

**AS WE GATHER**

"And lead us not into temptation." We pray this petition every time we pray the prayer our Lord taught us. Temptation around us is real, constant, and a continual danger to our lives on earth and our lives of faith. Of all the deadly sins we are tempted with, sinning against those who are closest to us seems the easiest. As we face temptation each day, we also pray for patience to endure all affliction and suffering, knowing through it all that Jesus is the perfect fulfillment of faithfulness taking on, and perfectly resisting, every temptation for us, and bearing our troubles.

**Gathering Song                      In Christ Alone**

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

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

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**Welcome & Invocation**

*Pastor Aaron Boerst*

**Opening Song                      Cornerstone**

My hope is built on nothing less      Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame      But wholly trust in Jesus Name.

My hope is built on nothing less      Than Jesus' blood and righteousness  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame      But wholly trust in Jesus Name.

Christ alone; Cornerstone  
Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love

Through the storm, He is Lord Lord of all  
When darkness seems to hide His face I rest on His unchanging grace  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil  
My anchor holds within the veil

Christ alone; Cornerstone  
Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love  
Through the storm, He is Lord Lord of all  
He is Lord Lord of all

When He shall come with trumpet sound  
Oh may I then in Him be found  
Dressed in His righteousness alone  
Faultless stand before the throne

Christ alone; Cornerstone  
Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love  
Through the storm, He is Lord Lord of all

Christ alone; Cornerstone  
Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love  
Through the storm,  
He is Lord Lord of all

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### **Confession and Forgiveness** *Based on Psalm 51*

Pastor: We join in King David's prayer of confession in Psalm 51:  
Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unwavering love;

**People: according to Your abundant mercy blot out my offenses.**

Pastor: Wash me thoroughly from my immoral behavior,

**People: and cleanse me from my sin!**

Pastor: For I know the evil within me,

**People: and my sin is ever before me.**

Pastor: Against You have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight,

**People: may You be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.**

Pastor: Purge me, and I shall be clean;

**People: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

Pastor: Let me hear joy and gladness;

**People: let the bones that You have broken rejoice.**

Pastor: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

**People: and renew a right spirit within me.**

Pastor: Cast me not away from Your presence,

**People: and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.**

Pastor: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,

**People: and uphold me with a willing spirit.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

**People: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my friends**

**and family, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; and I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake 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.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

Pastor: Almighty God, give us Your grace and Spirit that we may be faithful before temptation, that we may be able to stand strong in the face of evil, and against the schemes of the devil. Deliver us from our slavery to sin through the forgiveness You offer, so that we can serve You faithfully all our life, this we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

**Reader**

*Eden Genzmer*

### **Old Testament Reading**

*Isaiah 43:16–21*

*(Behold, I am doing a new thing!)*

<sup>16</sup>Thus says the LORD,  
who makes a way in the sea,  
a path in the mighty waters,  
<sup>17</sup>who brings forth chariot and horse,  
army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise,  
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
<sup>18</sup>"Remember not the former things,  
nor consider the things of old.  
<sup>19</sup>Behold, I am doing a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert.  
<sup>20</sup>The wild beasts will honor me,  
the jackals and the ostriches,  
for I give water in the wilderness,  
rivers in the desert,  
to give drink to my chosen people,  
<sup>21</sup>the people whom I formed for myself  
that they might declare my praise."

Reader: This is the Word of our Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **Epistle Reading**

*2 Corinthians 12:1-10*

*(Paul's thorn in the flesh)*

<sup>1</sup>I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. <sup>2</sup>I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. <sup>3</sup>And I know that this man was caught up

into paradise—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows—<sup>4</sup>and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup>Though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. <sup>7</sup>So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. <sup>8</sup>Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. <sup>9</sup>But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. <sup>10</sup>For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Reader: This is the Word of our Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Reading**

*Luke 20:9–20*

*(The Parable of the Wicked Tenants)*

<sup>9</sup>[Jesus] began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while. <sup>10</sup>When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. <sup>11</sup>And he sent another servant. But they also beat and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. <sup>12</sup>And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out. <sup>13</sup>Then the owner of the vineyard said, ‘What shall I do? I will send my beloved son; perhaps they will respect him.’ <sup>14</sup>But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.’ <sup>15</sup>And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? <sup>16</sup>He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others.” When they heard this, they said, “Surely not!” <sup>17</sup>But he looked directly at them and said, “What then is this that is written:

‘The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone’?

<sup>18</sup>Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.”

<sup>19</sup>The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people. <sup>20</sup>So they watched him and sent spies, who pretended to be sincere, that they might catch him in something he said, so as to deliver him up to the authority and jurisdiction of the governor.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

### **Children’s Message / Kid’s Church**

#### **Song of the Day**

#### **I Am Not Alone**

<sup>1</sup>When I walk through deep waters      I know that You will be with me  
When I’m standing in the fire      I will not be overcome  
Through the valley of the shadow      I will not fear

**Chorus**    I am not alone      I am not alone  
                  You will go before me    You will never leave me  
                  I am not alone      I am not alone  
                  You will go before me    You will never leave me

<sup>2</sup>In the midst of deep sorrow      I see Your light is breaking through

The dark of night will not overtake me I am pressing into You  
Lord You fight my ev'ry battle And I will not fear

### Chorus

<sup>3</sup>You're my strength You're my defender You're my refuge in the storm  
Through these trials You've always been faithful You bring healing to my soul

### Chorus

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## An Excerpt from C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*

### Sermon

### Silencing Screwtape: *Suffering*

Pastor Aaron Boerst

#### Creed – Sixth and Seventh Petition of the Lord's Prayer

Pastor: In the Lord's Prayer, we pray in the Sixth Petition:

**People: And lead us not into temptation.**

Pastor: What does this mean?

