

The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost (2020)

Holy Spirit, Light Divine: Shine upon this heart of mine;
Chase the shades of night away; turn the darkness into day;
Let me see my Savior's face; let me all His beauties trace;
Show those glorious truths to me which are only known to Thee.
Amen.

So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' 29But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. 30Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

In the Name of Jesus.

It ain't on Jesus when you and I are bundled by the angels and thrown into the fire on That Day. He leaves NOTHING... THAT HEAVEN...REQUIRES...FROM...USSSS!!

HE SOWS the children of light into His world, His field. HE MANDATES that we grow together, and are gathered to the harvest, woven tight alongside everybody else. HE has charge of the angels. HE conducts That Day.

HE Who?!

This One; The Son of Man:

Then they came up and laid hands on Jesus and seized him. ⁵¹ And behold, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. ⁵² Then Jesus said to him, "Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. ⁵³ Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? ⁵⁴ But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?" ⁵⁵ At that

hour Jesus said to the crowds, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. ⁵⁶ But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled.” Then all the disciples left him and fled.

ALL that the DISCIPLE—of Jesus!—can do with his silly little sword is –what does the Lord call it? ‘causing sin and law-breaking.’ My son the police officer will tell you: when the POlice come to arrest you, put down your sword!

And yet, the Scripture is fulfilled: by Jesus AND by His disciple! AND by the good wheat and by the weeds and by the angels of our Lord.

The only reason I imagine I wear this jolly white thing is to pretend as an angel. For you. To make That Day shine like the sun because of YOU!

So, if we start my little chat today—or IF any of y’all leave here today—going, ‘Oh, boy! Better do some tests to see if I’m wheat-y or weed-y...,’ I have failed; or you ain’t listening; or something far worse is going on: the Enemy. Lord’a’mercy!

Jesus told a story of wheat and weeds, children of His kingdom and sons of the evil one.

Now! YOU!

DO...NOT...LOOK...TO...YOU!!!!

Look to Him, His beauties, His face, the gifts He gives—that He ALSO sows into this world, His field. THEN we can bear to hear this story that leaves the crowds puzzled yet ALWAYS brings His disciples back to square one: ‘Repent and believe the Good news! The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!’

The good seed is HIS! So, Who is He?

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him,^[c] and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷ and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son,^[d] with whom I am well pleased.”

The Son of God is never MORE tickled than when He REFERS...TO HIMSELF...AS: just another seed, cast into the field, into the world: THE Son of Man. Yup! But the key word there, is ‘MAN!’ But isn’t He GOD?! Ah-ha!

And the ‘sons of the evil one?’ Hallelujah! They are NOT a problem for the children of the kingdom of God! The devil casts them into the world.

Yes! Not only do the Father’s children have nothing to do with becoming good. Bad seed are bad LONG before they can even start boasting and making religions and causing sin!

NOT our authority! It’s all His!

Besides the disciple with a bloody sword, what else causes sin and breaks the Law? We can bear this too: Lord have mercy! The Bible sez: the AUTHORITIES came to arrest Jesus; and His

disciple resisted arrest. By the way, my dear ones: no matter what TV tells you, it is ALWAYS WRONG to resist the authorities. There's a whole commandment about that!

The Fourth Commandment as we Lutherans number them: MAKE Father and Mother as WEIGHTY as God!

What does this mean? We should fear and love God, so that we do not despise or anger our parents--- OR....OTHER....AUTORITIES...., but make them as weighty as God, serve them, obey them, love them, CHERISH them!

Always keep a dictionary near. Words have histories; words are powerful. Merriam-Webster:

Definition of *cherish*

1a: to hold dear : feel or show affection

b: to keep or cultivate with care and affection

2: to entertain or harbor in the mind deeply and resolutely

‘Repent! For the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!’

A few years ago I was discussing this Commandment with the greatest in the kingdom of God. If not for my ordination vows, I'd'a quit there'n'then. But then, I remembered why the God invented Romans and their lovely Latin language. Luther: simul iustus et peccator! The baptized are, indeed, okey-dokey with heaven because of Christ, His Spirit, all sent by the Father; and yet, we have nothing to boast of over the most damned of the damned. So, back to the Catechism!

At the time of my story, we had a governor in our state who belonged to one of the two powerful parties; the president of the USA was of the other party.

