

Taking The Next Faithful Step
October 1, 2023
Walking with Jesus as we move forward one step at a time



Thought: Genesis 12: 1-4 Now *the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.*

Hebrews 11:8 *By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going.*

Together as God’s children at Our Savior Lutheran, we “take the next faithful step,” not always knowing, but trusting in the call of God.

Prelude – Lillian Pinkston

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

Call to Worship

A: All that we are is a gift from God.

C: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it.

A: All that we have is a gift from God.

C: The world, and those who live in it.

A: There are no words to describe the wonders of God's creation

C: For God has founded it on the seas.

A: Rejoice as we join together in praise for God's great gifts.

C: God established it on the rivers.

Stewardship Hymn – “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” ELW #802

https://youtu.be/xMsXV_3vujg
by First-Plymouth Church

Invocation

Prayer of Confession and Pardon

P: Acknowledging that in our sin we have neglected and rejected gifts that have been provided by God, let us confess our sins together.

A time of silence for reflection

P: God of grace, you have called us to walk with you in our living. Yet, we often hold back part for worldly pursuits.

C: Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

P: You have given us the gift of time. You give us time to serve, time to learn, time to grow, time to follow and share. We spend our time serving self.

C: Lord, in our mercy, forgive us.

P: You provide us with opportunity to serve in numerous ways using our talents and abilities we have been given. We tend to hide our gifts.

C: Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

P: You have provided even the least among us with more financial resources than most of the world. We resist sharing because of fear for the future. God says, "go where I will send you."

C: Lord in your mercy, forgive us.

P: You have provided us with a beautiful creation to enjoy. We take it for granted and abuse this incredible earth.

C: Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

Assurance of Pardon

P: While God knows our sin, God also hears our cries. In our sin, God still reaches out to forgive and restore us.

C: "Let us Ever Walk with Jesus" thanks be to God and Amen.

Hymn of Praise – "Take My Life, That I May Be"

ELW #685 Vss. 1&2

<https://youtu.be/FN3OaZJaNEE>

by David and Noelle

Prayer of the Day

A: Quicken, O Lord, we pray you, all members of your church, that we may be alive to the opportunities and responsibilities of our times.

C: Save us from complacency and from fear of new way; inspire our minds with the hope of your kingdom; give us joy in what lies before us; and stir our wills to pray and to work until your will is one on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

The Word

Taking the Next Faithful Step – Joshua 1:9 *Be strong and of good courage...for the Lord God is with you wherever you go.*

Psalm 25:1-9

My God, I put my trust in you

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

²**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

³Let none who look to you be put to shame ;rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

⁴**Show me your ways, O LORD, AND teach me your paths.**

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

⁶**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

**⁸You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners |
in your way.**

⁹You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

Philippians 2:1-13

https://youtu.be/O0T5FZUAuGY?si=x2LrXjm7_BW3GzkT

*Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus – The Next Faithful
Step*

¹If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. ¹²Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure

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

Holy Gospel – Matthew 21:23-32

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

Changing your mind

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

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

Childrens Message

<https://youtu.be/AsP260GDUCg?si=riqxEB6lpmU7prPn>

Message – “Taking The Next Faithful Step – be of the same mind”

<https://youtu.be/xL8LCh9ZgZk?si=2i5tIsQ48vd1zIKT>

**Hymn of the Day – “Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”
ELW #772**

<https://youtu.be/3j7leWli4Wc>
by Sherman Oaks Lutheran

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: Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

A: We put our trust in you as we pray for the church. Give bishops, pastors, deacons, and teachers the gifts of wisdom and discernment. Be with them in bold truth and faithful witness. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Lead us in your truth as we pray for creation. Empower us to look to the interests of others as we make choices that impact the environment. Summon us to be advocates for healthy waterways, habitats, and air. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Lead us in justice as we pray for those in government, the military, and other positions of authority (*local and national leaders may be named*). Give them humble and willing hearts, looking to the needs of others. We pray also for our enemies. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Trusting your goodness, we pray for all caregivers and people who are sick or suffering in any way (*especially*). Give them encouragement and consolation in your presence. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: Teach us your paths as we pray for this congregation. Be at work in us and unite us in your love as we labor together for the sake of the gospel. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: We give thanks for all the saints who died secure in the knowledge of salvation. Keep us fearless in our faith and certain of your resurrection. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Offering

Offertory Music – “Change My Heart, O God” ELW #801

<https://youtu.be/DwudqCO7mSQ>

by Brian Bontes

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 your 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...

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.

Consecration

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 – Lillian Pinkston

Post Communion Blessing – Pastor

Post Communion Prayer

A: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people.

C: Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Benediction from Numbers 6 – Pastor

Sending Hymn – “Praise and Thanksgiving” ELW #689

<https://youtu.be/Ef1as5GTI5k>
by Chet Valley Churches

Dismissal

A: Let us take the next faithful step, sharing Christ with others.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude – Lillian Pinkston



WE WALK
by
Faith
Not by sight