

COS Sunday Devotional Streaming
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
09/27/20

Prelude Music

Welcome

Good morning, and welcome to Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, in San Antonio, Texas. Whether you are worshiping in person, through Zoom, or listening in on mixlr.com, we hope and pray that you have a blessed Sunday in the Lord Jesus!

Today, we begin a five-week look at the role of **authority in the kingdom of God**. People hear and respond to a lot of messages, but the way they understand the authority of message's source has a lot to do with how seriously they take it. This week, we begin with how Jesus responds when His own authority is questioned by Jewish leaders in the temple.

Invocation

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Confession of Sins - *Spoken Together*

We praise You, heavenly Father, for bringing us to the beginning of another week. You have given us this new day in Your house to worship and praise You. Bless us and all Your children as You gather us together in Your name to hear Your Word and to receive Your gifts, which were won for us by Christ's sacrifice on the cross. For His sake, mercifully accept our sacrifices of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, which we offer not as we ought, but as we are able. Forgive our sins and transgressions. Feed and fill us with Christ, as He comes to us in Your Word. Keep us close to You, that we don't need fear anything, and help us to enjoy the peace Jesus gives us. We pray in His name. Amen.

Absolution Pastor Ely

In **Psalm 25** (which is our Psalm for today) King David ask the Lord not to remember his sins or transgressions, but to remember His mercy and steadfast love! (vv.6-7). Dear friends, I have a word of Good News for you. God not only heard David's confession, He heard yours as well. And because of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, His death and resurrection, God assures you that your sins are forgiven. In the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Let us celebrate God's mercy and steadfast love, as we sing the next hymn...

In Christ Alone, Keith and Kristyn Getty

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease,
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied,
For every sin on Him was laid.
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again.
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand,
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

Old Testament Reading – Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

The word of the LORD came to me: ² "What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? ³ As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Behold, all souls are mine; the

soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. ... ²⁵ "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶ When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷ Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸ Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ³⁰ "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live."

Epistle Reading – Philippians 2:1-4,14-18

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or disputing, ¹⁵ that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷ Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸ Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 21:23-32

²³ And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you

by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' ²⁶ But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁸ "What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.' ²⁹ And he answered, 'I will not,' but afterward he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, 'I go, sir,' but did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.

Children's Sermon – Pastor Ely

The 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 shall 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.

Brief Announcements

Shout to the Lord, Maranatha Praise

My Jesus, my Savior,
Lord, there is none like You.
All of my days I want to praise
The wonders of Your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter,
Tower of refuge and strength,
Let every breath, all that I am
Never cease to worship You.

Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
At the sound of Your name.

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands.
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have
In You.

Shout to the Lord all the Earth, let us sing
Power and majesty, praise to the King.
Mountains bow down and the seas will roar
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I sing for joy at the work of Your hands.
Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand.
Nothing compares to the promise I have
In You.

Prayer of the Congregation

The 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.

O Worship the King, Westminster Abbey Choir

O worship the King, all-glorious above.
O gratefully sing His pow'r and His love;
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail.
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend!

O measureless Might, ineffable Love.
While angels delight to hymn Thee above,
Thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall sing to Thy praise.

Meditation – “*The Question of Authority*” – Pastor Ed Giese

Prayer and Benediction

Virtual Sharing of the Peace

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word; Concordia

Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.

Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.

O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

Chat Time