

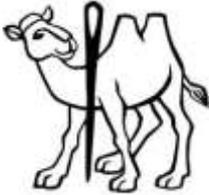


FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Pastor Brenda Wicklund
October 10, 2021,
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

“We are called by God to grow in faith together, sharing Christ’s love with each other and our community”

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The rich man who comes to ask Jesus what he should do to inherit eternal life is a good man, sincere in his asking. Mark’s gospel is alone in saying that Jesus looked on him and loved him. Out of love, not as judgment, Jesus offers him an open door to life: sell all you own and give it to the poor. Our culture bombards us with the message that we will find life by consuming. Our assemblies counter this message with the invitation to find life by divesting for the sake of the other.

Prelude

Joanne Richards

Welcome to Worship this morning. We will be sharing Holy Communion, Communion will be given two ways, you can either come up front and receive from Pastor or you can pick up the convenient cup/wafer before the service and receive at your seat.

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

C: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart *Silence is kept for reflection*

L: God, our comforter:

C: like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

C: Amen.

L: All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in ✚ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

C: Amen.

Hymn

“Drawn to the Light”

Red Worship Book 593

1 People who walk in darkness have sought a light in the heart of the darkest night. Just when we thought all would be lost, we were drawn to the light of God.

Refrain: *Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night, drawn to the light and the morning. Glorious and bright, oh, what a sight to be drawn to the light of God.*

2 How can we tell a heaven from hell if ev'ryone dwells in the dark of night? Morning dispels, gently compels, and we're drawn to the light of God. **Refrain**

3 Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none! The Lamb is the one who is shining bright, bids us to come! Life has begun when we're drawn to the light of God. **Refrain**

Greeting

Red Worship Book pg. 147

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie

Red Worship Book pg. 147-148

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

Canticle of Praise

Red Worship Book pg. 149-150

L: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Alleluia

Prayer of the Day

C: Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Amos was a herdsman by profession and a prophet by God's call. During a time of great prosperity in the northern kingdom of Israel, the prophet speaks to the wealthy upper class. He warns his listeners that fulfilling God's demand for justice brings blessing, while corruption and oppression incur God's wrath.

First Reading: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

⁶Seek the LORD and live, or he will break out against the house of Joseph like fire, and it will devour Bethel, with no one to quench it.

⁷Ah, you that turn justice to wormwood, and bring righteousness to the ground!

¹⁰They hate the one who reproves in the gate, and they abhor the one who speaks the truth.

¹¹Therefore because you trample on the poor and take from them levies of grain, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not live in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine.

¹²For I know how many are your transgressions, and how great are your sins—you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and push aside the needy in the gate.

¹³Therefore the prudent will keep silent in such a time; for it is an evil time.

¹⁴Seek good and not evil, that you may live; and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said.

¹⁵Hate evil and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

Psalm 90:12-17

L: So teach us to number our days

C: that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

L: Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry?

C: Be gracious to your servants.

L: Satisfy us by your steadfast love in the morning;

C: so shall we rejoice and be glad all our days.

L: Make us glad as many days as you afflicted us

C: and as many years as we suffered adversity.

L: Show your servants your works,

C: and your splendor to their children.

L: May the graciousness of the Lord our God be upon us;

C: prosper the work of our hands; prosper our handiwork.

We cannot hide our thoughts, desires, and actions from God, to whom we are completely accountable. Nevertheless, Jesus understands our human weakness and temptations, because he also experienced them. Therefore we can approach the throne of grace to receive divine mercy from Christ.

Second Lesson: Hebrews 4:12-16

¹²Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

¹⁴Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Gospel Acclamation

Red Worship Book pg. 151

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark

C: Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

Red Worship Book pg. 151

Jesus has been teaching his disciples about what is most valued in God's eyes. Now, a conversation with a rich man brings his message home to the disciples in a way that is surprising but unforgettable.

Gospel: Mark 10:17-31

¹⁷As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" ¹⁸Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother.' " ²⁰He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." ²¹Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." ²²When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

²³Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" ²⁴And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again,

“Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.” ²⁶They were greatly astounded and said to one another, “Then who can be saved?” ²⁷Jesus looked at them and said, “For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.”

²⁸Peter began to say to him, “Look, we have left everything and followed you.” ²⁹Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.”

