

Pentecost 12

August 31, 2025

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 17 (Year C)

We don't say it often in our American culture where class systems are allegedly non-existent, but in previous times it could be heard as a parent instructed a child or a servant to "Know your place." In the Kingdom of God, the last shall be first and the first shall be last. Humility is the mark of discipleship. Only the humble will be elevated to positions of honor; the faithful are ones who go to the end of the line.



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Lesson: Proverbs 25:2-10

Elevation of the Humble

It is better to wait to be told to come to the table or to a place of honor than to assume it is where we belong and plant ourselves there without an invitation. It is important for kings to have wise counsel, just as it is to separate silver from dross. God's ways are often hidden from human minds and hearts, but we can trust in his infinite wisdom.

Psalm 131

Hope in the Lord

This short psalm conveys the hope that David had in the Lord. He stated that his eyes were not set on sights that were too high for him; instead, they were placed upon the Lord to whom he submitted his life.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 13:1-17

Advice for the Faithful

The author of Hebrews extended all manner of good advice to the community of faith. Topics covered were mutual love, hospitality, remembering those who were imprisoned for the faith, faithfulness in marriage, respect for leaders, and caring for others.

Gospel Lesson: Luke 14:1-14

The Humbled and the Exalted

Jesus cured a man with dropsy on the Sabbath day, when he had been invited to dine at the house of a Pharisee. He then noticed the way people were seated at the table and told them a parable about a wedding banquet: Some guests were promoted to better seats and others were demoted to less honorable places at the table.

Suggestions for the Sunday:

- * The liturgical color is green.
- * The Kyrie OR the Hymn of Praise may be used during Ordinary Time.
- * Use the Apostles' Creed.
- * Today is the commemoration day of St. Augustine (354-430), Bishop of Hippo and church father. His writings helped to shape theology in the early church and continue to do so today. He is credited as saying in his Confessions, "The Bible was composed in such a way that as beginners mature, its meaning grows with them."
- * Who is welcome at your table? Who is welcome at the Lord's table? The fellowship of Jesus' table is something we need to be reminded of occasionally.

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
Son of God, Eternal Savior	364	---	842	655	---	---
Where Charity and Love Prevail	126	---	845	359	---	---
Sent Forth by God's Blessing	221	---	643	547	58	58
Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee	551	---	803	836	36	36
Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word	230	---	655	517	71	71
A Mighty Fortress is Our God	229	---	657	504	169	169
Amazing Grace	448	---	744	779	199	199
Great is Thy Faithfulness	---	771	809	733	211	211
I Love to Tell the Story	390	---	---	661	265	265

The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW= Lutheran Book of Worship, WOV= With One Voice, ELW= Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress); LSB= The Lutheran Service Book (Concordia Publishing), REC= The ReClaim Hymnal for Church and Home (ReClaim Resources), and *** means you can find it on SOWeR at "Hymns and Music."

CONTEMPORARY SONGS

Praise Song Titles
We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise (CCLI# 9990)
We Are an Offering (CCLI# 16220)
I Surrender Now (CCLI# 23189)
Come As You Are (CCLI 7017790)
Everlasting God (CCLI# 4556538)

The contemporary song suggestions above are noted by their CCLI number. To print these songs, a congregation must have a CCLI license.