



Faith Lutheran Church

***Faithfully Growing, Welcoming,
and Caring through Christ***

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, October 7, 2018

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSIO AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the + Holy Trinity,
the one who fashions us, the
one who heals us, the one who
reforms us again and again.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power. *(A brief silence.)*

Source of all life,

C: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough.

We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

P: God hears our cry and send the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven + God's love is unconditional. And we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

OPENING SONG

“Dearest Jesus, at Your Word”

**Dearest Jesus, at your word
we have come again to hear you;
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
and in glowing faith be near you
as the promises here given
draw us wholly up to heaven.**

**All our knowledge, sense, and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded
till your Spirit breaks the night,
filling us with light unclouded.**

**All good thoughts and all good living
come but by your gracious giving.**

**Radiance of God's glory bright,
Light of light from God proceeding,
Jesus, send your blessed light;
help our hearing, speaking, heeding,
that our prayers and songs may please you,
as with grateful hearts we praise you.**

**Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
praise to you and adoration!
Grant us what we need the most:
all your gospel's consolation
while we here on earth await you,
till in heav'n with praise we greet you.**

P: 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.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P: Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law.

Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. (*A brief silence.*)

Sovereign God,

C: you have created us to live in loving community with one another.

Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:18-24

A reading from Genesis, the 2nd chapter. The LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.” So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them;

and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.

And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.” Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A Responsive Reading From Psalm 8

R: O LORD our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

C: You whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

R: When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have
set in their courses,

C: What are mere mortals that you
should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should
care for them?

R: Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

C: You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:

R: All flocks and cattle, even the wild
beasts of the field,

C: The birds of the air, the fish of
the sea, and whatever passes
along the paths of the sea.

R: O LORD our Lord, how majestic
is your name in all the earth!

C: Amen.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

A reading from Hebrews, the 1st chapter. Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word.

When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere, “What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?”

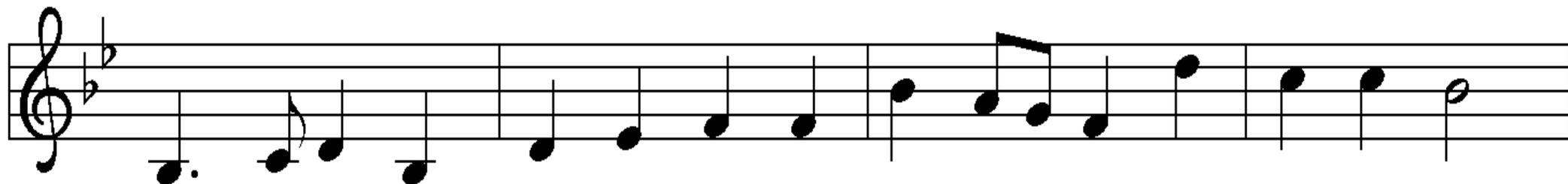
You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, subjecting all things under their feet.” Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels,

now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

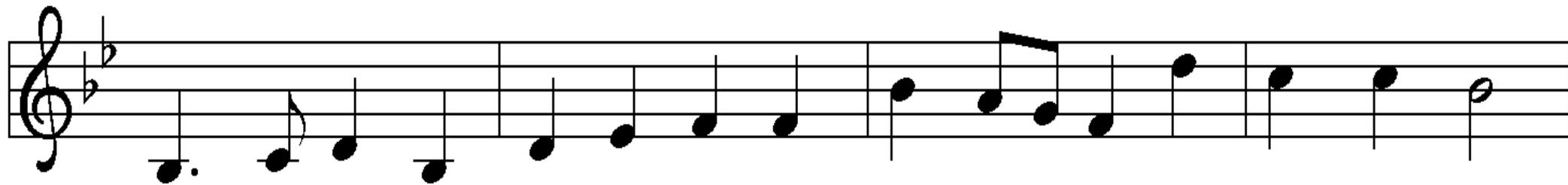
For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

R: Word of God, word of life.

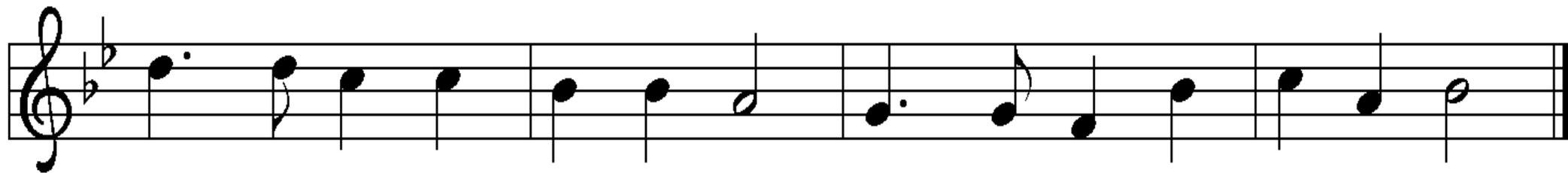
C: Thanks be to God.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Mark 10:2-16

P: The holy gospel according to Mark,
the 10th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Some Pharisees came, and to test Jesus they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” He answered them, “What did Moses command you?”

They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh.

Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.” People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them.

But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.”

And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The background features a light green central area with darker green geometric shapes and lines on the right side, creating a modern, abstract design.

SERMON
Pastor Karl Otto

HYMN OF THE DAY *“Jesus Loves Me!”*

Jesus loves me! this I know,
for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong,
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain

*Yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me,
the Bible tells me so.*

Jesus loves me! he who died
heaven's gates to open wide;
he will wash away my sin,
let his little child come in.

Refrain

***Yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me,
the Bible tells me so.***

Jesus loves me! he will stay
close beside me all the way;
when at last I come to die,
he will take me home on high.

Refrain

***Yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me,
yes, Jesus loves me,
the Bible tells me so.***

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven, he is seated
at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic* church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

(*word meaning “universal”;
you may substitute “Christian” if you wish.)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Longing for God's will to be fulfilled among us, we pray persistently for the church, the world, and all people in need. *(A brief silence.)* Holy God, send your blessing out into the world through missionaries, evangelists, and servants of your church. Through them spread good news to all who need it. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We praise you for the animals of the field, the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and all the works of your hands. Let our care for all you have made reflect your desire for the health of all creation. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Rule the nations of this world with the same grace you employ to align planets, stars, and moons. Where there is disorder, move us toward righteousness and justice. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Deliver your care to your children who feel unworthy of care. Bend down low to lift up people who struggle to find others who will embrace them in time of need. We pray especially for
Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Bring reconciliation among this community. Heal relationships that are broken. When we face division, open our eyes to signs of new life. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: Along with all the saints, form us into a holy and loving community in which people can find abundant compassion and peace. Through us bring others into your unbreakable covenant. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Enfold all things in your compassion, O God, and bring us into your life through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

P: The Peace of Christ be with you.

C: And also with you.

~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~
“Oceans” by Hillsong United

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our savior and Light.

C: Amen.

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

**P: Let us give thanks and praise
to the Lord our God.**

**C: It is right to give God thanks
and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son,
and Holy Spirit, bless you now
and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN SONG “*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*”

**Sent forth by God's blessing,
our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.**

The supper is ended.

**Oh, now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.**

**The seed of Christ's teaching,
receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.**

**Your grace shall incite us,
your love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving
to God ever-living,
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face—
our faith ever sharing,
in love ever caring,
embracing God's children, the whole human race.
With your feast you feed us,
with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living
with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

DISMISSAL

P: Go forth into the world to serve
God with gladness and be of
good courage.

C: Thanks be to God.