The Gospel of Our Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

Red Worship Book pg. 151

Children’s Sermon

Pastor Brenda Wicklund

Sermon:

Greif and Gratitude

Pastor Brenda Wicklund

Psalm 1

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, ²but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. ³That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither— whatever they do prospers. Amen

Last week we looked at the Psalms of Lament and Prayer. Did you pray some of the psalms this week and delve in to digest our emotions and feelings to God? Did you lament those things that needed to lament?

This week we are looking at Greif and Gratitude. As Rev. Dr Schifferdecker states, “Lament is holding on to God with one hand and shaking your fist at him with the other.” There are times when we are content to sing to God songs such as “Have Thine Own Way, Lord.” Yet there are times when we grieve in sadness and heartache, and in the Psalms, we hear and know that we have a God that cares about my suffering, your suffering that is a stunning affirmation. This is okay.

It gives sorrow words, when you know not how to pray, and claims the grief that cannot be overcome.

In sadness and loss, we hear from the Psalmist that everyone is sad and weeping and it is ok to hear and pray these feelings.

Psalm 137

By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept when we remembered Zion.

²There on the poplars we hung our harps, ³for there our captors asked us for songs, our tormentors demanded songs of joy, they said, “Sing us one of the songs of Zion!” ⁴How can we sing the songs of the Lord while in a foreign land. ⁵If I forget you, Jerusalem, may my right hand forget its skill.

It is the prayer of the powerless in times where we need to have God on our side, a prayer of the powerless. Many times, us. When we are in grief and sorrow, heartache and sadness, no matter what it is we can go to God with any of our feelings, we have God on our side. Psalm 23, “You are with me.”

God is with us no matter the grief and lament, God is holding our hand.

One thing is certain; we always end up with praise to God, even in Psalm 22. **My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish?**

²My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, but I find no rest. ³Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the one Israel praises.[c]

We read this Psalm on Good Friday when Jesus is crucified. You know, you can appreciate the resurrection only if you have been and experienced Good Friday. Then and only then can your experience the praise and Hallelujah, Hallel, “You are to praise the Lord. So **All the rich of the earth will feast and worship; all who go down to the dust will kneel before him— those who cannot keep themselves alive. ³⁰Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord. ³¹They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn: He has done it.**

Easter Alleluias are more pertinent when we need to get through those times of grief for whatever is hard in our lives, and we end up “I will sing your praise.” “We will praise the Lord.” We are Easter people and

are grateful for all God has done. Last week we thought of those things to lament. What are those things you are thankful for? My confirmation class were thankful for these things this week: food, sports, family, friends, my grandma, air, for not having Covid during the volleyball season, for being able to be in school. Out of their mouths, many things. What are you thankful for? Make you list and bring them to God.

¹⁻² **On your feet now—applaud God! Bring a gift of laughter, sing yourselves into his presence** ³ **Know this: God is God, and God, God. He made us; we didn't make him. We're his people, his well-tended sheep** ⁴ **Enter with the password: "Thank you!"**

Make yourselves at home, talking praise. Thank him. Worship him. ⁵ **For God is sheer beauty, all-generous in love loyal always and ever. The Message, Amen.**

Hymn "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

1 Amazing grace, How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me. I once was lost, But now I'm found, was blind, But now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught My heart to fear And grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed.

Chorus: My chains are gone. I've been set free. My God, my Savior, Has ransomed me. And like a flood, His mercy reigns, Unending love, Amazing grace.

Repeat verse 1 and Chorus.

Offering Prayer –You may leave your offering as you exit the church, table with offering plates are there.

L: God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens.

Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

L: Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

L: Uniting God, you call forth different gifts in those who follow you. Encourage us to welcome the diverse benefits and blessings of the whole church in teaching, preaching, prophecy, healing, and more. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Nurturing God, you bring forth crops from the soil and bounty from the trees. Increase the produce of the land and bless all who toil in fields and orchards. Provide for good working conditions and keep them safe.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Empowering God, you offer compassion for those who are overlooked or forgotten. Open the hearts of local, national, and world leaders to show such compassion and love for their neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Sheltering God, in Jesus you travelled among us without a place to lay your head. Provide safe places to sleep and rest for those who have no place to live. Sustain ministries that offer food, clothing, and peace of mind. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Renewing God, you bring life out of death. Help us part with those things that are no longer beneficial to us and open our hearts to see where new life is budding in this congregation. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Eternal God, we thank you for the lives of those who have died. Make us confident in your promise of salvation and support us in our own journey of faith. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Red Worship Book pg. 152

L; The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy

Red Worship Book pg. 153

L: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Red Worship Book pg. 154

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.

