

**14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Labor Day Celebration  
September 6, 2020**



Booth Lake, Lac Du Flambeau, Wisconsin

And He [Jesus] said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath” (Mark 2:27,28).

**Welcome!**

**+ Order of Worship +**

**Invocation**

P In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands;

C **yes, establish the work of our hands. (Psalm 90:17)**

P Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness: Most Merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew**

**us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy Name. Amen.**

P Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I announce the forgiveness of all your sins in the Name of the Father, and of the (+) Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Let us pray: Lord Jesus, we give thanks for work, and for the many works You have given us to do. Hear our prayers on this day of rest, and strengthen us for the week ahead. We pray that You would be present with those who work by day, and those who work by night; those who work near, and those whose work carries them far away; and we pray for those who in this uncertain time have no job. We pray all of this knowing that Your labors on our behalf never cease, and that Your yoke is easy, and Your burden is light.

**C Amen.**

### **Old Testament Reading**

### **Deuteronomy 5:12-15**

<sup>12</sup>“Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as the LORD your God commanded you. <sup>13</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work, <sup>14</sup>but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter or your male servant or your female servant, or your ox or your donkey or any of your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates, that your male servant and your female servant may rest as well as you. <sup>15</sup>You shall remember that you were a slave<sup>□</sup> in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### **Alleluia**

P Alleluia. Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

**C You have the words of eternal life.**

P Alleluia, alleluia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

**C Glory to You, O Lord.**

### **Holy Gospel**

### **Mark 2:23-28**

23 One Sabbath he was going through the grain fields, and as they made their way, his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. 24 And the Pharisees were saying to him, “Look, why are

they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?” 25 And he said to them, “Have you never read what David did, when he was in need and was hungry, he and those who were with him: 26 how he entered the house of God, in the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those who were with him?” 27 And he said to them, “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. 28 So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **Sermon**

1. Work is a gift from God.

- “The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and keep it” (Genesis 2:15).

2. God doesn’t want us to be idle but to work – to use the talents and gifts He has blessed us with.

- “For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living” (2 Thessalonians 3:10-12).

3. The aim of work is to serve God and to serve our neighbors and ourselves!

- “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ” (Colossians 3:23-24).

4) There is a time to work a time to rest and a time to play!

- “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath (day of rest) to the Lord your God. (Exodus 20:8-10).

## **The 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 of the Church**

P Let us pray to the Lord of all creation, from Whom comes life and work and purpose. Almighty God, when You formed us lovingly out of the dust of the earth, You breathed into us the breath of life and gave us work and purpose for living.

**C You placed Adam in the Garden of Eden to till and keep it.**

P Through our work, You made us co-workers with You, shaping the world in which we live.

**C You gave dignity to our labor by sending Your Son to labor with us.**

P By our labor, You enrich the world.

**C By our labor, we enjoy the fruits of creation.**

P By our labor, we find direction and purpose.

**C By our labor, our families are made secure.**

P You bless us all with skills and gifts for labor.

**C You provide us opportunities to use them, for the benefit of others as well as ourselves.**

P Guard and protect those who labor in the world.

**C Bless the work of our hands, O Lord.**

P Keep us from laboring only for greed.

**C Make us loving and responsible in all that we do.**

### **SPECIAL PRAYERS**

P Creator Lord, You are the source of all wisdom and purpose, You are the blessing of those who labor. Be with us in our labor to guide and govern our world. Give all men and women work that enhances human dignity and bonds us to one another. Give us pride in our work, a fair return for our labor, and joy in knowing that our work finds its source in You; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

**C 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**

### **Offering Prayer**

### **Prayer for Peace and Healing**

P God of Heaven and Earth, You created the one human family and endowed each of us with blessings and with dignity and respect. Aid us, we pray, in overcoming the sin of racism. Grant us Your grace in eliminating this curse from our hearts, our communities, our social and civil institutions. Fill our hearts with love for You and our neighbor so that we may work with You in healing our land from racial injustice.

Gracious Father, we also ask Your blessings upon all who watch over us: law enforcement officers, firefighters, health professionals. Give them the strength, courage and perseverance to do the work they have been called to do. Be with our military forces at home and abroad this day. Keep them from harm's way.

All these prayers we offer in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**C Amen.**

### **Prayer for Anniversary of 9/11**

P God of all nations, look with favor upon our land as we mark and remember this week the 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the terrorist attacks on 9/11. While for many, this day moves further back into the pages of history, we pray for those who still bare the hurt, pain and scars of that day. Give them healing. We also pray for peace in this world that hatred and mistrust will be removed. Surround us with Your Holy Angels that no evil may befall us. We pray this in the name of Jesus, Who is the Prince of Peace. Amen.

### **Benediction**

P 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.

**C Amen.**

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