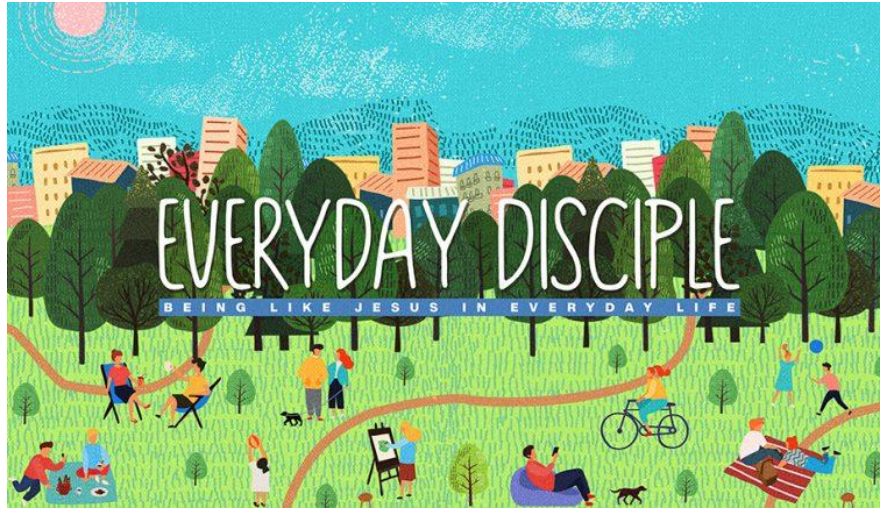


**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
June 25, 2023
Our Savior Lutheran Church**



Thought: When a faith struggle comes, the appropriate question may be whether the battle is properly large. Faith is not a call to passivity. It is a call to be bold and fearless in the service of the one who stood unflinching before rulers. We are called to faithful witnesses with the assurance that as we claim Christ, so we will be claimed.

Prelude – Jill Rimington

Announcements

Prayers Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

P: Blessed are the peacemakers! So we share the peace with one another. Peace be with you!

C: **And also with you.**

Call to Worship

A: The hearts of your people delight in your presence, O God,

C: For you are good and forgiving, and your love for us seems to know no bounds.

A: So again in this time of worship, give ear to our songs and our praise,

C: And once more hear the prayers which we lift to you.

-based on Psalm 86

Gathering Hymn – “Lead On, O King Eternal!” ELW #805

<https://youtu.be/GzIponYvF30>

by Dr. Terry Morris

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son + and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Eternal God, how weary you must be of the war trumpets and the clash of swords. How have you been able to watch the carnage people have inflicted upon one another since the day Cain raised his hand against Abel?

C: We have failed you O God. We have failed you in the global conflicts of our time, settling for war instead of pressing on in the ways of peace. We have failed you in our individual lives, as we resort to angry words and uncaring deeds instead of being agents of reconciliation and peace. Forgive us.

P: By the love and peace of heart, Jesus forgives your sins. We pray, do for us what we have not done for others, and in your undeserved graciousness, help us to see that life does not have to be what it is.

C: Amen.

Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

The 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 peace 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 - ELW #801

<https://youtu.be/CEtsHWFE6-w>

by Eddie Espinosa

Change My Heart, O God



Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.



Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay.



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953
Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa
Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. Music Services

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

Prayer of the Day

A: Saved by your redeeming, empowered by your Holy Spirit, we await your sending, O God.

C: For the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.

A: Send us out, O God –

C: to trample this world's demons, to heal this world's illnesses...

A: and so much more –

C: to proclaim your promises to all people, everywhere.

A: Send us out, O God, for service. 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 20:7-13

The prophet must speak despite opposition – without and within

⁷O LORD, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me.⁸For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction! "For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long.⁹If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name, "then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.¹⁰For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him! "All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him."¹¹But the

LORD is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.¹²O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.¹³Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

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

Psalm 69:7-10; 16-18

Answer me, O Lord, for your love is kind

⁷Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach, and shame has covered my face.

⁸I have become a stranger to my own kindred, an alien to my mother's children.

⁹Zeal for your house has eaten me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

¹⁰I humbled myself with fasting, but that was turned to my reproach.

¹¹ put on sackcloth also, and became a byword among them.

¹²Those who sit at the gate murmur against me, and the drunkards make songs about me.

¹³But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set, O LORD: "In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

¹⁴Save me from the mire; do not let me sink; let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.

¹⁵Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swallow me up; do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.

¹⁶Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind; in your great compassion, turn to me.

¹⁷Hide not your face from your servant; be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

¹⁸Draw near to me and redeem me; because of my enemies deliver me

Epistle reading – Romans 6:1-11

So we too might walk in newness of life

^{1b}Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to

God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

Holy Gospel – Matthew 10:24-39

<https://youtu.be/sbD7cYGHsmY>

What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the twelve:] ²⁴“A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household! ²⁶“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³²“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven. ³⁴“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; ³⁶and one’s foes will be members of

one's own household. ³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

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

Children of God Time

<https://youtu.be/TAYT3BHQOmk>

Message – *“Don't Be Afraid of Discipleship”*

https://youtu.be/0ZANYBIII_c

Hymn of the Day – “Be Still My Soul” (see insert)

<https://youtu.be/kgKVFYD8Obc>

by Eclipse 6

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: Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

A brief silence.

A: You entice your church to speak truth that challenges false notions of peace. Prevail upon us with the good news of Christ's death and resurrection, that we are compelled to share the gospel with all the world. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Under your watch not even a sparrow goes unnoticed. Safeguard plant and animal habitats threatened by melting glaciers, rising oceans, and receding coastlines. Amplify the voices of those calling for responsible stewardship of the earth's resources. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Our world is enduring violence and destruction. Rescue your people in nations experiencing conflict or crisis (*especially*). Thwart the efforts of those who sow chaos and terror, and guide those working to bring about peace and reconciliation. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: You have counted even the hairs of our heads. Reassure anyone experiencing poverty, homelessness, unemployment, or exploitation that every life has value. Look favorably upon all who struggle (*especially*). Answer us, for your steadfast love is good. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Even when we experience rejection your love invites us to new life. Lift up anyone who feels shunned or excluded on account of their gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, or any other human distinction. Make your people one. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: All who have died with Christ also live with him. We give thanks for (*Philipp Melancthon and*) all the saints whose faithful confession inspired our own discipleship, and raise us, with them, to eternal life. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Offering Music – “Now Thank We All Our God” ELW #840

Offertory Prayer

A: Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation.

C: Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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 our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus

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,

and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

Distribution

Communion Music – Jill Rimington

Post Communion Blessing – Pastor

Post Communion Prayer

A: While we were still sinners, O Christ, you died for us.

C: At this table we remember your death,

A: We are empowered for service,

C: and we look to the feast to come.

A: We bless you now and evermore.

C: Amen.

Benediction from Numbers 6

Sending Hymn “If You But Trust in God to Guide You”

ELW #769

<https://youtu.be/9llzx0-Sdrk>

by First-Plymouth Church

Dismissal

A: Help us to be the voice and presence of Jesus in this world, so
we may share God’s Word with others.

C: Strengthened, we go to serve!

Postlude – Jill Rimington

