

Family Worship for the Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost – August 23, 2020

Leader / Response

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the (+)Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord, **who made heaven and earth.** (*Ps 124:8*)

If you kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand before you?

But with you is forgiveness; therefore, you are adored. (*Ps130:3-4*)

As we gather to hear God's Word, let us open our hearts to God and confess our sins, trusting in his infinite mercy for forgiveness and asking for his Holy Spirit to amend our sinful lives.

Almighty God, have mercy on me, hear this my confession, forgive all my sins, and renew me by your Holy Spirit for right living. (*Silent confession*)

In Holy Baptism our merciful God has declared us to be his royal children and forgives our sins for Jesus' sake, our risen Savior and Lord. Give praise now to the Lord of heaven and earth and live joyfully as his witnesses in the world. **Amen**

PSALM OF PRAISE – PSALM 138

¹ I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

² **I bow down toward your holy temple**

**and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness,
for you have exalted above all things your name and your word.**

³ On the day I called, you answered me; my strength of soul you increased.

⁴ **All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your mouth,**

⁵ and they shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

⁶ **For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he knows from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies, and your right hand delivers me.

⁸ **The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; In your love, do not forsake the work of your hands.**

HYMN [Let All Things Now Living](#) (*With Lyrics*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Heavenly Father, in perpetual mercy, care for your Church. **Since we stumble and fall without your grace, remove what will harm us and guide us by the Spirit to walk your righteous paths; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**

FIRST READING – Isaiah 51:1-6

SECOND READING – Romans 12:1-8

GOSPEL VERSE (*Spoken/Sung; Stand for Gospel Reading if you can*)

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

The Holy Gospel from St. Matthew, chapter 16. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 16:13-20

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

MESSAGE

HYMN [The Church's One Foundation](#) *(With Lyrics)*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

OFFERING PRESENTATION *(Spoken; LBW #335, st. 1)*

May God bestow on us his grace, With blessings rich provide us;

And may the brightness of his face To life eternal guide us,

That we his gracious work may know, And what is his good pleasure,

And to the unbelieving show Christ's riches without measure.

PRAYERS *(See Prayer Sheet)*

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.

BLESSING *(Romans 15:13)*

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

CLOSING HYMN [Nothing But the Blood of Jesus](#) *(With Lyrics)*

EXTRA

The Manna House in Rincon runs a "drive-by" food drive every Wednesday morning. Anywhere from 200-500 cars have shown up. They are in need of volunteers (under 60 preferably) who can assist this feeding ministry on Tuesdays (set up) and Wednesdays (food drive). It can be strenuous or hot work, so respect your limits. If you can offer yourself even just 1x/month, it would be a great way to serve the poor and hungry of our County. Manna House is located in Rincon on Patriot Drive across the street from the YMCA. See their website for more information on how you can be a blessing:

<https://mannahouserincon.org/>.

READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6

¹ “Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the Lord:

look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.

² Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
that I might bless him and multiply him.

³ For the Lord comforts Zion;
he comforts all her waste places
and makes her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ “Give attention to me, my people,
and give ear to me, my nation;

for a law will go out from me,
and I will set my justice for a light to the
peoples.

⁵ My righteousness draws near,
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will judge the peoples;
the coastlands hope for me,
and for my arm they wait.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like
manner;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my righteousness will never be dismayed.

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8

² I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³ For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴ For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶ Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷ if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸ the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” ¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” ¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” ¹⁶ Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” ²⁰ Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

PRAYERS

Heavenly Father, thank you for Peter! Thank you that he was so very human, and yet you graced him with faith to confess Jesus as your Son and Messiah. As you used him, we ask that you would also use us, to do your work of forgiving, confessing, and proclaiming Jesus as Lord to a disbelieving world. Lord, in your mercy; **Hear our prayer.**

