

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (Proper 17C)

We Are Humbled and Exalted by the Cross of Christ



Background: The Post Pentecost Sundays give emphasis to the simple truth that our salvation was totally attained for us by Christ's sacrificial death on the cross. In fact, we didn't even find our way to Christ, but rather by the power of the Holy Ghost we were led to Christ. AND we continue to be called by the Gospel to accept Christ as our Lord and Savior. So what can we do? We follow Christ. We stay in the Word and participate in the Sacraments. And we humbly serve others as our sanctified life leads us. So while we are hospitable to all, we look for every opportunity to make others aware of God's Plan of Salvation, so they to may share heaven with us at the end of time.

The Lessons: Proverbs 25:2–10, Hebrews 13:1–17, & Luke 14:1–14

"Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled," Jesus proclaims, but "he who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 14:11). For your hope is in the name of the Lord, who humbled Himself unto death on the cross and was exalted in His resurrection. So, are you humbled by His cross, and "at the resurrection of the just," He will say to you,

***Rock of Ages Rev Johannes Oertel 1848* "Friend, move up higher" (Luke 14:10, 13–14)? By His grace, the King will honor you "in the presence of a noble," where your eyes will gaze upon the Prince, His dearly beloved Son (Prov. 25:7). As He has dealt so graciously with you, "do not neglect to do good and to share what you have" (Heb. 13:16), and "do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers" (Heb. 13:2). Humble yourself and exalt your neighbor.**

