

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 6, 2020—9 a.m.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

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Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

THE 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, you know our problems and our weaknesses better than we ourselves. In your love and by your power help us in our confusion and, in spite of our weakness, make us firm in faith; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

BIBLE READING- Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. ¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste

away because of them; how then can we live?” ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Psalm 119:33-40

- ³³Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.
- ³⁴Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law;
I shall keep it with all my heart.
- ³⁵Make me go in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.
- ³⁶Incline my heart to your decrees
and not to unjust gain.
- ³⁷Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless;
give me life in your ways.
- ³⁸Fulfill your promise to your servant,
which you make to those who fear you.
- ³⁹Turn away the reproach which I dread,
because your judgments are good.
- ⁴⁰Behold, I long for your commandments;
in your righteousness preserve my life.

BIBLE READING- Romans 13:8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. ¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in

reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

GOSPEL – Matthew 18:15-20

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 18th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

MESSAGE- *Pastor Cynthia Hopp*

HYMN OF THE DAY- ELW#652 “Built on a Rock”

APOSTLES' CREED - (page 105 ELW)

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

A brief silence.

Unite your church, O God. Grant us the gifts of repentance and reconciliation. Bless the cooperative work of churches in this community. Strengthen ecumenical partnerships; guide the work of the Lutheran World Federation and the World Council of Churches. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Protect your creation, O God. Teach us ways that do not harm what you have entrusted to our care. Renew and enliven places suffering from drought, flood, storms, or pollution. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Turn nations and leaders from ways that lead to death. Shape new paths toward peace and cooperation, teaching us to recognize one another as neighbors. Guide legislators, civil servants, judges, and police toward laws that protect the well-being of all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Tend to all in need of your compassion. Hear the cries of those awaiting justice and those yearning for forgiveness. Give community to the lonely and neighbors to the outcast. Shelter all who are vulnerable in body, mind, or spirit: we pray especially for Ken Kruse, Ashley Schmit, Dawson Gross, John Hansen, Jason Norring, Chris Stoltzenberg, Scott Olson, Rachel Grunst, Evan Parker, Ruth Polz, Tom Julian, Jamison

Nestegard, Alice Michelson, Karen Grunst, and Steven Hansen. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the Gospel, we lift up our Missionaries: especially Doug & Barb Petersen and Members & Friends of Our Savior's: Angela Kummrow, Johnathan Hesseltine, Tricia Larson, Thomas, Levi, Jordon & Mitchell Lucht, Carroll Luhmann, Joan Lesch, Sam, Mary & Sara Kummrow. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sustain us in our work, O God, and give work to those who need it. Shape societies to ensure fair treatment for all who labor. Help us to love our neighbors in and through our work. 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 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 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

LORD'S PRAYER (page 112 ELW)

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.

THE INVITATION DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

BLESSING

May God give you courage to walk in the paths of peace, patience to outlast the troubles of the day, joy that radiates from the inside out, and love that erases barriers and heals wounds.

God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN- ELW#808 “Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song”

DISMISSAL

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

CHIMES & POSTLUDE

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE EXTEND our sympathy to the family and friends of Robert Frederick who recently passed away.

If you are interested in serving on the altar guild, please join us for an information and training session on September 27th directly following church.

For those of you who join us for worship on the radio or livestream and would still like to participate in communion, communion cups will be made available in the narthex during the weeks we have communion (1st and 3rd Sundays). If you are interested, please stop in during the week and find them located on a table in the narthex.

An open house bridal shower for Rachel Johnson will be held on Sunday, Sept 13, at 12:00 (noon) in the fellowship hall. Please bring recipes to share. Rachel and Andrew Hesse will be married on October 3. The couple is registered at Target, Amazon and Crate and Barrel.

Cheesy Turkey Dinner with curbside delivery will be served up at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Lakefield on Wednesday, September 16th from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Dinner includes a cheesy turkey sandwich, homemade cole slaw, baked beans, bag of chips, and a bar. Call ahead to place your order with Amy in the church office at 507-662-5718 on Monday, September 14th from 8:00-5:00. A freewill donation will be accepted. Orders will be delivered to your vehicle on the south side of Immanuel Lutheran Church, 604 Bush Street, Lakefield. Meal is sponsored by the Immanuel LWML.

Used Book Sale will take place on September 17-19 at the Blue Building Jackson County Fairgrounds. Proceeds of the sale assist the Jackson County Libraries in Jackson, Lakefield and Heron Lake with supplemental funds for programs, materials, and other “extras” for the

libraries. Face masks are required. For more information please see the flyer in the Concourse.