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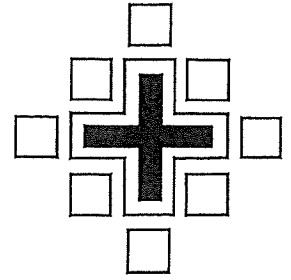
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Hymn **689**

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 15, 2021



INTROIT *Ps. 111:1–5, 9; antiphon: Ps. 111:10*

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.*

His praise endures for- | ever!

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,*
in the company of the upright, in the congre- | gation.

Great are the works | of the LORD,*
studied by all who de- | light in them.

Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,*
and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;*
the LORD is gracious and | merciful.

He provides food for those who | fear him;*
he remembers his covenant for- | ever.

He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.*
Holy and awesome | is his name!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.*

His praise endures for- | ever!

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow His steps in the way that leads to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

GRADUAL *Ps. 34:9, 19, alt.*

Fear the LORD, | you his saints,*
for those who fear him lack | nothing!

Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,*
but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

DAILY READINGS

August 15: 2 Sam. 5:1–25; 1 Cor. 8:1–13; **16:** 2 Sam. 6:1–19; 1 Cor. 9:1–23; **17:** 2 Sam. 7:1–17; 1 Cor. 9:24–10:22; **18:** 2 Sam. 7:18–29; 1 Cor. 10:23–11:16; **19:** 2 Sam. 11:1–27; 1 Cor. 11:17–34; **20:** 2 Sam. 12:1–25; 1 Cor. 12:1–13; **21:** 1 Kings 1:1–4, 15–35; 1 Cor. 12:14–31.

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Old Testament Reading:

Proverbs 9:1-10

- 1 Wisdom has built her house;
she has hewn her seven pillars.
- 2 She has slaughtered her beasts; she has
mixed her wine;
she has also set her table.
- 3 She has sent out her young women to call
from the highest places in the town,
- 4 "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!"
To him who lacks sense she says,
- 5 "Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.
- 6 Leave your simple ways, and live,
and walk in the way of insight."
- 7 Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself
abuse,
and he who reproves a wicked man incurs
injury.
- 8 Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate
you;
reprove a wise man, and he will love you.
- 9 Give instruction to a wise man, and he will
be still wiser;
teach a righteous man, and he will in-
crease in learning.
- 10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of
wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is
insight.

Epistle: Ephesians 5:6-21

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore do not associate with them; ⁸for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

"Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you."

¹⁵Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine,

for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, ²⁰giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Holy Gospel: John 6:51-69

⁵¹[Jesus said:] "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. ⁵⁷As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not as the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." ⁵⁹Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" ⁶¹But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take offense at this? ⁶²Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? ⁶³It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is of no avail. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But there are some of you who do not believe." (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) ⁶⁵And he said, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."

⁶⁶After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" ⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, ⁶⁹and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God."