



Faith Lutheran Church

*Faithfully Growing, Welcoming,
and Caring through Christ*

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 16, 2018

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFSSION 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 HYMN “Built On a Rock”

Built on a rock the church shall stand,
even when steeples are falling;
crumbled have spires in ev'ry land,
bells still are chiming and calling--
calling the young and old to rest,
calling the souls of those distressed,
longing for life everlasting.

Surely, in temples made with hands
God the Most High is not dwelling--
high in the heav'ns his temple stands,
all earthly temples excelling.
Yet he who dwells in heav'n above
deigns to abide with us in love,
making our bodies his temple.

**Christ builds a house of living stones:
we are his own habitation;
he fills our hearts, his humble thrones,
granting us life and salvation.
Where two or three will seek his face,
he in their midst will show his grace,
blessings upon them bestowing.**

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: Three weeks ago we heard John's gospel's version of Peter's confession of faith. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world.

In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of “messiah”) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. (A *brief silence*.) O God,
C: through suffering and rejection you
bring forth our salvation, and by the
glory of the cross you transform our
lives. Grant that for the sake of the
gospel we may turn from the lure of
evil, take up our cross, and follow your
Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.



FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

A reading from Isaiah, the 50th chapter.

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens - wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward.

I gave my back to those who struck me,
and my cheeks to those who pulled out
the beard; I did not hide my face from
insult and spitting. The Lord GOD helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A Responsive Reading From Psalm 116

R: I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

C: for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.

R: The cords of death entangled me;
the anguish of the grave came upon
me; I came to grief and sorrow.

C: Then I called upon the name of
the LORD: “O LORD, I pray you,
save my life.”

R: Gracious is the LORD and righteous;
our God is full of compassion.

C: The LORD watches over the
innocent; I was brought low,
and God saved me.

R: Turn again to your rest, O my soul for the LORD has dealt well with you.

C: For you have rescued my life from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;

R: I will walk in the presence of the
LORD in the land of the living.

C: Amen.

SECOND READING: James 3:1-12

A reading from James, the 3rd chapter.

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle.

If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire!

And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue - a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so.

Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A musical staff in G clef and common time. The first measure (measures 11) starts with a half note followed by a dotted half note, then a quarter note, another quarter note, and a eighth note. The second measure (measure 12) starts with a quarter note, followed by a eighth note, a sixteenth note, a eighth note, a quarter note, and a half note.

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

A musical score for a single melodic line, likely for a solo instrument or voice. The score consists of two staves of music. The top staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature. It features a series of eighth and sixteenth note patterns. The bottom staff begins with a bass clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature. It contains quarter notes and eighth notes. The music concludes with a final note on the top staff.

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

A musical staff in G minor (indicated by a treble clef and a single flat in the key signature) contains a sequence of notes. The notes are: eighth note B, sixteenth note A, eighth note B, eighth note C, eighth note D, eighth note E, eighth note F, sixteenth note E, eighth note D, eighth note C, eighth note B, eighth note A, eighth note G.

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

GOSPEL: Mark 8:27-38

P: The holy gospel according to Mark,
the 8th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.”

He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly.

And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.” He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?

Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“Who Do YOU Say Jesus Is?”

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

“Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?”

**“Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r
in you and you in me?”**

“Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?”

"Will you love the you you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?"

**Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.**

**Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.**

**In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.**

**Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.**

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Freed by God in Christ to live and love and serve, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's beloved creation.

(A *brief silence*.) Gracious God, you call your church to embody the love you have shown us. Raise us up each day to bear witness against sin, death, and the grave.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Creative God, quarks and galaxies
bear witness to your imagination.
Inspire scientists, naturalists, and
conservationists who work to
conserve precious natural resources.
Grant us the wisdom to be good
keepers of the earth.
Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: Sovereign God, you bless citizens with the gifts of reason and perseverance. Embolden people around the world to seek the common good, to serve their neighbors, and to delight in freedom. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Loving God, you bless us with an abundant world. When your children wander homeless, hungry, and naked, strengthen us to be your presence as we care for all those in need (*especially*).
Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: Welcoming God, thank you for this congregation where we have found a home. Make us restless as we seek new and creative ways to expand our loving invitation to all people who seek a community.

Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: In every time and in every place,
you have raised up examples
of loving service. Make us all
good and loving witnesses to
your extravagant compassion.
Lord, in your mercy,
C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your wide embrace,
gracious God, we commend all for
whom we pray, trusting in your
boundless mercy through
Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

C: Amen.

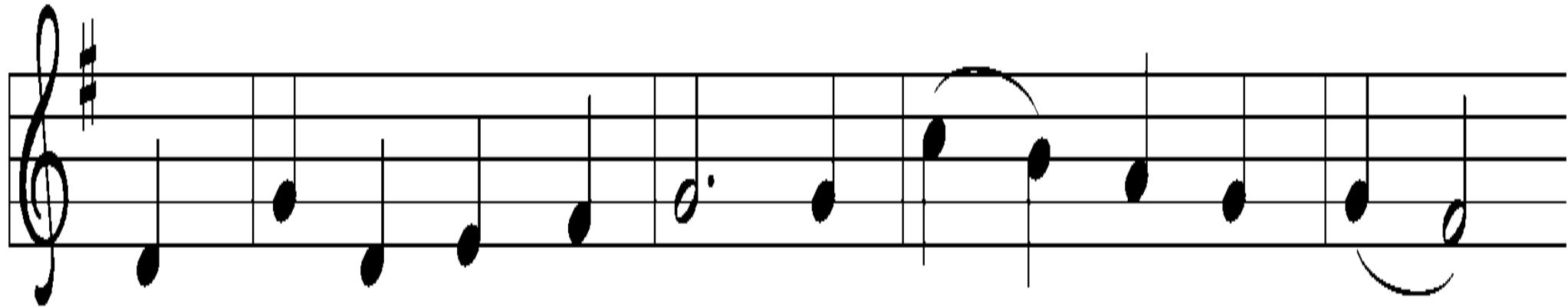
SHARING THE PEACE

P: The Peace of Christ be with you.

C: And also with you.

~ VIDEO DURING OFFERTORY ~

**“Only Jesus”
by Casting Crowns**



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

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

“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing,
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.

Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us,
trav'ling through this wilderness.

**Thanks we give and adoration
for your gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of your salvation
in our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
to your truth may we be found.**

**Savior, when your love shall call us
from our struggling pilgrim way,
let no fear of death appall us,
glad your summons to obey.**

**May we ever, may we ever
reign with you in endless day.**

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.
C: Thanks be to God.

