

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 13th, 2020

Redeemer Lutheran Church, Owosso / Faith Landing Lutheran Church, Davison



Announcements

Order of Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our failures, fears, and weaknesses to God,
asking that we be restored to wholeness and peace.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

P: God, who cares for all,

C: We confess that we have not loved you and have not cared for ourselves, our neighbors, or the earth you created. Forgive our lack of care and our failure to attend to your people and to your creation in us and around us. Take away our fear and our weakness. Make us strong witnesses in word and action to your redeeming love.

P: Our God is merciful, slow to anger, and rich in steadfast love. I declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of Jesus, who has restored us to God our maker. By the power of the Holy Spirit, be renewed to wholeness of life.

C: Amen.

Apostolic Greeting

L: The forgiving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the creative love of our Father,
and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.



Hymn of Praise for Pentecost

L: Blessed be Your name when the sun's shining down on me;

C: When the world's all as it should be, blessed be Your name.

L: Blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering;

C: Though there's pain in the offering blessed be Your name.

L: Every blessing You pour out, I'll Turn back to praise;

C: When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say:

L: Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name.

C: Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious name.

Scripture Lessons

Romans 14:1-12

- 1 Welcome those who are weak in faith,
but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions.
- 2 Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables.
- 3 Those who eat must not despise those who abstain,
and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat;
for God has welcomed them.
- 4 Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another?
It is before their own lord that they stand or fall.
And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.
- 5 Some judge one day to be better than another,
while others judge all days to be alike.
Let all be fully convinced in their own minds.
- 6 Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord.
Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God;

- while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.
- 7 We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves.
 - 8 If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord;
so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.
 - 9 For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that
he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.
 - 10 Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister?
Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister?
For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God.
 - 11 For it is written, 'As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.'
 - 12 So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

The Gospel Reading for this Season of Pentecost

L: This is the Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.

**C: O Lord, open our ears to hear, and open our minds to understand ,
your Holy Word.**

Matthew 18:21-35

- 21 Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord,
if another member of the church sins against me,
how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?'
- 22 Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times,
but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.
- 23 'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared
to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.
- 24 When he began the reckoning, one who owed him
ten thousand talents was brought to him;
- 25 and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold,
together with his wife and children and all his possessions,
and payment to be made.
- 26 So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying,
"Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything."
- 27 And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave
released him and forgave him the debt.
- 28 But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves
who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat,
he said, "Pay what you owe."
- 29 Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him,
"Have patience with me, and I will pay you."
- 30 But he refused; then he went and threw him

- into prison until he should pay the debt.
- 31 When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened,
they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported
to their lord all that had taken place.
- 32 Then his lord summoned him and said to him, “You wicked slave!
I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.
- 33 Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?”
- 34 And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured
until he should pay his entire debt.
- 35 So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you,
if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.’

L: This is the Gospel of Our Lord.

C: **Thanks be to our God,
the Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ.**

Message

The Apostles' Creed

**God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.**

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 Pontiffs 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.**



Prayer of the Church

Let us pray for the church, the world, and all people according to their need.

We are your debtors in so many ways, heavenly Father! We sometimes forget how even our sins can run up a soul-crushing debt. Thank you for being so willing to cancel our debt. Keep us ever mindful of the costly generosity of your beloved Son. Give us his grace and strength, to willingly forgive the debts of those who have wronged us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Teach your Church how to be a school for forgiveness and an outpost of your mercy. Give it leaders who explain and practice forgiving. Make its worship an encounter with your forgiveness. Equip its members to pray for and share the forgiveness you give through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bless our schools, colleges, seminaries, and home schools as they embark on a strange and difficult journey this fall. We fear how COVID might affect students, teachers, and families. We do know that children need to be in school, yet we want them to be safe. Guide and protect us all, and help us to make prudent decisions, even though sometimes we will make mistakes. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are crushed beneath a load of debt. They can do foolish or dangerous things to seek relief. Help them to ask for help, forgiveness and a wise solution. Help those to whom they are indebted to move beyond anger and self-interest, into the uncharted yet blessed waters of mercy. Remind them how indebted they are to you, for you forgive their debts of sin.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**



We pray for everyone seeking to be Jesus' disciples, especially as he teaches them the hard path of forgiveness and self-sacrifice. Fill them with your Spirit. Help them to rightly and wisely share your Son's costly grace.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Renew the life and health of all who are afflicted in any way by the powers of sin, evil, sickness, or death. Especially we plead on behalf of... Heal all their infirmities, dear Lord; and crown them with your mercy and loving-kindness.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Most holy Father, you show goodness and mercy toward those who die trusting in you. Thank you for redeeming their lives from the grave. Continue to make your ways known also to us; renew our strength; and take away our sin. Teach us to forgive rather than to pass judgment upon one another. Grant that whether we live or die, we know that we are yours. Raise us to that perfect and glorious life which you bestow upon all whom you have redeemed.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Hear our prayer, O Father, and grant all that glorifies you and builds up your people. This we ask for Jesus' sake. **Amen.**

(People not feeling comfortable with taking Communion at this time may leave the sanctuary after being dismissed by an usher. Those at home are free to call Pastor George during the week to arrange a time for private communion for your household at the church, or at your home.)

Holy Communion

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of Heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might! Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen.

P: We have come again to our Lord's Table to taste New Life. It is Jesus Christ, your Risen Lord and Savior who now calls you to meet him at his table of grace.

C: Feed us with your Heavenly food, Lord Jesus. You are the bread of life; you are the cup of salvation. It is for you we hunger and thirst.



The Words of the Institution for Holy Communion

P: In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: This is the victory feast of our God!

C: This is the feast of the Lamb. He was sacrificed for all sin; for my sin.

P: Glory to you, O Lord, whose blood was shed, and whose body was given. As you once revealed yourself to your disciples:

C: Reveal your love to us, O Lord, in the giving of the bread and wine, in the giving of your body and blood.

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.**

(Be seated for the distribution of Holy Communion. An usher will dismiss pews to come forward for Communion. After you receive Communion you may exit the sanctuary by a side isle, or return to your seat.)

Benediction

L: Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely,
and may your whole spirit and soul and body
be kept holy at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Amen!

Dismissal

L: God's Holy Word is given to us!

C: God's Holy Spirit enters within us!

L: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

