

# The Sunday Messenger

Memorial Lutheran Church, Nevada Iowa ♦ October 4, 2020

## Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father,  
and of the +Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we are captive 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.**  
**Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

## First Lesson *Isaiah 5:1-7*

<sup>1</sup>Let me sing for my beloved  
my love-song concerning his vineyard:  
My beloved had a vineyard  
on a very fertile hill.

<sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones,  
and planted it with choice vines;  
he built a watchtower in the midst of it,  
and hewed out a wine vat in it;  
he expected it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded wild grapes.

<sup>3</sup>And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and people of Judah,  
judge between me  
and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard  
that I have not done in it?  
When I expected it to yield grapes,  
why did it yield wild grapes?

<sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you  
what I will do to my vineyard.  
I will remove its hedge,  
and it shall be devoured;  
I will break down its wall,  
and it shall be trampled down.

<sup>6</sup>I will make it a waste;  
it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;  
I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it.

<sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts  
is the house of Israel,  
and the people of Judah  
are his pleasant planting;  
he expected justice,  
but saw bloodshed;  
righteousness,  
but heard a cry!

## Psalm 80:7-15

<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.  
<sup>8</sup>You have brought a vine out of Egypt;  
you cast out the nations and planted it.

<sup>9</sup>You cleared the ground for it;  
it took root and filled the land.

<sup>10</sup>The mountains were covered by its shadow  
and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

<sup>11</sup>You stretched out its tendrils to the sea  
and its branches to the river.

<sup>12</sup>Why have you broken down its wall,  
so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

<sup>13</sup>The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it,  
and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

<sup>14</sup>Turn now, O God of hosts,  
look down from heaven;

<sup>15</sup>behold and tend this vine;  
preserve what your right hand has planted

## Second Lesson *Philippians 3:4b-14*

[Paul writes:] <sup>4b</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.



## Gospel *Matthew 21: 33-46*

[Jesus said to the people:]<sup>33</sup>“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country.<sup>34</sup>When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce.<sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another.<sup>36</sup>Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way.<sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’<sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’<sup>39</sup>So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him.<sup>40</sup>Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”<sup>41</sup>They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;  
this was the Lord’s doing,  
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

<sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom.<sup>44</sup>The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

<sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them.<sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

## 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

### Lord’s Prayer

### Blessing

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you  
now and forever.

**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>  
For those interested in the Book of Faith adult study, a break out room will be created after a little time of fellowship.

## FAITH AND LIFE TOGETHER

### For Those Hospitalized

Jim Pappas, *heart transplant surgery 10/1*

### Prayers for Healing

Lee Zimmer *father of Sue Lekwa*, Karen Anderson, Almeda Warner, Janeen Driscoll, Darren Kluever, Jaylee Bartleson, Gary Kluever, Larry Christian, Julie Sutherland, Sheila Collingwood *Lyndsey De Vos’ mother*, Lynn Harris, George Forsyth, Cassie Harrell, 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

+Dee Johnson died Saturday, September 26, at the Israel Family Hospice House. Funeral services were held on Saturday, October 3, at Bethel United Methodist Church in Zearing. We extend Christian sympathy to her husband, Gene, sons, Shawn and Eric, and all the family.

+Mary Moore died Sunday, September 27, at her home. Funeral services were held at Memorial on Friday, October 2. We extend Christian sympathy to her daughters, Royce and Ronda, and all the family.

+Walton Herzberg died Thursday, October 1, at the Hubbard Care Center. A service will be held at a later date. We extend Christian sympathy to his wife, Nelda, son, Pastor Myron, and all the family.