traditions that are not good for us or the world. The Israelites had passed down traditions related to divorce and giving that were not what God had intended. Jesus rightly criticizes such traditions. Today we consider the most trustworthy tradition that we continually pass from generation to generation: Jesus.

✘ PREPARATION ✘

HYMN “Come, Thou Almighty King” #905 vs 1,2,3

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✘ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: O Lord, I love the habitation of Your house,
People: **and the place where Your glory dwells.**

Pastor: Lord, restore the fortunes of Your people.
People: **Let all Your people rejoice and be glad!**

Pastor: From generation to generation, You are our God.
People: **Your Word shall be heard among our children and our children’s children.**

Pastor: Let us ever share the joys of Jesus.
People: **Let us spread His grace and love to all the nations.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Indeed, it is good to be here, worshiping the Lord and receiving His gifts for our forgiveness, life, and salvation. Yet, we must admit that there have been times when we have taken God for granted. There have been times when we have created our own

religious, political, and social traditions and given those human-made traditions more attention than Jesus. Still, our heavenly Father invites us to come to Him and ask for forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: we confess that we have not always looked to You for all good. We have created idols for ourselves. We confess our sins of thought, word, and deed. Forgive us, Father, for these weak failures. Renew us and lead us, so that we follow You and look to You for all good, for the sake of Jesus. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die and rise for You and because of Jesus forgives You all Your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. We are forgiven in Christ. He is our true inheritance forever. Amen.

✠ **WORD** ✠

HYMN OF PRAISE "Praise and Thanksgiving" #789

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, defend Your Church from all false teaching and error that Your faithful people may confess You to be the only true God and rejoice in Your good gifts of life and salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 29:11–19*
(Isaiah's vision of God turning things upside down)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL *Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.* [See Music Index]

Fear the LORD, you His saints,
for those who fear Him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

EPISTLE *Ephesians 5:22–33*
(Submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Jeremiah 15:16a*

Alleluia. Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 7:1–13*
(The Pharisees argue with Jesus about traditions.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY "Seek Ye First" #712

SERMON "Narrow Path" **Pastor Pete**

CREED *Apostles' Creed* *found in back of hymnal*

OFFERING & PRAYER

(Members and Visitors: We would appreciate it if you would please take this time to fill out and pass the "Who's In The Pew" folders, located at the center aisle end of each pew.)

Leader: Gracious God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us –
ourselves, our time, and our possessions, symbols of your gracious love.

People: **Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ, our
brother and Lord.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

People: Hear us, Father, when we pray,
for needed help from day to day.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, give us courage to speak to those family members and friends who have ceased to follow You or who have never followed You. Strengthen us for hard conversations so that we pass on the most important thing we have ever been given: Jesus Christ. Hear us, Father, when we pray,

People: **for needed help from day to day.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, You sent Your Spirit and Your Son to be our comfort in times of mourning and grief. Bring comfort to all those who are suffering at the death of loved ones. Point them to the hope of the resurrection and eternal life. Hear us, Father, when we pray,

People: **for needed help from day to day.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, remember all those who struggle with infertility. Comfort them in their mourning. Protect them from foolish commentary and judgment. Lead them where You would want them to go. Hear us, Father, when we pray,

People: **for needed help from day to day.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, we pray for all families, for husbands and wives, for children and grandchildren, for brothers and sisters, and every relationship. Help our earthly families to reflect the love, honor, and sacrifice of our eternal family to come. Hear us, Father, when we pray,

People: **for needed help from day to day.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially* . . .]. Have mercy upon them and heal them according to Your good and gracious will. Hear us, Father, when we pray,

People: **for needed help from day to day.**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, we commend all these prayers into Your loving hands, for You live and reign with the Spirit and the Son, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: We sing our Lord's Prayer:

"Lord's Prayer"

HFG 440

**Our Father, which 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 debts as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,**

**For Thine is the Kingdom,
and the Power and the Glory forever. Amen.**

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: Amen.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

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.

HYMN “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” #922 vs 1,2,4

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Holy Communion is shared on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of each month.