

The Sunday Messenger

Memorial Lutheran Church, Nevada Iowa ♦ August 23, 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 *Isaiah 51:1-6*

¹Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,
you that seek the LORD.

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

²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;

for he was but one when I called him,
but I blessed him and made him many.

³For the LORD will comfort Zion;
he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make 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.

⁴Listen to me, my people,
and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me,
and my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,
my salvation has gone out
and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me,
and for my arm they hope.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Psalm 138

Second Lesson *Romans 12:1-8*

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Gospel *Matthew 16:13-20*

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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>

Beer and Theology Meets This Monday, August 24, at 7:00 pm.

Join the Zoom meeting for conversation and fellowship on Monday evening. Here is the meeting link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82874533269>

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.

Confirmation Begins This Wednesday. The tenth grade students and their mentors begin their fall session this Wednesday evening. The ninth grade students and parents begin their session on Sunday, August 30.

In-Person Service of Word and Sacrament. This Sunday is the first Sunday that an in-person service is offered. This will continue as long as conditions allow. It will be important to sign up to keep the congregation size at a safe level. If interest expands and conditions warrant, additional services could be added.

FAITH AND LIFE TOGETHER

For Those Hospitalized

Park Center, Newton

Janeen Driscoll

Story Hospital Skilled Care

Almeda Warner

For Those in Hospice

Mary Moore, home hospice care

Prayers for Healing

Darren Kluever, Jaylee Bartleson, 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

Prayer for the Week

God of the nations, we thank you for your mercy and grace that is meant not only for those we know and love, but for all people through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.