

# FEARLESS

## 3 weeks on life without limitations

### *Fearlessly United*

August 30, 2020

#### **Prayer before worship:**

Heavenly Father, your love has no bounds, and so your gospel knows no borders. Today, remind me how you have died for all people everywhere, regardless of how far away or how different. Give me a heart like yours, that fearlessly seeks *all* the lost.

#### **✘ The Order of Service ✘**

**M:** In the name of the Father and of the Son **+** and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

**M:** God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

**C:** **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son **+** and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**M:** Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you have promised; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen

## ✠ The Word ✠

### FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

- <sup>1</sup> This is what the LORD says:  
“Maintain justice  
and do what is right,  
for my salvation is close at hand  
and my righteousness will soon be revealed.
- <sup>6</sup> And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD  
to serve him,  
to love the name of the LORD,  
and to worship him,  
all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it  
and who hold fast to my covenant—
- <sup>7</sup> these I will bring to my holy mountain  
and give them joy in my house of prayer.  
Their burnt offerings and sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;  
for my house will be called  
a house of prayer for all nations.”
- <sup>8</sup> The Sovereign LORD declares—  
he who gathers the exiles of Israel:  
“I will gather still others to them  
besides those already gathered.”

### GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 15:21-28

<sup>21</sup> Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup> A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is suffering terribly from demon-possession.”

<sup>23</sup> Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”

<sup>24</sup> He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”

<sup>25</sup> The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said.

<sup>26</sup> He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to their dogs.”

<sup>27</sup> “Yes, Lord,” she said, “but even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.”

<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

## **EPISTLE LESSON: Ephesians 2:13-22**

<sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

<sup>14</sup> For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, <sup>15</sup> by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, <sup>16</sup> and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. <sup>17</sup> He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup> For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

<sup>19</sup> Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, <sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. <sup>21</sup> In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup> And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

## **SERMON: Ephesians 2:13-22**

**"Fearlessly United"**

## **APOSTLES CREED**

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.**

## **PRAYER**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

**M: The Lord bless you and keep you.**

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and ✚ give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