**People: God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.**

Pastor: We also pray in the Seventh Petition:

**People: But deliver us from evil.**

Pastor: What does this mean?

**People: We pray in this petition, in summary, that our Father in heaven would rescue us from every evil of body and soul, possessions and reputation, and finally, when our last hour comes, give us a blessed end, and graciously take us from this valley of sorrow to Himself in heaven.**

### Prayers of the Church

### Litany of Repentance

Pastor: O Lord, You call sinners to repentance,

**People: call us still that we may yet answer.**

Pastor: Lord, so many of us have hardened our hearts,

**People: soften the hearts of all who are not sorry for their sin.**

Pastor: You who met our doubts with mercy,

**People: deal gently with those who can scarcely believe.**

Pastor: You who have been tempted by Satan himself,

**People: give us courage in the face of temptation, strength in time of rest, and hope in despair.**

Pastor: You who called out many demons,

**People: set free today all who are victims of their lies and distractions.**

Pastor: You who healed the sick,

**People: grant us healing according to Your will, and patience to endure our afflictions.**

Pastor: You who made the deaf to hear and the mute to speak,

**People: open deaf ears to the voice of Your Word and loosen our tongues to confess.**

Pastor: You who prayed for those who crucified You,

**People: look in compassion upon those who persecute Your Church.**

Pastor: You who came to save Your people from their sins,

**People:** save us, O Lord, who put our trust in You.

Pastor: You who raised the dead to life,

**People:** enliven our souls by Your Holy Spirit to lives of faith.

Pastor: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

**People:** Save us, O Lord, for the sake of Your name.

Pastor: O Lord, Hear us now on behalf of those in our congregation and all who stand in need:

***Local concerns are added by congregational elder here.***

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People:** Amen.

### **Sharing God's Peace**

**Offering Because He Lives (Amen)**

I believe in the Son

I believe in the Risen One

I believe I overcome

By the power of His blood

Amen amen

Amen amen

*Instrumental*

I was dead in the grave

I was covered in sin and shame

I heard mercy call my name

He rolled the stone away

Amen amen

Amen amen

*Instrumental*

Amen amen

Amen amen

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### **Presentation of Gifts**

Pastor: Heavenly Father, You are the giver of all good things, and Your Word makes clear that every good and perfect gift comes from You. We ask that You accept these gifts back unto Yourself and use them to Your glory. [*Psalm 145:15, James 1:17*]

**People:** Amen.

### **Holy Communion**

#### **Preface**

Pastor: The Lord be with you. [*2 Timothy 4:22*]

**People:** And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. [*Colossians 3:1*]

**People:** We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *[Psalm 136]*

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

**The Words of Our Lord** *[Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25]*

### **Proclamation of Christ**

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.  
*[1 Cor.11:26]*

**People: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** *[Revelation 22:20]*

### **Lord's Prayer** *[Matthew 6:9–13]*

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

### **Distribution**

#### ***Search Me***

Take what these eyes have seen  
and cleanse from my memory  
so that my mind can be wholly yours.  
Take what these hands have made,  
that toil from day to day striving  
to make their way on their own.

**CHORUS:** Search me and know my heart ;  
Lord, I want to be more like who you are.  
If anything stands, remove it and cleanse me,  
Lord; search me know me, holy God.

Take what this voice has said,  
words full of emptiness, replace  
it's sentiment with your love.  
Take what these ears have heard,  
that refused to hear your words;  
so take my life and turn my heart to yours. **(Chorus)**

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#### **Living Hope** *(v1, v2, last chorus)*

How great the chasm that lay between us  
How high the mountain I could not climb  
In desperation I turned to heaven  
And spoke Your name into the night  
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness  
Tore through the shadows of my soul  
The work is finished the end is written  
Jesus Christ my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy  
What heart could fathom such boundless grace

The God of ages stepped down from glory  
To wear my sin and bear my shame  
The cross has spoken I am forgiven  
The King of kings calls me His own  
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever  
Jesus Christ my living hope

*Instrumental*

Oh God, my living hope  
Oh God, my living hope

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### **Your Great Name**

<sup>1</sup> Lost are saved find their way  
At the sound of Your great Name  
All condemned feel no shame  
At the sound of Your great Name  
Ev'ry fear has no place  
At the sound of Your great Name  
The enemy he has to leave  
At the sound of Your great Name

Jesus worthy is the Lamb that was slain for us, the Son of God and man  
You are high and lifted up, And all the world will praise Your great Name

<sup>2</sup> All the weak find their strength  
At the sound of Your great Name  
Hungry souls receive grace  
At the sound of Your great Name  
The fatherless they find their rest  
At the sound of Your great Name  
The sick are healed the dead are raised  
At the sound of Your great Name

Jesus, worthy is the Lamb that was slain for us, Son of God and Man  
You are high and lifted up, and all the world will praise Your great name

Jesus worthy is the Lamb that was slain for us, Son of God and man  
You are high and lifted up, And all the world will praise Your great Name  
Your great Name

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### **Announcements**

#### **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.



**Sending Song                      Stand In Your Love**

When darkness tries to roll over my bones  
When sorrow comes to steal the joy I own  
When brokenness and pain is all I know  
I won't be shaken I won't be shaken

**Chorus**                      My fear doesn't stand a chance  
                                    When I stand in Your love  
                                    My fear doesn't stand a chance  
                                    When I stand in Your love  
                                    My fear doesn't stand a chance  
                                    When I stand in Your love

Shame no longer has a place to hide  
I am not a captive to the lies  
I'm not afraid to leave my past behind  
I won't be shaken I won't be shaken    **Chorus**

There's power that can break off every chain  
There's power that can empty out a grave  
There's resurrection power that can save  
There's power in Your name  
Power in Your name    **Chorus**

Standing in Your love

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