

The Third Sunday after Pentecost ✠ June 21, 2020

***WELCOME!** God does not promise that the path of the disciples will be easy. In the Old Testament reading for today, the prophet Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. In the Gospel reading, Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness in the world.*



THE PASTORAL GREETING

THE OPENING HYMN – “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus” LSB 660

- 1 Stand up, stand up for Jesus, Ye soldiers of the cross.
Lift high His royal banner; It must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry His army He shall lead
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished, And Christ is Lord indeed.

- 2 Stand up, stand up for Jesus; The trumpet call obey;
Stand forth in mighty conflict In this His glorious day.
Let all His faithful serve Him Against unnumbered foes;
Let courage rise with danger And strength to strength oppose.

- 3 Stand up, stand up for Jesus; Stand in His strength alone.
The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own.
Put on the Gospel armor; Each piece put on with prayer.
Where duty calls or danger, Be never wanting there.

- 4 Stand up, stand up for Jesus; The strife will not be long;
This day the din of battle, The next the victor's song.
The soldiers, overcoming, Their crown of life shall see
And with the King of Glory Shall reign eternally.

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THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

C: Amen.

P: O Lord, open my lips.

C: And my mouth will declare Your praise Ps. 51:15

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C: Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Ps. 70:1

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and to call upon him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as his people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking his grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Blessed be God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit!

C: O come, let us worship Him!

THE HYMN OF PREPARATION — “Borning Cry”

- 1 I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, To see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child, With a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off To find where demons dwell.
- 2 When you heard the wonder of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living God, To whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time And you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme From dusk 'till rising sun.
- 3 In the middle ages of your life, Not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night, Complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in, And you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been With just one more surprise.
- 4 I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, To see your life unfold.

Text: Public domain

✠ THE WORD ✠

THE FIRST READING – Jeremiah 20:7-13, ESV

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that only brings him contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

You deceived me, Lord, and I was deceived; you overpowered me and prevailed. I am ridiculed all day long; everyone mocks me. Whenever I speak, I cry out proclaiming violence and destruction. So the word of the Lord has brought me insult and reproach all day long.

But if I say, “I will not mention his word or speak anymore in his name,” his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot.

I hear many whispering, “Terror on every side! Denounce him! Let's denounce him!” All my friends are waiting for me to slip, saying, “Perhaps he will be deceived; then we will prevail over him and take our revenge on him.”

But the Lord is with me like a mighty warrior; so my persecutors will stumble and not prevail. They will fail and be thoroughly disgraced; their dishonor will never be forgotten.

Lord Almighty, you who examine the righteous and probe the heart and mind, let me see your vengeance on them, for to you I have committed my cause. Sing to the Lord! Give praise to the Lord! He rescues the life of the needy from the hands of the wicked.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING – Romans 6:1b-11, ESV

In Holy Baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.

Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE VERSE – “Before You, Lord, We Bow” LSB 966

Earth, hear your Maker's voice; Your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship Him alone.
Cast down your pride, Your sin deplore, And bow before The Crucified.

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THE HOLY GOSPEL READING – Matthew 10:24-33, ESV

[Jesus said:] “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE HYMN OF PREPARATION – “Hark the Voice of Jesus Crying” LSB 826

- 1 Hark, the voice of Jesus crying, “Who will go and work today?
Fields are white and harvests waiting— Who will bear the sheaves away?”
Loud and long the Master calleth; Rich reward He offers thee.
Who will answer, gladly saying, “Here am I, send me, send me?”
- 2 If you cannot speak like angels, If you cannot preach like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus, You can say He died for all.
If you cannot rouse the wicked With the judgment's dread alarms,
You can lead the little children To the Savior's waiting arms.

- 3 If you cannot be a watchman, Standing high on Zion's wall,
Pointing out the path to heaven, Offering life and peace to all,
With your prayers and with your bounties You can do what God commands;
You can be like faithful Aaron, Holding up the prophet's hands.

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THE MESSAGE

✠ THE RESPONSE ✠

THE HYMN OF RESPONSE – “Hark the Voice of Jesus Crying”

LSB 826

- 4 Let none hear you idly saying, “There is nothing I can do,”
While the multitudes are dying And the Master calls for you.
Take the task He gives you gladly, Let His work your pleasure be;
Answer quickly when He calleth, “Here am I, send me, send me!”

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition will end with the words: Lord, in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

Hear us Heavenly Father, as we pray the prayer that Christ gave us:

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.

THE BLESSING

P: May the blessing of almighty God: Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit, be upon you and go forth with you this day and always.

C: Amen.

THE HYMN “Now Thank We All Our God”

LSB 895

- 1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love And still is ours today.
- 2 Oh, may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us

And keep us in His grace And guide us when perplexed
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!

- 3 All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, Whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore.

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✠ **May God bless you and yours.** ✠

Peace Lutheran Church
355 E. State Road 120
Fremont, IN 46737

(260) 495-4306
www.plcms.org
facebook.com/plcms