

Service of Prayer and Proclamation

August 2, 2020 • Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Redeemer Lutheran Church-LCMS
Charleston, WV

PRELUDE

Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun

LSB 868

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 291

Brief time of silence to think on God's Word and the sin we need to confess

C O almighty God, merciful Father, we poor miserable sinners, confess unto You all our sins and iniquities with which we have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But we are heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and we pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to us, poor, sinful beings.

ABSOLUTION

LSB 291

P In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

THE FIRST READING

Daniel 12:1–5

P A reading from Daniel, Chapter 12:

“At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever. But you, Daniel, shut up the words and seal the book, until the time of the end. Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.”

Then I, Daniel, looked, and behold, two others stood, one on this bank of the stream and one on that bank of the stream.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:1–20

P A reading from 1 Corinthians, the fifteenth chapter.

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

COLLECT FOR THE WORD

P Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 12:38–42

P The Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twelfth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, “Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.” But he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here. The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

Make A Defense: This Fact's for You

APOSTLES' CREED

P I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Lord, You have bidden us to come without money to receive grace beyond price. Hear us as we heed Your call and turn to You in prayer, confident of Your promise to hear and answer us.

Brief silence

Father, we have sought meaning, comfort and sustenance from all the wrong places. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that our hearts may be turned to Your Word, that we may hunger for Your Son's body and blood, and that we may discern truth from error. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, we give You thanks that You have blessed us beyond what we deserve and given to us Your Church. Guard her life by Your Spirit, and strengthen her witness before the nations. Bless all pastors and church workers in their service to us in Your name, and bless those now considering and preparing for church-work vocations. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, we too quickly focus on what we lack and not upon Your unlimited grace. Bless all relief agencies and services of Your Church on behalf of the hungry, the homeless, the hurting and those who have lost hope. Bless those visited by disaster and tragedy, and open our hearts to help them recover from their loss. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, we are daily blessed to know abundance and freedom. Bless those who defend us from our enemies, who serve us in government and who protect us in our communities. Be with our president, the Congress, our governor, and our judges and magistrates, that they may discern the right path and lead us with honor and integrity. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, we suffer with all manner of ills and afflictions. Hear us and grant to us healing according to Your will, strength in time of trial and peace at the last. We pray especially for _____ and those named in our hearts. Good Lord, deliver us and teach us to depend upon Your grace in all things. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, we know that Your steadfast love and mercy are forever, but our faith is daily tested and tempted. Give us strength and endurance, that we may not despair but have confidence in Your sufficient grace. Guide us to seek our consolation in Your Word and Sacraments, and prepare us to receive the Lord's body and blood in this Holy Communion. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, we are daily and richly surrounded with Your love and care. Grant us eyes to see Your mercies new every morning and grateful hearts, that what we have received we may share with those in need and generously support the work of Your Church. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, we remember the saints who lived by Your mercy and died in Christ. We long for that day when all divisions will end and the Church in heaven and earth shall be one in Your presence, singing Your praise in Your kingdom without end. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Father, we ask You to grant us all things needful and to keep from us all things harmful to us and to our salvation for we trust Your wisdom and Your love. Teach us to pray without fear "Your will be done"; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Thus, we pray, giving testimony of our confidence in Your gracious favor in Christ who taught us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father which 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD (Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25)

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My **✠** body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My **✠** blood, which is shed for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

DISTRIBUTION

*Jesu, Jesu, Feel Us with Your Love
I've Got Peace Like a River
How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place
In Your Mercy, Lord*

TABLE THANKSGIVING

P Now, may this the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, strengthen you in the one true faith unto life everlasting as you go in His peace and with His Spirit.

C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your word
be deaf to clamor and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love
shine with the light of hope;
and may the bodies which have been fed with your body
be refreshed with the fullness of your life;
glory to you forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION (Aaronic)

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Be with Us, O God Our Father

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book
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PRAYER LIST

Baby Ben Clark (Jeff & Tina Clark's grandson) diagnosed and being treated for hip dysplasia – follow up ultrasound set for tomorrow, July 30.

Jordan (Son of Ed Booten's co-worker) The 17-year old was in a severe auto accident while returning home from Cedar Point. He is hospitalized at a Cleveland Hospital.

Gayle Jobst (wife of Rev. Terry Jobst) Pastor Terry, who was pastor of Redeemer from 1987-1993, passed into eternity June 24 after suffering a cardiac event.

Ruffatto Family Pastor Frank's mother, Donna, passed away in her sleep Tuesday evening 7/21.

Edith Hackman (mother of Rod Hackman) suffered a stroke Monday evening. She is stable and awaiting a longer-term treatment plan

Judy Knox's Family Judy is recovering from Shingles, son Tater is very ill with COVID-19 and granddaughter Jaiden (new mom) is showing symptoms. Other family members are temporarily staying with Judy in quarantine efforts.

Gary Smith (friend of Sheri Moore) diagnosed with stage 4 cancer.

Jennifer McIntosh having problems breathing at night. She will undergo an endoscopy and biopsy to rule out eosinophilic esophagitis.

John (neighbor of Tee Boyd) will undergo surgery to remove melanoma from his back.

George Clay (Tee Boyd's son-in-law) admitted to the hospital with blood clots in his lungs.

Liz Albitz, Ed & Kim Booten, Billie Brisendine, Catherine, Charlie, Susan and Skip Daly, Mark, Lisa, and Ethan Davis, Debra, Erin, Nancy Gaarenstroom, Doris Gerke, Jim and Marlene Hanson, Jo Hartley, Roy "Hutch" Hutchison, Jack, Tom Janicki, Judy Knox, Linda, Roy and Betty Lindmark, Marie Marcum, Jeanneane Maxon, Meghan, Melissa, Bob Mitchell, George Mitchell, Lori Nettles, Terri North, Herb & Marian Pauley, Harold Reed, Keith Ritz, Rick and Sue Robinson, Thresa Robinson, Dave Sanders, Stu and Marcia Schwalm, Carmella Shaver, Peggy Shell, Cheron Stanley, Family of Jessica Stanley, Tina and John Thaxton, Jeff & Cara Wade, Family of Debbie Bradley Wilson, Taegan Witcher, Family of Zach

All diagnosed with Covid-19;

All diagnosed with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia, and their caregivers;

All diagnosed with any form of cancer;

All diagnosed with any incurable (even if treatable) disease.

For our congregation - that we would pursue God's will for us as His people gathered here to bring Him glory as we make disciples being help, hope, home in the body of Christ.