

Family Worship for the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost – August 30, 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 26

¹Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

²**Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and my mind.**

³For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in your faithfulness.

⁴**I do not sit with men of falsehood, nor do I consort with hypocrites.**

⁵I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked.

⁶**I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O Lord,**

⁷proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your wondrous deeds.

⁸**O Lord, I love the habitation of your house and the place where your glory dwells.**

⁹Do not sweep my soul away with sinners, nor my life with bloodthirsty men,

¹⁰**in whose hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes.**

¹¹But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be gracious to me.

¹²**My foot stands on level ground; in the great assembly I will bless the Lord.**

HYMN [Victory in Jesus](#) (*With Lyrics*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord, mercifully continue to purify and defend your Church. **Since we cannot stand firmly without your power, give us grace to take up our cross and follow your Son; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING – Jeremiah 15:15-21

SECOND READING – Romans 12:9-21

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 16:21-28

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

MESSAGE

HYMN [Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word](#) *(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; Reclaim Hymnal #230, st. 3)*

**Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise, thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou, and thou only, first in my heart, great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

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 [On Our Way Rejoicing](#) *(With Lyrics)*

EXTRA

[The River is Rising](#) *(Christian guitarists playing to the Glory of God!)*

READINGS

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

¹⁵ O Lord, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and take vengeance for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance take me not away;
know that for your sake I bear reproach.

¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,
for I am called by your name,
O Lord, God of hosts.

¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of revelers,
nor did I rejoice;
I sat alone, because your hand was upon me,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Will you be to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail?

¹⁹ Therefore thus says the Lord:
“If you return, I will restore you,
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious, and not what is
worthless,

you shall be as my mouth.

They shall turn to you,
but you shall not turn to them.

²⁰ And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
declares the Lord.

²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.”

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰ Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. ¹⁷ Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰ To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

²¹ From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.” ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ²⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? ²⁷ For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. ²⁸ Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

PRAYERS

Heavenly Father, your Son rebuked Peter because he was doing the work of the devil. At times we do things that may seem right, but prove wrong. In those times rebuke us, forgive us and restore us to our sanctified senses that we may place ourselves again under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Lord, in your mercy; **Hear our prayer.**

Help this congregation, O Lord, and every member in it to Let Our Love Be Genuine. Give us your Spirit's wisdom to discern the good from the evil, to live in harmony as we honor one another, and to overcome our enemies and all things evil with good. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

We thank you, O Lord, for our young people of faith. Bless them as they have been a blessing to us this day. Help them to continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of your Son. Let their light shine at school and keep them secure in your strong hands. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Sovereign God, you rule the world in righteousness and give wisdom to all who seek your face. Strengthen and build those institutions that are committed to justice and human flourishing and thwart those who prey on the weak and lowly. 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. Make clear to us in September the paths of ministry old and new that you would have us walk in our community. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Hear our prayer for all those unhomed and traumatized by Hurricane Laura, the fires in California, and in all places that the forces of nature have brought destruction. Give courage to fearful souls, daily bread to the hungry, and hope for the future as they begin to rebuild their lives and homes. Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our Prayer.**

Hear our prayer for Paula Peterson, Stephen Jackson, and Eddie Helmly as endure sickness and pain. Give comfort to Ben & Karen Williams and safe travel as they head out for the funeral of Dale Williams. Keep in your strong hands Sarah Smith as she battles her cancer. Be the ever-present hope of all those who look to you for their healing. Especially we pray for.... (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 30, 2020

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

Paula Peterson, sickness (D.Vorel, 8.23.2020)
Steven Jackson, in ICU (A. Terry, 8.23.2020)
Eddie Helmey, sickness (G. Helmey, 8.23.2020)
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)
All Students heading back to dorms and classrooms (8.16.2020)
Elli, 8yrs. old, high fever (K. Wheeler, 8.9.2020)
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)
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)
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)*

Ben & Karen Williams and family on death of Ben's brother, Dale Williams (8.26.20)
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 Alan & Elise Zipperer in honor of Haven's birthday on 8/26, Alan's birthday on 8/28, and Devin's birthday on 9/2.

QUILT DEDICATION

Next Sunday, the Quilter Group will dedicate 129 quilts and 20 layettes during worship. A few of the quilts have been placed in the hallway and are available for sale. Please see Connie Bazemore or Ramona Kessler if you'd like to purchase one.

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

PLAN AHEAD:

8/30 Confirmation Class after worship service
9/2 Christian Education Meeting @ 4:30 PM
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 Confirmation Class after worship service
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
9/27 Confirmation Class after worship
9/28 GRITS Loaves & Fishes @ 6 PM

Local Florists:

New Life, 826-4261
Joanne's, 754-9116

THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP SERVANTS:

Crucifer – Timmy Burnsed
Altar Care – Connie Bazemore
Head Usher –
Lector – Conrad Vorel & Kirra Parker
Musician – Karen Warnell

Take Up Your Cross

Find the 39 bold words from Matthew 16:01-28 (ESV)

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

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me,

let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For

whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his

life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he

gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a

man give in return for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to

come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will

repay each person according to what he has done. Truly, I say

to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death

until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

I Will Bless the Lord

Find the 40 bold words from Psalm 26:6-12 (ESV).

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

I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O

LORD, proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your

wondrous deeds. O LORD, I love the habitation of your house

and the place where your glory dwells. Do not sweep my soul

away with sinners, nor my life with bloodthirsty men, in whose

hands are evil devices, and whose right hands are full of bribes.

But as for me, I shall walk in my integrity; redeem me, and be

gracious to me. My foot stands on level ground; in the great

assembly I will bless the LORD.