



September 11, 2022
Pentecost 14
Peace Lutheran Church of Plymouth



peaceofplymouth.org
3695 County Road 101 N, Plymouth, MN

GATHER

PRELUDE

Prelude on 'St. Columba'

Healey Willan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+GATHERING SONG

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

ELW 631

+CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

ONE: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

MANY: AMEN

ONE: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

MANY: AMEN

ONE: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection

ONE: Gracious God,

MANY: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

ONE: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthens you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

MANY: AMEN

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

ONE: O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion,

MANY: you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all the things that sustain our life -- and our life together.

ONE: We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

MANY: Amen.

WORD

First Reading

Exodus 32:7-14

While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people, and boldly asks for mercy for them.

7The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; 8they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" 9The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. 10Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

11But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? 12Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. 13Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'"

14And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Psalms

Psalms 51:1-10

1Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;

in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

2Wash me through and through from my wickedness,

and cleanse me from my sin.

3For I know my offenses,

and my sin is ever before me.

4Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;

so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment. R

5Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,

a sinner from my mother's womb.

6Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,

and would have me know wisdom deep within.

7Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

8Let me hear joy and gladness;

that the body you have broken may rejoice.

9Hide your face from my sins,

and blot out all my wickedness.

10Create in me a clean heart, O God,

and renew a right spirit within me.

Second Reading

1 Timothy 1:12-17

The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

12I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, 13even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, 14and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. 15The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. 16But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. 17To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Gospel

Luke 15:1-10

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.

1Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] 2And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

3So he told them this parable: 4“Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? 5When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. 6And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ 7Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

8“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? 9When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ 10Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Rev. Paul Lutter

SERMON

A More Merciful Way

Rev. Paul Lutter

+SONG OF THE DAY

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

ELW 502

ONE: With the whole church, let us confess our faith in the Triune God.

MANY: **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 Christ rose again;
 he ascended into heaven,
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 and 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**

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

+PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ONE: As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

A brief silence.

ONE: Your people receive mercy and your grace overflows in our lives. Fill your church with faith and love, and give understanding hearts to those who work to strengthen our ecumenical and interreligious commitments. God of grace,

MANY: hear our prayer.

ONE: Your creation groans as it suffers the impacts of pollution and lack of care. As the seasons change, renew in us the will to protect plants, animals, and habitats. Bless us with bountiful harvests that all may share. God of grace,

MANY: hear our prayer.

ONE: Your world is shattered and the nations rage. Remember us in your mercy. Teach wisdom to our elected leaders so that we know peace in our world, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts. God of grace,

MANY: hear our prayer.

ONE: Your children wander homeless and the hungry cry for bread. Seek out those who are lost or lonely, anxious or depressed, or struggling with addiction or illness. Provide for those in any need (*especially*). God of grace,

MANY: hear our prayer.

ONE: Your work is done in this congregation with our hands, feet, voices, minds, and hearts. Build up the ministries of Peace Lutheran Church, that we serve our neighbors and welcome the stranger in your name. God of grace,

MANY: hear our prayer.

ONE: Your blessed saints who have died now rest in your presence. Give us thankful hearts for those who have been examples of faith in our lives, and receive us with joy when we come to share eternal life with you. God of grace,

MANY: hear our prayer.

ONE: Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

MANY: Amen.

+SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

ONE: The peace of Christ be with you always.

MANY: And also with you.

ONE: Let us share the peace of Christ with those around you.

OFFERING

He is the Everlasting God
Adult Choir

Joseph M. Martin

+OFFERTORY PRAYER

ONE: God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.

MANY: Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. AMEN

+PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT US

ONE: Invited into the abundant life of faith, let us pray together,

**MANY: 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**

SEND

+BENEDICTION

ONE: Let us pray together the Prayer of Good Courage. O God,

MANY: you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN

+SENDING SONG

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

ELW 733

+DISMISSAL

ONE: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

MANY: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Postlude V

Charles V Stanford

Serving today:

Preacher

Rev. Paul Lutter

Organist & Pianist

Anne Phillips

Musicians

Adult Choir

Cantor

Nick Bonow

Greeter

Janelle Leppa

Usher

Don Davidson

Lector

Janelle Leppa & Sylvi Leppa

Offering Counters

Roger Birnbaum & David Forsberg

Zoom & Livestream Coordinators

Steve Johnson, Peter Leppa, Scott Rusten,
Bob Samuelson & Jason Tofteland

Acknowledgements:

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEEK OF SEPT 11, 2022

TODAY

9am worship

Families are encouraged to have their children in worship, but the nursery is available if needed. It will be open but not staffed; please plan to supervise your own children inside.

Altar flowers are given today by Pam and Steve Johnson in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

TODAY IS WELCOME SUNDAY!

Join the fun as we kick off the 2022-2023 program year! Enjoy a treat as you explore upcoming projects, learning opportunities, volunteer needs, and fellowship events.

We will have a **Blessing of the Backpacks** during worship today. All kids, teachers and others are welcome to come forward with their backpacks, messenger bags or briefcases for the blessing.

Welcome Sunday also kicks off an **IOCP Winter Coat Drive**. Help those in need and drop off new or gently used coats for kids, adults, and seniors by October 9.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO SIGN UP FOR YOGADEVOTION!

The fall schedule is now posted for registration. The first session of fall classes will be held for 8 weeks starting September 12 through October 31, 2022.

See your Saturday e-News for registration link and the 2022-2023 class schedules.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Jesus says "let the little children come on to me," so let's gather together today for a Children's Sermon during the worship service.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR FUTURE JOURNEY TOGETHER EVENTS

Wednesday, September 28, 6 pm: Four More for Growth Galore

Events will continue the last Wednesday of the month through the 2022-2023 year. If you'd like to help volunteer for this event, contact Jenny at: jjklutter@gmail.com or Annie at anniebonow@gmail.com.