Establish the Church upon the solid rock of Christ and the apostolic witness that you continue to send forth into the world. Make the Church One as the Body of Christ. Let not the gates of hell prevail against its faithful proclamation and teaching. By your Holy Spirit, make it wise, gracious and steadfast in your command to rightly forgive and retain sin; and use it to bring many to a saving faith in Jesus their Savior. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Merciful Father, we cry out for the saints at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Springfield OR as they suffer for their faithful witness to Jesus Christ. Keep them steadfast in their witness and grant wisdom to all as they make difficult decisions. We cry out also for your comfort and mercy upon Betsey Vaughan, and upon all those who mourn the loss of Pastor Vaughan. In the midst of their shocking loss, grant the supernatural peace that only your Holy Spirit can give as you minister the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ to their hearts. Prompt the churches of the LCMC to respond to the needs of these, our brothers and sisters in Christ, and give us all the weapons of righteousness that we may resist the evil that is growing in our land. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Teach the world's rulers listen to you, the giver of justice and the author of salvation. Conform their decisions and deeds to your righteous will, so that they care for the lowly and give hope to all who cry out to you. Help them to protect the law abiding and innocent people in their domains and use them to bring your just punishment upon those who work evil. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Hear our prayer for parents, students, teachers, and all school employees that in the midst of the daily changes and broken routines, they may keep focused on their work, keep caring for one another, and keep putting their trust and hope in you. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Hear our prayer for the ministry and future of Bible Lutheran Church. Conform the people and programs of this congregation to your good, acceptable, and perfect will. Give us wisdom to discern the gifts you have given us for ministry and compassionate hearts to place those gifts into the service of one another, our families, community, and the poor. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Hear our prayer for Lelyn as she comes under the power of your strong name in her baptismal covenant. Keep her close to the Savior all the days of her life and bless her with the manifold gifts of your Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Hear our prayer Johnnie Barnes as he begins his chemotherapy, for Mac Morgan as he battles Covid 19, for Dale Williams as he comes to the end of his earthly life, be for them all their strength and stay. And hear our prayers for those we lift to your throne from our hearts.... (silent petitions)

Into your gracious hands we commend all for whom we have prayed, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Prayers for August 23, 2020

Prayers for Healing, Recovery, Wholeness, Divine Help *(Requests remain on list for 2 months and may be resubmitted)*

Johnnie Barnes, chemotherapy (J. Smith, 8.19.2020)
Mac Morgan, Covid (C. Morgan, 8.18.2020)
Helen Zeigler, dementia/recent falls (A. Terry, 8.16.2020)
Dale Williams, placed under hospice care (B. Williams, 8.16.2020)
All Students heading back to dorms and classrooms (8.16.2020)
Elli, 8yrs. old, high fever (K. Wheeler, 8.9.2020)
Lauren Collum, health (M. Osteen, 8.9.2020) - Recovered
Frank Gray, health issues (K. Hall, 8.9.2020)
David Gray, cancer (K. Hall, 8.9.2020)
Brenda Reiser, Lymphoma (M. Reiser, 8.2.2020)
Susan Reese, Covid (S. Sommervold, 8.2.2020) - Recovered
Sarah Smith battling cancer again (F. Smith, 8.2.2020)
Ruby & Earl Neurath, health problems (C. Bazemore, 7.30.2020)
Jason Pridgen, still suffering with liver problems, friend of Betty Robinson (7.22.20)
Amy Holcomb undergoing cancer treatments (R. Ratliff, 7.22.20)
Don Hasty suffering from heart troubles (D. Vorel, 7.22.20)
Marie Callahan recovering from a Brain Aneurysm (S. Sommervold, 7.19.2020)
Pat Gollihue on diagnosis of bone cancer (R. Zipperer, 7.19.2020)
Jeff Byrd on diagnosis of non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma (L. Byrd, 7.19.2020)
Shirley Hogan hospitalized with Covid 19 (K. Warnell, 7.19.2020)
Cathy Conaway, hospitalized with Covid 19 (K. Warnell, 7.19.2020) - Recovered
Keith Cornell, paralysis and due for surgery (J. Helmly, 7.19.2020)
Ann Reiser, undergoing cancer treatments (M. Reiser, 6.28.2020)
Mary Jane Duff, hospitalized for heart problems (K. Hall, 6.7.2020)

Prayers for Comfort in Bereavement *(Requests remain on list for 6 months and may be resubmitted)*

Karen Hall and family on death of her Aunt, Sheila Saxon (8.9.2020)
Cecelia Zeigler and family on death of her mother, Mary Bloomberg (8.4.2020)
Brenda Dasher and family on death of her cousin, JW Porter (7.19.2020)
Bobby Exley and family on death of daughter, Teresa (J. Arnsdorff, 6.7.2020)
Stacey York and family upon death of her mother Annette (A. Terry, 6.6.2020)
Family of Karen Hall's Great Aunt, Katherine who went to be with the Lord. (5.17.2020)
Family of Laura Brown (S. Smith, 4.20)
Family of Rosemary Atkinson (Dot Zipperer's Sister, 4.19)

Military, Fire, Law Enforcement Personnel

Fire: Kenny Whitten, Jimmy Thompson; Law Enforcement: Warren Blanton
Military: Trent Zeigler, Christopher Zeigler(C.Zeigler); Michael Hubbard(A.M.Hubbard); Stephen Strickland(B. Dasher)

