

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 9

Called to Tell the Truth

July 4, 2021



AS WE GATHER

When Israel was in exile, God called Ezekiel to speak for Him to tell the truth to Israel. The Lord made no promises about results, but at least the people would recognize that a prophet had been among them. After His hometown did not believe His Messiahship, Jesus still sent out the Twelve to the surrounding towns. Not only did He instruct them about what to do or say, He also prepared them for rejection and how to respond to it. Now it is our turn, as we are called to tell others the truth about sin and grace. But we might think we are not up to the task. Here, Paul is our model, for he was well aware of his limitations, including his thorn in the flesh. Rather than keep silent, he spoke and wrote, confident that God's power was made perfect in weakness. Our worship today is a reminder that above all else, the truth reveals God's great love for us in Christ.

✘ PREPARATION ✘

HYMN "Before you, Lord, We Bow" #966 vs 1,2,5

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
People: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Pastor: Your people, O God, were a rebellious people in Ezekiel's day.
People: **We, too, have rebelled against Your good and gracious will. We have sinned against You in thoughts, words, and action. Forgive us and open our ears to Your promises.**

Pastor: In great love, God sends His word of mercy and forgiveness. Now He uses Word and Sacrament and one another to assure us of the grace that is readily available to us. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✘ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: **Amen.**

✘ WORD ✘

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For peace in our hearts and calm in our nation, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For peace among nations, growth in the Church, unity of faith, and proclamation among all believers, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For ourselves gathered here and all who join us wherever they are, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help us in our weakness, comfort us in setbacks, and defend us from all evil, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE “God Bless Our Native Land” #965

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: O God, Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy.
Grant us the fullness of Your grace that we may be called to repentance and made partakers of Your heavenly treasures;

Pastor: through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Ezekiel 2:1–5* (The prophet is sent to “a rebellious house.”)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL *Romans 11:33, 36*

Pastor: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

People: How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

Pastor: For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

People: To Him be glory forever. Amen.

EPISTLE *2 Corinthians 12:1–10*

(Paul endures a thorn in the flesh, but God's power shows forth when Paul is weak.)

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL *Mark 6:1–13* (After people in Jesus' hometown do not believe, He sends out the disciples, who heal many in other towns.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth 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 "America the Beautiful"

SERMON

Pastor Schroeder

CREED *Nicene 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 Church around the world, for ourselves and our nation, and for all people in their various circumstances.

People: For peace and harmony between nations,
Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: For human rights, freedom, and justice in our nation and for people everywhere,
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For bountiful harvests and an end to malnutrition and hunger,
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For answers to the prayers of [*names*, and] all who call to God for healing, comfort, or any other need,
People: **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Pastor: For these and any other things You would have us ask, heavenly Father, that You would grant them for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord,
People: **Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.**

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS (*p. 961 in hymnal*)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created, sending prophets and martyrs to proclaim Your holy will and call Your people to repentance, and in these last days sending Your only-begotten Son into our

flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in His name, we ask that You grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood in this foretaste of the heavenly feast to come. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST *1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD’S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

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.**

PAX DOMINI

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

People: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“What Is This Bread” #629

“Battle Hymn of the Republic”

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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 “God Bless America”

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**