

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost - August 18, 2024



Martin Luther wrote in his Small Catechism in 1529, "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him; but the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, and sanctified and preserved me in the true faith." The Scriptures for today emphasize the point between which the Spirit calls us and our hearts obey.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

- ◆ You are here by God's calling and we extend Christ's hospitality to you this day.
- ◆ In worship, we hear God's Word, partake in the Lord's Supper, and return our thanks in prayer and praise.
- ◆ All who believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are welcome to join with us today.
- ◆ Restrooms and a nursery are located in the backside hallway. Look for the horseshoe cross.

▼ = SIT ▲ = STAND

MUSICIAN: KAREN WARNELL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR COUNCIL

PRELUDE - Karen Warnell

▲ HYMN - "STANDING ON THE PROMISES" (Insert)

▲ LITANY Adapted from Psalm 42 (ESV)

Deep calls to deep

at the roar of Your waterfalls;

all Your breakers and Your waves

have gone over me.

By day the Lord commands His steadfast love,

and at night His song is with me,

a prayer to the God of my life. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

▲ GREETING

▲ CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION (Spoken)

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(SILENCE FOR REFLECTION AND SELF-EXAMINATION)

Most merciful God, **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

By the mercy of God we are united with Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise every morning to serve Him. **Amen**

▲ HYMN "COME, NOW IS THE TIME TO WORSHIP"

Chorus: **Come now is the time to worship Come now is the time to give your heart
Come just as you are to worship. Come just as you are before your God. Come**

**One day every tongue will confess You are God. One day every knee will bow.
Still the greatest treasure remains For those who gladly choose You now. *Chorus***

**Willingly we choose to surrender our lives. Willingly our knees will bow.
With all our heart, soul, mind and strength We gladly choose You now. *Chorus***

▲ HYMN "ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS NAME" LBW# 328 (vs. 1,6,7)

▼ KCJAM/CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

▲ READINGS **Genesis 1:24-3, Revelation 22:10b-21, John 20:24-30 (NLT)**

PLEASE STAND FOR THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

Genesis 1:24-31, ²⁴ Then God said, "Let the earth produce every sort of animal, each producing offspring of the same kind—livestock, small animals that scurry along the ground, and wild animals." And that is what happened. ²⁵ God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals, each able to produce offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good. ²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground."²⁷ So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. ²⁸ Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground." ²⁹ Then God said, "Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food. ³⁰ And I have given every green plant as food for all the wild animals, the birds in the sky, and the small animals that scurry along the ground—everything that has life." And that is what happened. ³¹ Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good! And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day.

Revelation 22:10b-21, ^{10b} "Do not seal up the prophetic words in this book, for the time is near. ¹¹ Let the one who is doing harm continue to do harm; let the one who is vile continue to be vile; let the one who is righteous continue to live righteously; let the one who is holy continue to be holy." ¹² "Look, I am coming soon, bringing my reward with me to repay all people according to their deeds. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." ¹⁴ Blessed are those who wash their robes. They will be permitted to enter through the gates of the city and eat the fruit from the tree of life. ¹⁵ Outside the city are the dogs—the sorcerers, the sexually immoral, the murderers, the idol worshipers, and all who love to live a lie. ¹⁶ "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to give you this message for the churches. I am both the source of David and the heir to his throne. I am the bright morning star." ¹⁷ The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." Let anyone who hears this say, "Come." Let anyone who is thirsty come. Let anyone who desires drink freely from the water of life. ¹⁸ And I solemnly declare to everyone who hears the words of prophecy written in this book: If anyone adds anything to what is written here, God will add to that person the plagues described in this book. ¹⁹ And if anyone removes any of the words from this book of prophecy, God will remove that person's share in the tree of life and in the holy city that are described in this book. ²⁰ He who is the faithful witness to all these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon!" Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! ²¹ May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with God's holy people.

Our Gospel reading from John the 20th Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁴ One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin), was not with the others when Jesus came. ²⁵ They told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands, put my fingers into them, and place my hand into the wound in his side."

²⁶ Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. "Peace be with you," he said. ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!" ²⁸ "My Lord and my God!" Thomas exclaimed.

²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me."³⁰ The disciples saw Jesus do many other miraculous signs in addition to the ones recorded in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life by the power of his name.

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

▼ MESSAGE - **OFF THE HOOK**

▼ HYMN - "MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS" LBW #293

▲ NICENE CREED (Spoken)

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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

▼ PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

▼ OFFERING PRAYER (Spoken)

Heavenly Father, creator of all things, we come before you today seeking your divine guidance and wisdom. We gather as a congregation and recognize the importance of this in our journey of faith. We ask for your divine wisdom to fill our hearts and minds.

Help us understand the impact of stewardship on our spiritual lives, families, church, and our community. Lord Jesus, inspire a spirit of generosity, rooted in the love and grace you have poured upon us. AMEN

▲ OUR RESPONSE (Sung)

**Praise God from who all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

▼ THE LORD'S SUPPER

▼ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

▼ 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 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

▼ AGNUS DEI (Sung)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

▼ DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

(All who believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior are welcome to join with us today.)

▲ COMMUNION BLESSING

▲ POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (Spoken)

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

▲ DEDICATION OF QUILTS AND KITS

Pastor: Father, you call us to love our neighbors as ourselves. Send forth your Spirit today as we call upon you to bless this work and make it holy. Help these quilts and kits, our offerings of hope, travel across the furthest distances to reach our most weary neighbors and surround them with your grace and peace.

ALL: Father, open our hearts to love our neighbors.

P: Jesus, we give thanks for all those who have taken part in creating these quilts and kits. May you guide us to greater empathy for our neighbors in crisis, for the mothers that struggle to feed their hungry children, for the fearful, the anxious, the isolated. May these quilts and kits provide comfort and relief to those who are suffering around the world.

A: Lord Jesus, give us compassion for our neighbors.

P: Holy Spirit, be with those who will receive these gifts - neighbors we have never met, neighbors who are far away, neighbors who, like us, long for your grace and mercy. May the work crated from our humble hands serve as a beacon of light and hope to those who are suffering and fill them with the peace that is only found in You.

A: Holy Spirit, work through us to impact this world for your glory.

P: We thank you for this ministry of service, for the opportunity to comfort those in their darkest hours, to remind our neighbors in Christ of your loving presence. Bring us ever closer to your heart in service to our neighbors near and far. We pray all this in the name of Jesus, the one who is our hope.

▲ BENEDICTION (Spoken)

May the God of peace fill you with all joy and peace in believing. So that by the power of The Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

▲ SENDING SONG - "HE LEADETH ME" LBW # 501

▲ DISMISSAL (Spoken)

Grow in faith! Love God. Serve others. Share Christ. **Impact the world!**

POSTLUDE