Lamb of God

Red Worship Book pg. 154

L: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn

“Here Is Bread”

Red Worship Book 483

1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us. Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.

Refrain: In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever. In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us. Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Jesus here.

Refrain: In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever. In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us. We'll proclaim till he comes Jesus crucified

Refrain: In this bread there is healing, in this cup is life forever. In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

Communion Hymn “Change My Heart, o God”

Red Worship Book 801

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

You are the potter; I am the clay.

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

Prayer after Communion

L: Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Blessing

L: People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, ☩ one God, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Hymn

“We Bow Down/He Is Exalted”

You are Lord of creation and Lord of my life, Lord of the land and the sea. You were Lord of the heavens before there was time, and Lord of all lords You will be!

We bow down and we worship You, Lord. We bow down and we worship You, Lord.

We bow down and we worship You, Lord. Lord of all lords You will be!

You are King of creation and King of my life, King of the land and the sea. You were King of heavens before there was time, And King of all kings You will be!

We bow down and we crown You the King. We bow down and we crown You the King. We bow down and we crown You the King, King of all kings You will be!

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high, I will praise Him. He is exalted, forever exalted and I will praise His name! He is the Lord, Forever His truth shall reign. Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name. He is exalted, the King is exalted on high!

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high, I will praise Him. He is exalted, forever exalted and I will praise His name! He is the Lord, Forever His truth shall reign. Heaven and earth rejoice in His holy name. He is exalted, the King is exalted on high! He is exalted, the King is exalted on high!

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C: Thanks be to God.

the worship is ended ... let the service begin...



****The Noisy offering this month is for Blessing Box there will be a bowl as you exit the church.**

Next Week's Readings and Psalm

First Reading

Isaiah 53:4-12

Second Reading

Hebrews 5:1-10

Psalm

Psalm 91:9-16

Gospel

Mark 10:35-45



Prayer Concerns and Sympathy ~ David (brother of Colleen Volden), Gracie Edin, Debra Hocum (Kathryn Souer's daughter-in-laws mother), Yvonne Guptill, Bonnie Carlson (friend of Donna Martin), Ken Carlson (brother-in-law of Don Peterson), Joy Burch, Drew (Mindy's brother), Vicki Marks, Colton Thompson, Reverend Norm Belland, Don Storlie (father of Jeremy Storlie), Brie Timms (sister-in-law of Peggy Smith), Kim Reisig (sister-in-law of Amy Tvedt), Tyler (son of Jan Peura), Marsha Skoog (friend of Patty Sweeny) and John Bassett.

For our members in care facilities ~ Ruta Kalnins and Dorothy Svendsen.

For firefighters, EMT's, those who serve to protect Policemen and women and military.

For world peace. For our companion synods.

For our missionaries: Jacqueline and Patrick Bencke

Treasure's Report

As of September 26, 2021

YTD Income	Budget	YTD actual	Last Year
	\$155,613.00	\$128,753.00	\$134,228.00
YTD Expenses	\$131,188.00	\$124,722.00	\$127,691.00

Announcements/Calendar

Sun. 8:30 am Coffee Fellowship; 9:30 am Worship/HC.

Mon. 5 pm Women's Roman's Bible Study

Tues. 9 am Pastor's Kettle River Pastor's mtg.; 9:30 am Women's Bible Study.

Wed. 9 am Library; 5-7 pm Confirmation; 5- 6:30 pm Faith in Action; 6:30 pm Worship; 7 pm Youth Group.

Thurs. 8 am Men's Text Study; Mindy Networking meeting; 5 pm New Member Dinner.

Sat. 8 pm AA mtg.

Sun. 8:30 am Coffee Fellowship; 9:30 am Worship/HC/ New Members join/ Church Council after Worship.



If you are interested in joining the church, we will be having new member introduction and dinner Thursday, October 14th at

5 pm and joining on Sunday, October 17th during Worship Service.

Please let Pastor Brenda know or the church office. Thank You!

Upcoming Events

Monday, October 18th-November Newsletter Deadline

Wednesday, October 20th-NO CONFIRMATION, FiA, WORSHIP OR YOUTH GROUP-MEA

**** Change of time**-Saturday, October 23rd, 9:30 am Harvest Christian School Fundraiser, Sandstone Riders Horse Club**

Monday, October 25th-6:30 pm All Boards

Wednesday, October 27th-NO CONFIRMATION, FiA, WORSHIP OF YOUTH GROUP