

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Livermore, CA

September 6, 2020

Invocation

M In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

Confession of Sins

M Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Absolution

M God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen!

Prayer of the Day

M Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, give us an increase of faith, hope, and love; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

The Word

First Lesson

Exodus 6:2-8 | EHV

²Then God spoke to Moses, telling him, “I am the LORD. ³I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by my name, the LORD, I was not known to them. ⁴I also established my covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land where they were residing as aliens. ⁵I certainly have heard the groaning of the Israelites, whom the Egyptians have enslaved, and I have remembered my covenant.

⁶“Therefore tell the Israelites, ‘I am the LORD. I will bring you out from under the forced labor of the Egyptians. I will deliver you from being their slaves. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment. ⁷I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. You will know that I am the LORD your God, the one who brought you out from under the forced labor of the Egyptians. ⁸I will bring you to the land which I swore with uplifted hand to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. I will give it to you as a possession. I am the LORD.’”

Psalm of the Day

Psalms 34 | page 80, Red Hymnal

M Taste and see that the LORD is good;*

C **blesed are they who take refuge in him.**

M The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous*

C **and his ears are attentive to their cry.**

M The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him,*

C **and he delivers them.**

M The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them;*

C **he delivers them from all their troubles.**

M The LORD is close to the brokenhearted*

C **and saves those who are crushed in spirit.**

M The LORD redeems his servants;

C **no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.**

C *Glory be to the Father and to the Son**

and to the Holy Spirit,

*as it was in the beginning,**

is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Second Lesson

Romans 11:33-36 | EHV

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable are his judgments
and how untraceable his ways!

³⁴“For who has known the mind of the Lord,

or who has been his adviser?”

³⁵“Or who has first given to God
that he will be repaid?”

³⁶For from him and through him and to him are all things.
To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Verse of the Day

1 Timothy 1:10 | NIV84

Alleluia. Jesus Christ has destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. *Alleluia.*

Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20 | EHV

¹³When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?”

¹⁴They said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

¹⁵He said to them, “But you, who do you say that I am?”

¹⁶Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

¹⁷Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not overpower it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰Then he commanded the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

Sermon

Matthew 16:13-20

God's Great Guarantee

I. The Church is founded on Christ.

II. The Church will not be overcome.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated.

Prayer of the Church for the Season of Pentecost

The pastor says the Prayer of the Church.

The Lord's Prayer *Traditional Version*

G 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.

Benediction

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen



As We Resume Meeting In-Person, please keep the following in mind:

- The coronavirus did not go away. We are still in the midst of a pandemic. If you are not feeling well, or live with someone not feeling well, please stay home.
- Like with all public activities at this time in California and in Alameda County, facemasks will be required to be worn at all times.
- Social distancing is to be practiced. Seating will be spaced apart by households, and the building is only allowed 25% of capacity at this time.
- If gathering in the building is currently prohibited, we may be meeting outside. Please watch for announcements regarding this, and be aware that outdoor gatherings still have similar guidelines we are to follow. Also, take precautions for things like sun, wind, etc.
- Wash your hands frequently. Hand sanitizer is provided in the church entryway.
- There will not be fellowship coffee hour or Bible Class after church for the time-being. Any socializing before or after the service is to be done outside, with proper social distancing.
- There will be some changes to how Communion is served. See the instructions in the bulletin on those Sundays.

If you are high risk or uncomfortable coming out at this time, be aware that we plan on continuing our online services as we have been. Please take advantage of this. Thank you.

Pastor Natsis is available for spiritual care over the phone or e-mail (or in the case of emergency, in-person). Cell phone: 734-678-4475; parsonage phone: 925-583-5822;
e-mail address: mattnatsis@gmail.com

For further updates about our service schedule, see our website at www.goodshepherd-livermore.org.

God bless you during this time.