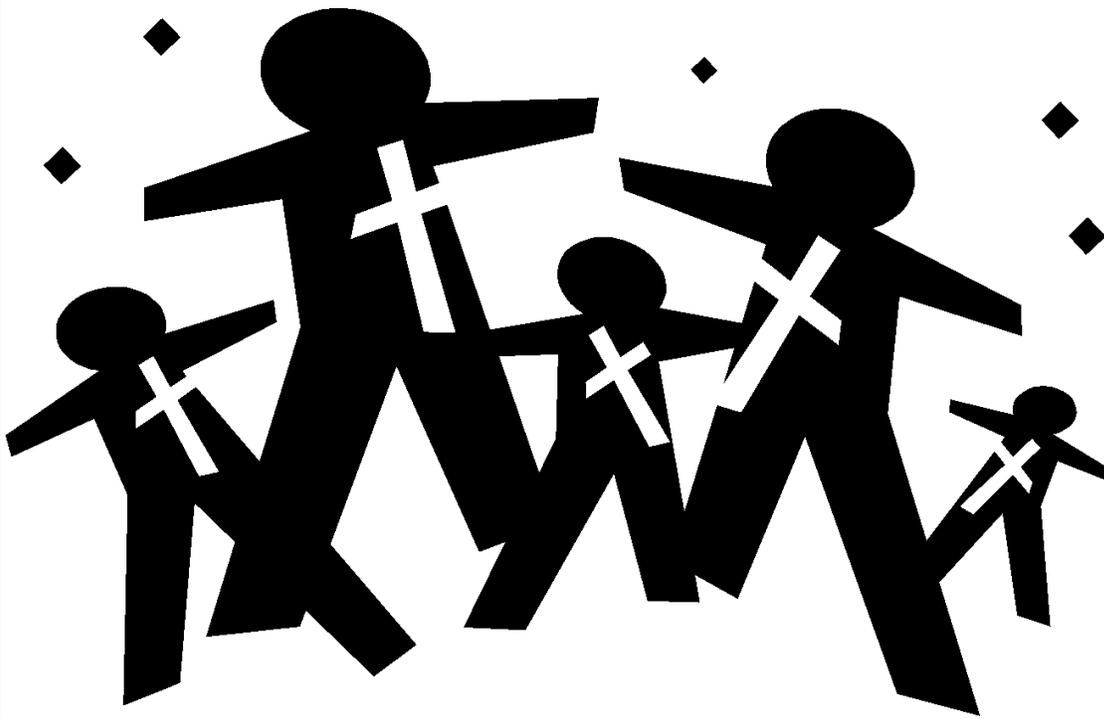


ONE IN CHRIST LUTHERAN PARISH

◆Bethany ◆Immanuel ◆Lunder ◆Silver Lake ◆Winnebago



**“If any want to become
my followers, let them
deny themselves and
take up their cross
and follow me.”**

Matthew 16:24, NRSV

Pentecost 13

August 30, 2020

One in Christ Lutheran Parish

Ministers

Every member of the Parish

Pastors *Randy Baldwin* #590-0727 – cell;

Email: pastorrandy@oneinchristlutheranparish.org

Bill Peters #590-2737 – cell;

Email: pastorbill@oneinchristlutheranparish.org

web page – www.oneinchristlutheranparish.org

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2020

COME, HOLY SPIRIT!

We joyfully welcome all guests who are worshipping with us this morning.

We celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, who excites us with the mission of the church - to be witnesses and share the "good news" to all people.

EMPOWER AND SEND US!

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

✠ GATHERING ✠

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the People of God

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Merciful God, through the apostle Paul, you call us to live out our faith in everyday actions beginning with loving one another with a love that is completely sincere love with no thought of gain for self

but love totally at the service of others.

We are to hate evil and to hold fast to what is good,

yet the grasping for financial gain by whatever means has led to a diminished understanding of what is evil and what is good;

We are to care for and honor one another,

yet sadly, divisions exist in churches and faith communities, when conflict arises over rights and privileges, prestige and power.

Our faith is to be visible through our joy and our hope - our patience - even in suffering,

and through our persevering in prayer and we are to share what we have with those in need, and to extend hospitality not just to those we know and like - but to strangers.

