

Welcome to Worship at

Salem Lutheran Church

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15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 13, 2020

Gathering

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

WOV pg. 46

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.

You are the treasured people of the LORD,
a people holy to the LORD our God.

Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.
**Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away,
when you lie down and when you rise.**

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

The Word

FIRST LESSON:

Genesis 50:15-21

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God?"

Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.” In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM:

Psalms 103:8-13

LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;
you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever.

You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities.

For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.

As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion for his children, so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

REFRAIN: Lord, you are full of compassion and mercy.

SECOND LESSON:

Romans 14:1-12

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the

judgment seat of God. For it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.” So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SPOTLIGHT ON SCRIPTURE

GOSPEL:

Matthew 18:21-35

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Peter came and said to Jesus, “Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON:

“Give ‘Till It Hurts”

Rev. Susan Odegard

HYMN OF THE DAY

HYMN #359

“Where Charity and Love Prevail”

CREED AND CONFESSION

WOV pg. 49

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

Prayer

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

You welcome us when we are weak in faith. Uphold your church throughout the world; make it a place of welcome. Strengthen faith through Bible studies and Sunday schools, confirmation classes and youth ministries. Nurture new ministries of education and growth. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The heights of the heavens show us the vastness of your steadfast love. Have compassion on your creation. Where human selfishness has brought ruin and destruction, we look to you to heal, renew, and redeem your world.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Make your ways known to the nations. Speak kindness to our bitter grudges. Settle our hearts when we want to settle accounts with violence. Bless our leaders with patience and wisdom. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Bring healing and justice wherever harm is dealt. Provide vindication for all who are oppressed. Free victims of human trafficking and forced

labor; deliver all who are bound by debt. Feed all who hunger, and guard refugees fleeing famine, poverty, and war.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Teach us to forgive. Remind us that you do not always accuse us. Still our tongues when we are tempted to pass judgment and argue over opinions. Make this congregation a community of mercy for one another and for all our neighbors.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. We thank you for those who have showed us faithfulness, for the knees that taught us how to bow to you and the tongues that taught us to praise you.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Meal

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to His disciples saying:

“Take and eat; this is My body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of Me.” Again, after the supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink,

saying: “This cup is the new covenant in My blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of Me.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION



POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Sending

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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PRAYER CONCERNS

Billie Aderman
Gail Auerbach (*sister-in-law of Diane Brandt*)
Curt Atkinson (*friend of Alison Ricci*)
Judy Bever (*niece of Joan Foley*)
Rhiannon Bauer (*friend of Pastor Sue & Larry Odegard*)
Delores Brandt (*mother of Dan Brandt*)
Ellenore Crimmins (*great-granddaughter of Margaret Jones*)
Levi Cooper
Jerry Curtis
Mike Flach (*nephew of Mavis Flach*)
Sherry Friel
Doug & Shirley Gallop
Jerry Goveronski (*son-in-law of Margaret Jones*)
Stacey Hanson (*daughter-in-law of Craig & Brigitte Hanson*)
Roger Harrison
Jennifer Hinker (*daughter of Ralph & Carol Thompson*)
Addy Holmes (*friend of Alison Ricci*)
Jeff Jara (*son-in-law of Sharon Norstog*)
Tim Kennedy (*friend of Margaret Jones*)
Juany Kielley-Dahlen
Mark Krueger
Janie LaFave (*friend of Sandy Cardwell*)
Dave Lynch (*relative of Judy & Alison Ricci*)
Ashley Muench
Kak Reinhart (*mother of Mary Butler*)
Erin Schiesl (*daughter of Juany Kielley-Dahlen*)
Nadia & Kyla Schiesl (*granddaughters of Juany Kielley-Dahlen*)
Ann Stellrecht (*friend of Alison Ricci*)
Julyie Stephens & Family (*friends of Jerry & Juany Dahlen*)
Dawn Swan
Lee & Dotty Swan
Bobbie Tackett (*daughter of Craig & Brigitte Hanson*)
Connie Thate (*sister of Sandy Cardwell*)

For Our Servicemen and Women in the Military

Those Homebound and in Nursing Homes: Marilyn Boles,
Larry Fletcher, Anna Johnson, Donna Parker, Connie Richter,
Judee Rydberg