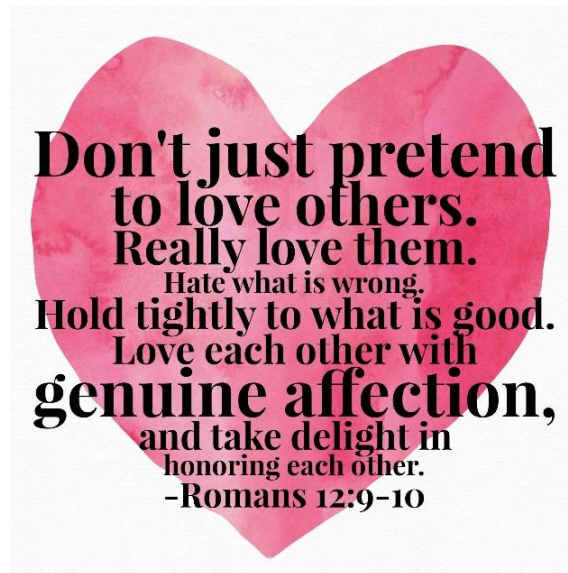


**A Recipe for Love
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Sunday, September 3, 2023
14th Sunday after Pentecost**



Thought:

It is human nature to seek the easy way. Jesus tells us God's way is different. Peter represents each person who wants her or his religious experience to be more convenience than commitment.

St. Paul reminds us to "hold fast to what is good" and "rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

The best revenge is kindness. The best response is love.

Prelude – Lillian Pinkston

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer Concerns

Sharing of the Peace

P: Through God's love in us, we share the peace. The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Call to Worship

A: We gather, as those called to worship God.

C: We gather, as those called to follow Christ.

A: We gather, as those empowered by Spirit.

C: We gather, that we may be scattered in service and witness as we love one another.

(adapted from Psalm 117)

Gathering Hymn – “How Great Thou Art” ELW 856
(Meri)

<https://youtu.be/p-hvI1nbS80>
by Hillsong sung by Lauren Daigle

Invocation

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us,
+Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Let us bow before God in humility, confession our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Steadfast and faithful God,

**C: you have revealed the ways of justice,
Yet we fail to follow you.**

We are overwhelmed by the world’s violence and suffering.

We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.

For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.

For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.

For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;

in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ,
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
In +Christ, you are already and always forgiven.
Amen.

Hymn of Praise – “This Is My Song” ELW #887
(Larry)
<https://youtu.be/M-zsFOa-IQ4>
by First-Plymouth Church

Prayer of the Day

A: O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world.

C: Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Word

Old Testament reading – Jeremiah 15:15-21

For I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord

¹⁵O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. ¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name LORD, God of hosts. ⁷I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. ¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them.

²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save

you and deliver you, says the LORD.²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

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

Psalm 26:1-8

Test me, O Lord, and try me; examine my heart and my mind

¹Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

²**Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.**

³For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴**I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

⁵I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶**I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, that I may go in procession around your altar,**

⁷singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸**LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.**

Epistle reading – Romans 12:9-21

https://youtu.be/Us5jcqeH_NY?si=L6L26M6TKo7hPfIZ

Hold fast to what is good

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty,

but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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

Holy Gospel – Matthew 16:21-28

<https://youtu.be/fg8DG2uYLxU?si=IUS4bkBmVUklzXT5>

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

You are not setting your mind on divine things but on human things

²¹From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? ²⁷"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."
chosen one. ^{45b} Hallelujah!

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

Children of God Time

<https://youtu.be/gXcG6u4dixQ?si=GXg5UhBrLSEYlil2>

Message – “Are You Out of Your Mind!”

https://youtu.be/XqqNOE1iP6o?si=zKXvf-CPkB_4cLg4

Hymn of the Day – “Will You Come and Follow Me”

ELW #798

<https://youtu.be/S-Bq1YtpQL8>

by Joy Everingham

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: God of life, your words are the joy at the heart of your church. Draw the seeker to you, place messages of hope and healing in the mouths of your witnesses, and open your children to your truth when we stumble. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God of steadfast love, renew the earth by your Spirit, that lands and oceans reveal the beauty of your creation. Challenge us to live humbly and peaceably as part of your world. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God of patience, lead those who govern to hold fast to what is good. Guide them to show honor to the people in their care. Overcome evil in all nations and grant peace to peoples and places mired in conflict (*especially*). Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God of deliverance, remember all who are suffering, lonely, and in pain. Liberate your people being insulted, persecuted, or in the grasp of the ruthless. Give endurance to workers who persevere on this Labor Day and insure fair wages and safe working environments. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

A: God of justice, equip this congregation to boldly follow you in uncertain times and to remain faithful in prayer when facing challenges. Show us how best to love and care for one another and our communities. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: God of glory, we give thanks for the saints who now dwell with you in splendor (*especially*). Nurture us in faith until the day we join their heavenly song. 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 - "As the Deer Pants" Worship and Praise #9
(Melanie)

<https://youtu.be/FBppKZ0eJIQ>

by Robin Mark

Offertory Prayer

A: Eternal Father, your Son bids us give up our lives.

C: Your Son bids us DIE to self. "For those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

A: We offer these things to you, O Father.

C: With them we offer our lives.

A: 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 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...

Holy God,

we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

Consecration

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Distribution

Communion Music – Lillian Pinkston

Communion Blessing – Pastor

Post Communion Prayer

A: O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son.

C: By your spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Benediction from Numbers 6 – Pastor

Sending Hymn – “It Is Well With My Soul” ELW # 785
(Rita)

<https://youtu.be/Eg5O2y1UXw4>
by Mormon Tabernacle Choir

Dismissal

A: Go in Peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God

Postlude – Lillian Pinkston