We know we fall short of living out our faith in these ways so we pray that we will be renewed, strengthened and empowered with the Holy Spirit to follow Jesus, living, loving and caring as he did.

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

EEXPERIENCING GOD'S GRACE – THE GOOD NEWS

Hear the good news: God's love for us is truly revealed in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. (*based on Romans 5:8*)

Thanks be to God!

OPENING SONG “*Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song*”

*Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey;
I'll tell ev'rybody about you wherever I go:
you alone are our life and our peace and our love.
Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.*

*Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.*

*As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,
to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.
For you saved me by giving your body and blood.
As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.*

*I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey;
but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side.
And with all of the family you saved by your love,
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.*

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

And also with you.

SHARING THE PEACE – *Give somebody a call today.*

KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

“Glory to God...”

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God’s people on earth.*

*Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.*

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God’s people on earth.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.*

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God’s people on earth.*

*For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the
Father. Amen.*

*Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God’s people on earth.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

✠ WORD ✠

God speaks to us in scripture, reading, preaching, and song

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God’s words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn’t grasp Jesus’ words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 15:15-21

Jeremiah’s delight in the word of the LORD is contradicted by the heaviness of God’s hand upon him and God’s seeming unfaithfulness. God’s tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, “I am with you.”

¹⁵O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult.

¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. ¹⁷I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them.

²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD.

²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 12:9-21

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 16:21-28

After Peter confesses that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a "rock."

The holy gospel according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN SERMON
SERMON**

Pastor Bill Peters

SONG OF THE DAY “*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*”

Refrain ***Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.***

***Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
master who acts as a slave to them. Refrain***

***Neighbors are wealthy and poor,
varied in color and race,
neighbors are near us and far away. Refrain***

***These are the ones we will serve,
these are the ones we will love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. Refrain***

***Kneel at the feet of our friends,
silently washing their feet:
this is the way we will live with you. Refrain***

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 THE COMMUNITY

Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

...Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

✠ **SENDING** ✠

God blesses us and sends us in mission in the world

**BLESSING
THREE-FOLD AMEN**

SENDING SONG *“He Leadeth Me”*

*He leadeth me: oh, blessed thought!
Oh, words with heav’nly comfort fraught!
Whate’er I do, where’er I be,
still ’tis God’s hand that leadeth me.*

Refrain *He leadeth me, he leadeth me,
by his own hand he leadeth me.
His faithful foll’wer I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.*

*Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden’s bowers bloom,
by waters calm, o’er troubled sea,
still ’tis God’s hand that leadeth me. Refrain*

*Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,
nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see,
since ’tis my God that leadeth me. Refrain*

*And when my task on earth is done,
when by thy grace the vict’ry’s won,
e’en death’s cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me. Refrain*

THE DISMISSAL

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

✠ **THANKSGIVING** ✠

God invites us to respond to His grace

OFFERING

*Please place your gifts in box, send them to the parish office, or use Tithe.ly
(electronic giving).*

Postlude



*From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #20852.*

Lost and Found

In an age when self-actualization and “finding oneself” are high cultural values, it can be easy to see these tasks as a steady trajectory toward a fixed end, one that we can control.

Jesus says, on the other hand, that in order to find our life—our identity—we must seek to lose it. We are to identify with Jesus so completely that he becomes our identity. And here’s the ace-in-the-hole, the part that even our therapists and life coaches can accept: It’s not that we identify with Jesus in order to *forget* who we are—to forget the childhood that wasn’t perfect, the mistakes we made as teenagers, and the people we’ve hurt along the way. We identify with Jesus in order to *remember* who we are—children of God who are created by God.

So, what of Peter? He’s just been named the Rock and handed the keys to the kingdom. But he’s already trying so hard to protect this newfound identity that he forgets how he got it in the first place. It’s no wonder that when his hopes for the kingdom are threatened and Jesus talks about death, Peter is the one to say, “Hold up!”

Jesus diagnoses Peter correctly—he is clinging to his new self-understanding as “right-hand man” more than God. It’s his protectiveness and rigidity that earn him the name Satan, not his zeal.

When Jesus says that we must lose our lives, he’s not offering a formula. Jesus is asking for a willingness to accept something different from what we’ve planned or expected, a willingness for Peter to relinquish his understanding of what it means to be the Rock. It’s only this willingness to follow a meandering path and to give up our control over the outcome that results in the found life we all look for.