Long Term Support

Audrey Zipperer (Lakeview Manor); Helen Zeigler (Eff Care Center); Sarah Smith (Home); Dorothy Zipperer; Betty Greenwood (Home), Charles & Virginia DiSalvo(Home); Keith Cornell (Recovering at home;Helmly); Clyde Johnson (Home;Muthersbaugh); Thomas Owens (Home;Garner); Clay Stewart (Dementia;Sommervold); Rick Boyd, multiple health problems (C. Boyd, 6.21.2020)

“What Do You Want to See at BLC?” - Pastor Dave

Covid-19 may have temporarily slowed churches down, but it has not brought an end to the work of God’s Kingdom. In September, there are 2 important congregational dates for your calendar. Sept. 13 is the date of a called congregational meeting to discuss amending the 2020 budget to hire a youth coordinator. Sept. 19 is the Saturday we’ve set aside to discuss our future direction in mission and ministry at Bible Lutheran.

To help prepare our hearts for the planning Saturday, the Evangelism Committee is inviting the youth of Bible to create some art that will be exhibited in the Sanctuary hallway. The basic theme is “Jesus our Savior.” Letters have been mailed to families with children, inviting them to participate in the exhibition. *If there are adult artists who’d like to also contribute some art, absolutely feel free to do so.*

A prayer booklet is also being prepared for use the week before our planning meeting and will be distributed in time so that every member can seek the Lord’s favor and presence among us on that Saturday. It’s not our human wisdom but God’s divine direction that we need. I urge all members to take part in this week of prayer.

Listening for the Promise WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Matthew 16:15-16

[Jesus] said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

How many people in this world do you really, truly know? Maybe a handful? Maybe one or two? Sometimes it’s hard enough knowing ourselves, let alone others. Just when you think you know someone, they reveal something about themselves that either shocks or delights you. Knowing those we love and care for can be a life-long endeavor.

Jesus wanted to know what people were saying about him, but more than that, he really wanted to know if his closest friends and disciples knew who he was. As the men reported back to the Lord what others were saying about him, “some say you are John the Baptist or Elijah or Jeremiah or one of the other prophets,” Jesus challenged them asking, “But who do YOU say that I am?” Simon Peter got this one right! “You are the Messiah, the chosen one of Israel, the Christ we’ve been waiting for.” Well, he didn’t exactly say all that, but he did get the right answer. Jesus told him that it was the Holy Spirit who provided that response, but congratulations none-the-less.

Peter’s confession of faith was rewarded with a phrase that has often been read into, “You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church.” Simon’s nickname, “Peter,” is “rock” in Aramaic. In the early church this was taken to be a justification for the papacy. Whether you believe that part or not is beside the point. The point is really about his confession of faith which would be used by Christ as the foundation of the nascent church.

We are called to make this same confession when asked, “Who do you say Jesus is?” There are many phrases that answer that and each of them is an acknowledgment of who Jesus is, to us and the world, and what anchors us to his life-giving, self-sacrificing love. “He is my Lord.” “He is the Savior!” “He is my all in all!” However we say it when we are queried is the very rock that Christ builds his church upon. Two thousand years ago the rock was Peter, Paul, James, John, Thomas, Mary, Martha, and the rest. Today it’s you, me, our neighbors, friends, church family and saints all around the world who have been built into the Living Stone, the solid rock foundation of the Bride of Christ! Don’t complicate it too much. Take Jesus at his word and know that he gives you the faith you need to confess him as Lord and on your confession he builds his church. He does this! Amen.

BLC NEWS & NOTES

ALTAR FLOWERS

Today's altar flowers are given by Suki Sommervold in memory of her dad, Max; her brother Eddie; and her daughter, Rikki.

BAPTISM OF LELYN BLACKARD

We welcome into the family of God Ms. Lelyn, and we rejoice with the Blackard family in the gift of God's salvation offered in holy baptism this day.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The congregational meeting has been scheduled for September 13, 2020, to discuss amending the 2020 budget to hire a youth coordinator. Please pray for God's guidance concerning this position. - Church Council

WORSHIP RESTART

Church Council, after consultation with the Worship & Music Committee, has set the date of Sept. 13th as the date we resume our normal worship activities. In the meantime, a congregational survey was mailed out to solicit input on ways to serve the whole congregation during this time of the coronavirus. Don't forget that Holy Communion is being offered by Pastor Dave by request. This can be done immediately after Sunday worship or at any other time during the week. Simply text or call: 912-661-8735.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR JULY 2020

