

The Sunday Messenger

Memorial Lutheran Church, Nevada Iowa ♦ August 9, 2020

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, +one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

Amen.

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,

we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives.

We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts.

We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.

We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us.

We sin in thought, word, and deed.

By your grace, forgive us;

through your love, renew us;

and in your Spirit, lead us;

so that we may live and serve you in newness of life.

Amen.

Beloved of God,

by the radical abundance of divine mercy

we have peace with God through +Christ Jesus,

through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.

Our sins are forgiven.

Let us live now in hope.

For hope does not disappoint,

because God's love has been poured into our hearts

through the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Prayer of the Day

First Lesson 1 Kings 19:9-18

⁹At [Horeb, the mount of God,][Elijah] came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁰He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" ¹⁴He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." ¹⁵Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

Psalm 85:8-13

Second Lesson Romans 9:1-5

¹I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Gospel Matthew 14:22-33

²²[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Sermon



Apostles' Creed

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 he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he 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.

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends with:

Hear us, O God,
Your mercy is great.

Lord's Prayer

Blessing

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, . Jesus, the Christ,
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Be Part of Online Fellowship After Worship Each Sunday.

We will use Zoom as a way to connect with each other after worship. The same link will be used each week:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83367838198>

Call Committee Update. The Call Committee is meeting this Sunday, August 9, to discuss the profile of the proposed candidate to pastor at Memorial and the next steps.

Food at First Coordinator(s) Needed. Phyllis Fevold and Heidi Merfeld are stepping down. We thank them for their service. A new coordinator or team is needed beginning in September. Contact Deacon Jodi if you are interested.

2020 Synod Assembly Met Wednesday and Friday. We thank Paul and Kathy Johnson for serving as Memorial's voting members to the all-online assembly. This year's assembly included the election of a new bishop. You can find results of the election on www.seiasynod.org after the conclusion of Friday's assembly or watch our Facebook for a post.

Fall Faith Formation. You will receive two mailings from Memorial this week. The first is a catalog for the variety of Faith Formation options for all ages this fall. Please keep in mind that adjustments may need to be made as we continue to live on "Virus Time." Please make note of the back page that serves as a registration page and a sign up for serving in a faith formation role.

Make a Pilgrimage to Memorial. Have you been missing the Sanctuary? Would you like to bless your backpack before school starts? You can make a reservation to take a self-guided pilgrim journey through the sanctuary. Spend some time in prayer, hear and reflect on God's word and bless one another for the days ahead. A postcard will arrive this week with information for making your pilgrimage.

FAITH AND LIFE TOGETHER

For Those Hospitalized

Park Center, Newton

Janeen Driscoll

Mary Greeley Medical Center

Darren Kluever

University of Iowa Hospital

Jaylee Bartleson

Prayers for Healing

Doris Andresen. Gary Kluever, Betty Runge, Larry Christian, Julie Sutherland, Kathy Lynn Johnson. Sheila Collingwood *Lyndsey De Vos' mother*, Lynn Harris, George Forsyth, Mary Pappas, Jim Pappas, Cassie Harrell, Nancy Skaar, Jeff Sebring *son-in-law of Ernie and Marlene Ruhde*, Norma Gandrup, Linda Horn, Tom Nervig, Glenda Day, Ginny Hausner, Ken Johnson, Camden Kelsey, Cooper Leeman, Jan Cook, Margie Nahnsen

For Those Who Mourn

+Bonnie Sutherland died Friday, July 31, in Marshalltown. Services are pending. We extend Christian sympathy to her brother-in-law, Craig Sutherland, cousin-in-law Charlene Carsrud, and all the family.

Giving Options During Online Worship. For those that normally put an envelope, check or cash in the offering plate, you are welcome to mail or drop off your offering. You may also use the Text to Give option. Use your Smart Phone and Credit or Debit Card as way to support the General Fund. The number to text to is: **515-808-5325**
Simply place a dollar sign (\$) and an amount in the body of the text to get started.