

Salem Lutheran Church

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JULY 26, 2020 ~ 8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

GATHERING HYMN

Be Thou My Vision

ELW 793 verses 1 & 2

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
thou my best thought both by day and by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931

Music: Irish traditional

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. **All: And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WORD

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 3:5-12

PSALM 119:129-136

¹²⁹Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with all my heart.

¹³⁰When your word is opened it gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.

¹³¹I open my mouth and pant
because I long for your commandments.
¹³²Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as you always do to those who love your name.
¹³³Order my footsteps in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
¹³⁴Rescue me from those who oppress me,
and I will keep your commandments.
¹³⁵Let your face shine upon your servant
and teach me your statutes.
¹³⁶My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people do not keep your teaching.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:26-39

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

Spoken together

Alleluia. Many will come from east and west and will eat in the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia. (Matt. 8:11)

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 13th chapter. **ALL: Glory to you, O Lord**

³¹[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

P: The Gospel of the Lord given to you. **ALL: Praise to you O Christ.**

MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

When Peace Like a River

ELW 785 verses 1 & 4

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain It is well (it is well)
with my soul, (with my soul,)
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
even so it is well with my soul. *Refrain*

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828-1888

Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1838-1876

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

PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. All: **And also with you.**

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**

SENDING

BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, ✠ Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

God Be With You

ELW 536 verses 1 & 2

God be with you till we meet again;
by good counsels guide, uphold you,
with a shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

Till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again,)
till we meet at Jesus' feet; (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet,)
till we meet, (till we meet again.)
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
holy wings securely hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again. *Refrain*

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828–1904
Music: William G. Tomer, 1833–1896

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **ALL: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

++++++ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRAYER LIST++++++

A Special Thank you to Mark Hoefler and Pastor for providing vocal accompaniment with our hymns today! And, thank you, to Sharon Lukens as the lector for this day!

Thank you for continuing to support the ministries of our congregation during these unprecedented times. As it becomes clear that we're in this phase for a longer haul, we want to say a particular thanks for your faith, your generosity, and your perseverance. Your faithful stewardship of all God's gifts is the heart of disciple-making and neighbor-loving.

Thank you for OBD Casseroles! This month 20 casseroles were delivered. Thank you for caring for the less fortunate and your generosity.

The Stitches are looking for and appreciate the crafts you may be creating during this time of being at home. Also, would you keep in mind the yard sale as you clean closets, garages and basements? Lynn Cox and Ruth Phoebus are the contacts.

Ongoing Prayer Concerns: Kathryn Christy, The family and friends of Carroll Moulden, Wilda & Katie, Jenny, Jenny's mom and sister Donna, Norma Knudsen, Anne Mills, Family and friends of Kevin Kolb, Rachel's soon-to-be-born baby girl, Family and Friends of Kathi Fuller, Lee Hoos, Capt'n Jim McMahan, Pr. Dick Kiesling, Karen, Donna Miller, Laura Riley, Judy Newsome, Phil Kulinski, Amanda Evans Deel, Bruce Greer, Debbie McDonald, Michelle Harshman, Lisa Barwick, Dorothy Portera, Nick Carmichael, Walt Karoll, Sandy Barthel, Marianna Putnam, Dawn Weaver, Joan Burleigh, Donald Rembert, Thelma Preisinger, Steve Sussan, Bill & Sherri Stout, Julie Stout, Betty Burnet, Carrie Claus, Dorothy Long, Bailey Law, Pr. Myers, Maurice Grove, Nancy Roschli, Margaret and Jerry Shank, Jim McNicholas, Aunt Marie, Joan Evans, Steve Norman, Austin Phoebus, Joan & John Kusick, Robin Sealover, Kaidyn Jamison, Lennard Beecher, Jumela Beecher, Seth Bates, Siloa Lutheran Church, Steve White, Margret Krebbal, Frank Gailitz, Dan Gnau, Paula Feldman, Dolly Suiratt, Talu Elvove Arikan, Jim Bair, Craig Perry Beel, Joyce Craig, Aston Dean, Kattie Hale, Carolyn Lynch, Ray Morrison, Nicole Phelps, Kim Scott, Natalie Szparza, Pat Ward, Curtis Waters, Jason Whitney, Karen Wiley, Nick Wingate, and Jeanie Z., Will & Bernadine Boyce, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Bill Gohl.

Please contact Lynn Cox or Pastor with updates concerning the prayer list.

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