	Beginning Balance	Donations	Expenses	Ending Balance
General Fund	\$153,450.00	\$20,483.50	(\$18,282.50)	\$155,651.00
Building Fund	\$61,435.33	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$62,035.33
Cemetery Fund	\$3,340.62	\$0.29	\$0.00	\$3,340.91
Theological Fund	\$3,647.20	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,647.20
Memorial Fund	\$7,516.10	\$0.12	\$0.00	\$7,516.22
Youth Funds	\$16,069.61	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$16,569.61
Total Funds	\$245,458.86	\$21,583.91	(\$18,282.50)	\$248,760.27

General Fund Donations July 2020 \$20,483.50
Monthly Gen. Fund Requirement -17,727.08
Over/(Short) Gen. Fund July 2020 \$ 2,756.42

THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP SERVANTS:

Crucifer –
Altar Care – Connie Bazemore
Head Usher –
Lector – Melissa Osteen
Musician – Karen Warnell

PLAN AHEAD:

8/23 Praise Choir Practice @ 4:00 PM
8/24 Annual GRITS Mtg Helmly River House
8/29 Fellowship Hall being rented
9/2 Christian Education Meeting
9/6 Evangelism Comm. Meeting @ 11:00 AM
9/10 Property Committee Mtg. @ 6:30 PM
9/13 Sunday School Kick-off/Promotion
9/13 Called Congregational Meeting
9/13 Finance Comm. Meeting after worship
9/14 Church Council Meeting @ 6:30 PM
9/15 AFPAG (Foster Parents) Mtg. @ 6:00 PM
9/19 "What Do You Want to See from BLC" Mtg.
9 AM – 12 Noon

Local Florists:

Shirley Hogan, 858-0910
New Life, 826-4261
Joanne's, 754-9116

The Grace Given

Find the 33 **bold** words from Romans 12:3–8 (ESV).

S N O C Y M Y T J W G I Y G C
E D O N O C E U H N L S C E K
R D A I P N D M I G S W E N S
V M I E T G T H B E U M H E T
I Y N F M C C R N E E O P R R
C O D E F A N L I R R K O O O
E L N O E E U U C B G S R S H
R T U T B F R Y F O U P P I X
E X H O R T A T I O N T S T E
B H D E N G I S S A R E E Y G
O M E A S U R E H H R G L S R
S H S E H C A E T V I H O O A
C H R I S T G I I V G N P D C
K N I H T U A N E I E R O M E
Z E A L L F G N H L E A D S M

For by the **grace** given to me I say to everyone among you not to **think** of himself **more highly** than he **ought** to think, but to think with **sober judgment**, each according to the **measure** of **faith** that **God** has **assigned**. For as in **one body** we have **many members**, and the members do not all have the same **function**, so we, though many, are one body in **Christ**, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that **differ** according to the **grace** given to us, let us **use** them: if **prophecy**, in proportion to our faith; if **service**, in our **servicing**; the one who **teaches**, in his **teaching**; the one who **exhorts**, in his **exhortation**; the one who **contributes**, in **generosity**; the one who **leads**, with **zeal**; the one who does acts of **mercy**, with **cheerfulness**.

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The Keys of the Kingdom

Find the 42 **bold** words from Matthew 16:13-20 (ESV)

H S N M S M F I D L S G B L B
A U T O O A A I P T L L J I A
I S N R T D S N E P E E O V P
M E E H I C G H C S I E H I T
E J E T I C P N S H L L N N I
R R O P A O T E I P R O I G S
E D L N R G D L O K I I O H T
J E H P A N K E Y S A Y S S P
S G T C I H P N E V A E H T E
F R R B R N R E V E A L E D O
L A A G O U B G J E L I J A H
E H E M R L H L I A V E R P Y
S C I O O R M C S D L I U B O
H S C O A E R A S E A C N A U
O K D B O U N D O G P E T E R

Now when **Jesus** came into the district of Caesarea **Philippi**, he asked his **disciples**, "Who do **people** say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say **John the Baptist**, others say **Elijah**, and others **Jeremiah** or one of the **prophets**." He said to them, "But who do **you** say that I am?" **Simon Peter** replied, "You are the **Christ**, the **Son of the living God**." And **Jesus** answered him, "**Blessed** are you, **Simon Bar-Jonah**! For **flesh** and **blood** has not **revealed** this to you, but my **Father** who is in **heaven**. And I tell you, you are **Peter**, and on this **rock** I will **build** my **church**, and the **gates of hell** shall **not prevail** against it. I will give you the **keys of the kingdom** of heaven, and whatever you **bind** on **earth** shall be **bound** in heaven, and whatever you **loose** on earth shall be **loosed** in heaven." Then he **strictly charged** the disciples to tell no one that he was the **Christ**.

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