

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany



St. Luke Lutheran Church • Pastor Eric Hanson
9:30AM • February 20, 2022

Welcome and Announcements

Greeting *(please stand as you are able)*

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

C: **And also with you.**

Confession and Forgiveness:

P: We confess our sins together, in the name of the Father, and of the Son +, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **God of all Mercy, come to our aid. When we hide brokenness and only show you wholeness, forgive us. When we cover shame and guilt with pride and pretense, forgive us. When we point out the speck in our neighbor's eye but ignore the log in our own eye, forgive us. When we choose old, harmful ways of living over new, life-giving ways, forgive us. Transform us by the power of your Spirit, Lord God, & make us New.**

P: Children of God, God loved us even when we were dead in sin, & makes us new through Jesus Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Live as people set free. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: *"God, We Gather As Your People"* Pianist, *Debbi St. John*

Vs 1: **God, we gather as your people to raise our song above, and we dare to claim the promise of your love. Though the day may not yet be here, we trust it soon will be, when your children will be free.**

Refrain: **Oh, may our hearts and minds be opened, fling the church doors open wide.**

May there be room enough for ev'ryone inside. For in God there is a welcome, in God we all belong. May that welcome be our song.

Vs 2: **Oh, we sing for all the children, that one day they be free; and we sing for generations yet to be, that they never have a reason to doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest. [Refrain]**

Vs 3: **Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear & shame, so afraid of who they are & whom they love. May the message now be banished that your love is for the few; may their faith in you renew. [Refrain]**

Vs 4: **God, we're working for the future when children far & wide can live their lives with dignity and pride. As they grow in strength & stature, may they join us hand in hand, as against all hate we stand. [Refrain]**

Prayer of the Day: P: Let us pray together,

C: **O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever Amen.**

First Reading - 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 ³⁵But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?" ³⁶How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed he gives its own body. ⁴²So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; ⁴³it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; ⁴⁴it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being" the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was of the dust of the earth; the second man is of heaven. ⁴⁸As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the heavenly man, so also are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹And just as we have borne the image of the earthly man, so shall we bear the image of the heavenly man. ⁵⁰I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Gospel Acclamation: *"Hallelujah"* *(Stand as you are able)*

Refrain: Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah 2X

Gospel Reading - Luke 6:27-38 ²⁷“But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. ³⁰Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. ³³And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. ³⁴And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. ³⁸Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

P: This is the Word of our Lord, **C: Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message: *Pastor Eric Hanson*

Sermon: *Pastor Eric Hanson*

Hymn of the Day: *“Day By Day”* #790

**Vs 1: Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me, bringing comfort to my anxious soul.
Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me draw me nearer to my heav’nly goal.
Love divine, beyond all mortal measure, brings to naught the burdens of my quest;
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure, where at last I’ll find eternal rest.**

**Vs 2: Day by day, I know you will provide me strength to serve and wisdom to obey;
I will seek your loving will to guide me o’er the paths I struggle day by day.
I will fear no evil of the morrow, I will trust in your enduring grace.
Savior, help me bear life’s pain and sorrow till in glory I behold your face.**

**Vs 3: Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my burdens grow too great to bear;
oh, what joy to know that you will hear me when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.
Day by day, no matter what betide me, you will hold me ever in your hand.
Savior, with your presence here to guide me, I will reach at last the promised land.**

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, & 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, & he will come to judge the living & 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, & the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers: *(call and response)*

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made. *A brief silence.* You teach us to love our neighbors and enemies alike. Encourage your church to follow the leading of your love, especially when it is risky or difficult. Help us to show mercy just as we have first received mercy. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Nurture fields that lie dormant, resting until it is time to bloom again. Bless farmers and all who cultivate fields and urban gardens. Give favorable weather for planting. Bring forth from buried seed an abundant harvest, and guard against famine and disease. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Look upon our world with mercy, that we delight in an abundance of peace. Protect all whose lives are marred by war and civil unrest. Release political prisoners and amplify the voices that challenge us to seek forgiveness and pursue nonviolence. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your people cry out for mercy. Console hearts that long for forgiveness. Mend broken relationships. Heal bodies that suffer chronic pain or illness. Strengthen and deliver all whose spirits are troubled especially; Keith Brown, Kathy Nardinger, Dolly Mensink, Finley Budensiek, Sara Nolte, Deb Huneke, Roger Kurtti, Rich & Sue Majerus, Judy Carpenter, Donald & Nancy Nord, Ben Haenel, Larry Reese, Jim Wilcox, Barb Maher, and the family of Dean Kirkland. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

You bind us together into one family. Teach us to forgive one another & to resolve conflicts with humility & patience. Bless families of all shapes & sizes, & show love to those who are lonely or grieving. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We praise you for the saints who have inherited the fullness of your kingdom. As you have raised them to imperishable and eternal life, sustain us in faith by the promise of resurrection. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

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.**

Sharing the Peace: P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.

Offertory Prayer: P: Let us pray together,

C: Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving: P: The Lord be with you C: And also with you P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord. P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: It is right to give Him thanks & praise.

The Words of Institution

The Meal & Hymns: *"There Is A Balm In Gilead"* #614

Chorus: There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole:
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul.

Verse 1: Sometimes I feel discouraged. And think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again [Chorus]

Verse 2: If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus and say, "He died for all." [Chorus]

Verse 3: Don't ever be discouraged, for Jesus is your friend; and if you lack for knowledge,
he'll ne'er refuse to lend. [Chorus]

"Old Rugged Cross"

Vs 1: On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest & best for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain: So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.

Vs 2: O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world, has a wondrous attraction for
me; for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above to bear it to dark Calvary. [Refrain]

Vs 3: In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine, a wondrous beauty I see,
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died, to pardon and sanctify me. [Refrain]

Vs 4: To that old rugged cross I will ever be true, its shame and reproach gladly bear;
then he'll call me some day to my home far away, where his glory forever I'll share. [Refrain]

Communion Prayer: P: Let us pray together,

C: We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news & to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Blessing: *(Please stand as you are able.)* P: May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: *"Go My Children, With My Blessing"* #543

Vs 1: Go, My children, with My blessing, never alone; Walking, sleeping, I am with you, you are My own.
In My love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever. Go, My children with My blessing, you are My own.

Vs 2: Go, My children, sins forgiven, at peace & pure. Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure. Here you
heard My dear Son's story, Here you touched Him, saw His glory. Go, My children, sins forgiven, at peace & pure.

Vs 3: Go, My children, fed & nourished, closer to Me; Grow in love & love by serving, joyful & free. Here My
Spirit's power filled you, here His tender comfort stilled you. Go, My children, fed & nourished, joyful & free.

Vs 4: I the Lord will bless & keep you & give you peace. I the Lord will smile upon you & give you peace. I the
Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter & Brother. Go, My children, I will keep you & give you peace.

Dismissal: P: Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news. C: Thanks be to God!

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