

**Our Savior Lutheran Church
Sunday, July 18, 2021
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

Thought: Our purpose in life is more than busy-ness and productivity by which we may seek to justify our lives and distinguish ourselves from others. We are called to unity and a willingness to become the people, and the community, where God may build a home and dwell among us. Psalm 23 says “the Lord is our Shepherd,” but in Christ we have been blessed to be both – Sheep and Shepherd.



Prelude – Lillian Pinkston

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

Call to Worship

A: Come, let us gather to offer God our praise and thanksgiving.

C: Here we will remember the blessings God has bestowed upon us through Christ.

A: Here we will claim the gift of hope and the promise of peace.

C: Here we will join together as members of the household of God.

A: Let us join in worship with great joy and hope!

Gathering Hymn – O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts (WAREHAM)

<https://youtu.be/2dSgeLw625s>

Lillian Pinkston (two verses) ELW #658

*O Jesus, joy of loving hearts, the fount of life, the light of all;
from every bliss that earth imparts we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.*

*We taste you, ever-living bread, and long to feast upon you still;
we drink of you, the fountain-head; our thirsting souls from you we fill.*

Invocation

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

P: The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.

C: “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

P: Let us confess our sins to our good Shepherd, seeking his divine compassion.

Silence for meditation and self-examination

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess to you with contrite hearts that we have sinned. Our thoughts, our words, our deeds condemn us. We have wandered far from your paths of righteousness. For the sake of the innocent suffering and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, we plead for mercy. Forgive our sins that we may follow where you lead, and dwell in your house forever.

P: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end. For the sake of Jesus Christ, your compassionate Shepherd, your sins are forgiven.

C: Thanks be to God! Amen.

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.

Kyrie

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

For the people 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 and Amen!

Hymn of Praise – You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

(words are on the screen)

<https://youtu.be/2nVw9CQresQ>

Prayer of the Day

A: We are like sheep, O God...

C: Without guidance we cannot think what is right.

A: We are like sheep without a shepherd, O God...

C: without a shepherd we cannot do what is right.

A: Send your Holy Spirit into this your flock, O God –

C: the powerful Spirit of Jesus, our Good Shepherd.

A: Have compassion on your sheep

C: and lead us.

A: Through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now...

C: and forever. Amen.

The Word

Old Testament reading – Jeremiah 23:1-6

Shepherd over the Sheep and none will be missing

23 Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. ² Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

⁵ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The Lord is our righteousness.”

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

Psalm 23

And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever

The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

**² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;**

³ he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.

**⁴ Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.**

⁵ You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

**⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.**

Epistle reading – Ephesians 2:11-22

*Christ as cornerstone in whom you also are built together spiritually
into a dwelling place for God.*

¹¹ So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—¹² remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵ He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷ So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸ for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰ built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²² in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel – Mark 6:30-34

Jesus had compassion, for they were like sheep without a shepherd

<https://youtu.be/AfWtt1dacvA>

The Holy Gospel according to Mark. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁰ The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹ He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³² And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³ Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴ As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

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

Children’s Time

<https://youtu.be/AsozRn35JfE>

Homily – Pastor Barnes: “It’s a Shepherding Thing!”

<https://youtu.be/neHtKgRBVro>

Music for the Day – Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead us

(Joslin Grove Choir)

<https://youtu.be/DrxxmObv2-s>

Lillian Pinkston (2 verses) ELW #789

*Savior like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us, for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us; we are yours.*

*We are yours; in love befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
keep your flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear us children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear us children when we pray.*

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

P: Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A: Tend your church, O God. Encourage bishops, pastors, and deacons in their proclamation of the gospel. Raise up new leaders and encourage those pursuing a call to ministry. Embolden all the baptized to embody your love and justice. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Restore your creation, O God. Sustain croplands and pastures and safeguard all farm animals and livestock. Preserve lakes, rivers, and streams that offer refreshment. Revive lands recovering from natural disasters and protect coastlands threatened by rising oceans. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Reconcile the nations, O God. Break down the dividing walls that make us strangers to one another and unite us as one human family. Equip leaders to deal wisely with conflict and guide diplomats who seek peaceful solutions. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Heal your people, O God. Look with compassion on immigrants, exiles, and all who are afraid or feel lost. Give rest to those who are weary, comfort to those who are grieving, and recovery to those who are ill. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: Nourish this congregation, O God. Prepare a table where we receive food for our hungering spirits. Renew our commitment to provide for one another and revitalize our ministries of feeding and nurturing hungry neighbors. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: You lead us home, O God. We give thanks for all who have died, now citizens with the saints. As you have received them into your heavenly home, so welcome all of us to dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Offering and Offertory Prayer

A: Into our midst you have sent Your Son, heavenly Father.

C: Into your flock you have sent a Shepherd.

A: Guide us even now...

C: ...even in our giving...

A: ...that we may know and do your will.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise

Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...

O God of resurrection and new life; Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast.

Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

Lamb of God

<https://youtu.be/LcgpnvQPoaQ>

Words of Institution

The 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,

the power and the glory,

for ever and ever.

Amen.

Distribution

Communion Music - Lillian Pinkston

OR

https://youtu.be/JgHxVHUO_PU

Here is Bread, Here is Wine – Graham Kendrick

Post Communion Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

A: You have come to your sheep, O Shepherd –

C: You have led us to this table. You have fed us rich food.

A: Continue to guide us, O Shepherd.

C: Continue to lead your sheep.

A: We bless you now and evermore.

C: Amen.

Benediction – Numbers 6

Sending Music – Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus (Lutheran Quartet)

<https://youtu.be/sQqPLU9YIF4>

Lillian Pinkston (*one verse*) ELW #802

*Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow his example pure,
through a world that would deceive us and to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in his footsteps treading, trav'lers here, our home above,
full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Savior's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where you guide.*

Dismissal

A: As sheep and shepherd, guide us to be fed and nourished
with your Word to share with others.

**C: The Lord is our Shepherd and will guide us where we need to go.
Thanks be to God!**

Postlude – Lillian Pinkston

