

Our Savior Lutheran Church  
August 7, 2022  
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



**Thought:** A Journey unknown and yet known! One of my favorite passages is from Hebrews: *Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.* Abraham at 75 set out on a journey, “not knowing where he was going,” but knew who had called him to go.

Are you “packed” and ready for the journey as God calls you to go? Do you live by your “faith convictions?”

**Prelude** - Lillian Pinkston

## Welcome and Announcements

### Prayer Concerns Sharing of the Peace

**P:** May your faith-walk bring you peace each day!

**C:** Faith and Peace be to you as well!

### Call to Worship

**A:** Gracious God, help us find faith

**C:** And let faith find us!

**A:** O God; we pray for vision and discernment in our spiritual walk with you.

**C:** Give us the wisdom to employ our gifts for good and give us the faith to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

**A:** Come into the Lord's presence with glad and generous hearts as we thank God for God's creation.

**C:** And may we thank God for our place in God's creation. Amen and thanks be to God for God's faith and for ours!

**Gathering Hymn** - "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"      ELW # 733

<https://youtu.be/2eQ1oal44wU>

Great Is Thy Faithfulness - Austin Stone Worship

### Invocation

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

**C:** Amen.

## Prayer of Confession and Forgiveness

**P:** Holy God, make us a congregation willing to step out in faith and assist those who need our help.

**C:** Give us the courage to open our arms and surround others with compassion even as we often struggle to comprehend the incomprehensible. Make us mighty in faith as you made Abraham and Sarah. Forgive us we pray. Inspire us as a community in Christ that embraces unity, rather than division; humility rather than pride - all in the faith of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

**P:** The Lord has put within our hearts a spirit of truth; faith; and holiness. Embrace that spirit as God's forgiven and redeemed people. In the name of Christ you are forgiven. Thanks be to God. 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.

## 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.

**C:** 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.

**C:** Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen and Amen.**

**Hymn of Praise** - “Now Thank We All Our God”      ELW # 840

<https://youtu.be/lmJtef10DWw>

Now Thank We All Our God - First-Plymouth Church

### **Prayer of the Day**

**A:** Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church.

**C:** Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you whenever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### **The Word**

Old Testament reading - Genesis 15:1-6

*God's promise of a child for Abram and Sarai*

<sup>1</sup>After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” <sup>4</sup>But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” <sup>5</sup>He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then

he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” <sup>6</sup>And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

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

**Psalm 33:12-22**

*Let your loving kindness be upon us, as we place our hope in you.*

<sup>12</sup>Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! Happy the people chosen to <sup>1</sup> be God’s heritage!

<sup>13</sup>**The LORD looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.**

<sup>14</sup>God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.

<sup>15</sup>**God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.**

<sup>16</sup>A king is not saved by the size of the army, nor are warriors rescued by <sup>1</sup> their great strength.

<sup>17</sup>**The horse gives vain hope for victory; despite its great strength it cannot save.**

<sup>18</sup>Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD, upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

<sup>19</sup>**to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine.**

<sup>20</sup>Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD, our helper and our shield.

<sup>21</sup>**Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.**

<sup>22</sup>Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.

**Epistle reading - Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16**

<https://youtu.be/OkPBvFaTguM>

*Faith that is both assurance and conviction no matter what we face*

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

<sup>13</sup>All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup>for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

## **Holy Gospel - Luke 12:32-40**

*Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and lives fully into God's reign*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to You O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>32</sup>“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup>“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup>be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup>Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup>If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup>“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

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

**Time for the Children of God**

<https://youtu.be/pLA84y5a2D0>

**Homily - “The Venture of Faith”**

<https://youtu.be/YRBdkbI4vYk>

**Pastor Stephen Barnes**

Hymn of the Day - "Bless Now, O God, the Journey" ELW # 326

<https://youtu.be/zoBqp2ZTbb4>

Bless Now, O God, the Journey - Resurrection Lutheran Church

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 extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

**A:** Let your lovingkindness be upon your church. Fill all who proclaim the gospel with your Spirit. Equip your flock to speak your word of promise and hope in the midst of fear and uncertainty. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

**A:** Let your lovingkindness be upon your creation. Dwell among us and sustain our earthly home. In places of famine, provide nourishment. In places of plenty, fashion us to be good stewards of your bounty. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

**A:** Let your lovingkindness be upon your world. Be our helper and our shield in places torn by strife and violence (*especially*). Raise up courageous leaders to govern with compassion and justice. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

**A:** Let your lovingkindness be upon your children. Look upon all who wait for your steadfast love. Console those who grieve and embrace those who cry out to you (*especially*). Help us to trust your promise and not be afraid. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

**A:** Let your lovingkindness be upon this community. Fashion our hearts to strive for the way of peace. Strengthen the outreach ministries of this congregation (*specific ministries may be named*) and all who care for those in need. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A: With thanksgiving we remember all who have died in faith and now rest in you. As they placed their hope in you, so strengthen us to trust in your promise of new life. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

**Amen.**

### Offering and Offertory Prayer

A: Merciful God, your word like fire, burns in our hearts.

**C: Faith like fire, is kindled in your world.**

A: For the gift of your word - printed in Bibles, shared among us, alive in Christ Jesus -

**C: and for all your good and gracious gifts, we thank you now.**

A: Accept the gifts we bring this day.

**C: They are products of our faith journey.**

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.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: 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.**

### 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 - Lillian Pinkston

Post Communion Blessing - Pastor

### Post Communion Prayer

A: Lord Jesus Christ, you came to bring salvation and life at an unexpected time.

C: As we have the conviction and assurance of faith received from this meal, help us to continue.

A: Give us both the ability and the determination to carry it with us -

C: into our lives - into your world. Make us your torchbearers.

A: You are the Lord forevermore.

C: Amen.

### Benedictions - from Numbers 6

Sending Hymn - "On Our Way Rejoicing" ELW # 537

<https://youtu.be/HK8RHLWzTIY>

On Our Way Rejoicing - Daily Hymns

### Dismissal

A: In ways yet unseen, we walk in assurance of our faith to serve.

C: We go to share our faith with others. Thanks be to God!

### Postlude - Lillian Pinkston