And I learned that we were well on our way to offending the little ones who believe in Him. At least they needed the Lord's Supper Pardon!

For when I mentioned one fellow, half the room smiled and gave some cheers, while the other half made gagging noises and looked in wonder at people who could be so LOST!

Same way the other way: mentioned the other party and feller, and these good seed, sown into the world by Jesus their Savior, 'Oh! He's good!' 'What do you MEAN?! He's the WORST!'

We bring the Small Catechism of Doctor Martin Luther into an audience with the great ones when the are eleven, twelve tender years. A hundred months or so it not enough time to be so poisoned and wretched. They had help. From.....?

Now, don't despair, disciples! Laura and I got to ruin OUR children. Y'all get to ruin Y'ALLS!

The weeds grow with the wheat. What do the weeds do? Well, they do NOT CHERISH the authorities that Christ the Savior anointed and ordained.

Imagine this, my dear ones. You rise baptized; then take up your prayers for all; BEGINNING, first of all, as the apostle teaches, for kings and all in authority.

While YOU are CHERISHING—holding dear in your memory and heart—DOTING over—wondering how God in heaven would take such great care of a person like YOU, to give YOU, Mayor Westin-Broome---

There ARE sons of the evil one who are NOT
‘RESOLUTELY harboring in mind’ the mayor of this city.

How can we ENDURE this?!

When YOU hear of Governor Edwards: YOU, children of a
heavenly Father—

He DOES...NOT...KNOW...HOW...TO...HARM...YOU!!!!

YOU fall on your knees and thank God for the Governor of
this Great State! And, if you don’t agree with EVERYTHING this
or that man does...well, the Good Spirit of Jesus bears with ME,
YOU! He will surely guide and direct our cherished governor.
ESPECIALLY since WE are praying for him with the happiest
heart!

And I’m sure I do not need even to get into the fact that there
are those that Satan casts into the world to cause sin and break the
laws of God—men, women—children?!—who do NOT, as you
and I do, daily and much, marvel in wonder, adoration and praise
that The Blessed Holy Trinity has in infinite wisdom, love AND
grace, blessed our land with Donald J. Trump as captain of the
ship.

Can you IMAGINE, my dear ones, people acting like those
buzzards who circled the cross of Jesus That Day?

³⁹ And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads

⁴¹ So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders,
mocked him

⁴⁴ And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled
him in the same way.

Even the old pagans knew you never speak ill of the dead.
Well, don't tell that to THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO HAD THEIR
RELIGION RIGHT on Easter Day, roughly the year 30!

With lies go bribes; nothing changes.

¹¹ While [the women] were going [from Jesus' empty tomb], behold, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests all that had taken place. ¹² And when they had assembled with the elders and taken counsel, they gave a sufficient sum of money to the soldiers ¹³ and said, "Tell people, 'His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep.' ¹⁴ And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble." ¹⁵ So they took the money and did as they were directed. And this story has been spread among the Jews to this day.

'Fox News, fair and balanced.' 'This is CNN.'

That's what the weeds are like in their evil, as they were sown into the world by their owner and master, the Enemy.

What are the wheat like? Well, let's check!

How's the cherishing of Sharon, John Bel and Donald going, children, shining as the sun? May I ask YOUR children? Your relatives? Your friends? Is there blood on YOUR sword, disciple? Repent. And do not despair.

For the Lord sows other grain into the world; grapes too.
And out springs bread and wine. And the Lord of That Day—who
IDENTIFIES...WITH...ALL...MEN...

Pardons by means of His Body and His Blood, those who SHOULD know better; but are no better than anyone else; but then, there's Jesus.

If you're happy about Christ's Baptism with you, His dying with you, the Gifts of His Spirit today, Gospel and Sacrament and the Great Prayer to Our Father; notice that even your poor pastor is dressed in white today! Think of your poor pastor as an advance guard, let us say, of that smiling, happy band of fiery messengers.

Jesus' angels are our servants, our friends; and they will take away from you and me, on That Day, ALL causes of sin and law-breaking. And—yet!—you and I—a whole BARN-FULL, pardoned for the exact same evil as those in the fire, are guaranteed to shine like the sun in the Kingdom of our Father in the Name of Jesus.