

Cantate
St. John 16:5-15
May 15th, 2022
St. Bartholomew Evangelical Lutheran Mission, UAC
Fort Myers, FL
All Saints Evangelical Lutheran Mission, UAC
Pawleys Island, SC
Pastor Jerald Dulas

All Things that the Father Has Are Mine

In Nomine Iesu!

In the Name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer in Pulpit before Sermon:

Send, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, Thy Holy Spirit into our hearts, that He may rule and direct us according to Thy will, comfort us in all our temptations and afflictions, defend us from all error, and lead us into all truth, that we, being steadfast in the faith, may increase in love and in all good works, and in the end obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. Amen.

Grace, mercy, and peace be to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior + Jesus Christ. Amen.

The greatest thing the Lord + Jesus can tell His Apostles on the night of His arrest, trial, and suffering, is that all things that the heavenly Father possesses are also His. Why is this the greatest news the Lord can give to His Apostles? Well, Who is the heavenly Father? What do we confess in the creeds about Him? We confess that the Lord God heavenly Father is Maker and Creator of all things. In other words, all that the heavenly Father possesses, that is, all of creation, also belongs to our Lord + Jesus. But how does that benefit the Apostles, or even us for that matter? Because everything that the heavenly Father has, which is also what everything the Lord + Jesus has, He also gives to us, who have been adopted through faith to be His co-heirs in the Kingdom of the Lord God.

To give to us everything that the heavenly Father has—everything that is His—our Lord + Jesus sends to us the Holy Ghost. He has come to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. The world is convicted of sin, because the world does not believe on the Lord + Jesus. Especially at the time when these words were spoken. The word of the Lord had not been preached in all the world by the Apostles. The Apostles, filled with the Holy Ghost, would go out into all the world, and preach that the Lord God incarnate, the Lord + Jesus, had perfectly fulfilled the Law of God, which they were unable to fulfill through their own good works. They preached that He atoned for those sins by His suffering and death on the tree of the holy cross. They preached also that this Lord + Jesus did not just die for the atonement of the sins of the whole world, but also rose again from the dead on the third day; destroying sin, death, and the power of the devil. Death now has no more dominion over Him, just as we sang in the Gradual.

This is also gifted to us through the work of the Holy Ghost, Who calls, gathers, and enlightens all who hear the Word of God—these promises—and clings to these promises and Him in faith. We now possess these gifts and promises, through faith. This faith is also a gift. It is not something we have to work for, or drum up in ourselves, it is freely given to all those who participate in the means of grace. The Holy Ghost convicts the world of righteousness through these means. He was sent to us by the heavenly Father and the Son, the Lord + Jesus, after our Lord's ascension, on the day of Pentecost.

The Holy Ghost convicts the world of righteousness (yes, that is a funny way to say that, but that is what our Lord + Jesus says) through the means of grace. When we hear the pure Gospel preaching, when we are baptized in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, when we receive the absolution from the Pastor as if from the Lord God Himself, when we receive our Lord's Body and Blood given to us in bread and wine for the remission of our sins, and when two or three Christians gather together in the Lord God's Name to comfort one another with the forgiveness of sins, and with the fellowship we share, the Holy Ghost is convicting us of righteousness. In other words, He is declaring to us that we are righteous, that is, holy and sinless. He is declaring to us that we have been clothed with the righteousness of the Christ. That which the Father has, the Son also possesses, and He gives that righteousness to us, through the work of the Holy Ghost. We are now convicted—that is, declared—righteous in the sight of the Lord God heavenly Father.

We are declared righteous—convicted of being righteous—because we believe the pure Gospel preaching that declares the good and wonderful works and merits of our Lord + Jesus. He has suffered and died, though being innocent, taking upon Himself all our sin, in order to defeat sin and death. He went into the grave in order to defeat sin and death. He won for us a victory over sin and death. He atoned for our sins, so that through faith we need not see, nor taste, death. By His resurrection, we have been shown that we too, His co-heirs, will also rise from the dead on the Last Day. He will come on the Last Day and judge the quick and the dead. He will divide the sheep from the goats. All those who believe on Him will inherit eternal life in Heaven, and all those who refuse to believe on Him will inherit eternal death in Hell.

The Holy Ghost, the Helper and Comforter of all those who cling to the Lord + Jesus in this life filled with sin and shame and death, comforts us by teaching us that sin, death, and the power of the devil have been judged. They are judged according to the innocent blood of our Lord that was shed on the tree of the holy cross. His blood declares that they have been condemned through His suffering and death. They have been thoroughly defeated. He has conquered them. So too has He conquered all our enemies. He has conquered the devil, the world, and our own sinful flesh. The Holy Ghost, who has been given to us by the Father and the Son, teaches us that our enemies have been judged. He teaches us that even though they may fiercely scream and scowl, they cannot harm us. They have been judged; the deed is done. They are felled by one, little word. That word is *the* Word, our Lord + Jesus. He has defeated them once and for all.

Even if we were to lose all of our earthly possessions—goods, fame, child, wife—we have lost nothing at all. For everything that belongs to the Father of Heaven, also belongs to His Son + Jesus. Everything that belongs to the Son, also belongs to us, who have been declared co-heirs with Him through faith. This is why the greatest thing the Lord + Jesus can tell His Apostles is that all things that belong to the Father are His, for that means that they are ours as well. The heavenly Father is the Maker and Creator of the whole Earth. The Lord + Jesus is the Redeemer and Savior of the whole Earth. All these things we possess through the work of the Holy Ghost, Who is the Sanctifier—the One Who makes us holy and righteous in the Lord God's sight—of all those who believe through the faith He gifts to all those who hear the pure Gospel of the Lord God.

This is why we can sing to the Lord a new song, as the Introit declared, for He has done marvelous things. He has made known to us His righteousness, and clothed us with His righteousness in the waters of Holy Baptism. He has declared to us His salvation, the salvation that He won by His suffering and death. Through the preaching of the Apostles going out into all the world, this Gospel has been preached to all nations, so that all those in the world who have heard and believed, can also sing to the Lord a new song, and tell of all His marvelous works. We too, my dear friends, have also heard the pure Gospel of our Lord + Jesus, and we have believed His Word that has been preached into our ears through His called and ordained Servants of the Word. We too, can sing a new song to the Lord; a song of hope and joy that He has defeated our enemies, and declared to us that we are co-heirs of

the inheritance that He won by His death on the cross. Our hearts can rejoice and sing, because we no that death now has no dominion over us. We will live with our Lord and Savior + Jesus Christ for all eternity. We will live with all the saints and angels of Heaven for all eternity. For all things that the Father has are also the Son's, and they have been gifted to us. We have been gifted eternal life with the Lord God in His Kingdom for all eternity. Let us sing and rejoice, and give thanks that we have received such a wonderful gift. Let us also share this gift with all who would hear this pure message of salvation in the Lord + Jesus alone, so that they also might sing a new song with us. In the Name of our Lord + Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer in Pulpit after Sermon:

Almighty God, be pleased to accompany Thy Word with Thy Holy Spirit and grant that Thy Word would increase faith in us; bring into the Way of Truth all such as have erred; turn the hearts of the unrepentant; and for sake of Thy Name grant succor to all heavy hearts and those who are heavy-laden, that they may through the mercy of the Lord Jesus Christ be relieved and preserved so that they succumb not to the temptation of despair but rather that they gain the victory over the world, the flesh, and the devil; through the same Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with the Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever One God, world without end. Amen.

The Votum:

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Amen.

Soli Deo Gloria!