

Second Sunday after Pentecost

June 14, 2020



In this time of world-wide crisis, congregations throughout this church are not able to gather for worship as the body of Christ. While we cannot be together in person, we can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer.

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Day by Day

ELW #790



1 Day by day, your mer - cies, Lord, at - tend me, bring - ing com - fort
2 Day by day, I know you will pro - vide me strength to serve and
3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my bur - dens



to my anx-ious soul. Day by day, the bless-ings, Lord, you send me
wis - dom to o - bey; I will seek your lov - ing will to guide me
grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me



draw me near - er to my heav'n-ly goal. Love di - vine, be - yond all
o'er the paths I strug - gle day by day. I will fear no e - vil
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no mat - ter



mor - tal mea - sure, brings to naught the bur - dens of my quest; Sav - ior,
of the mor - row, I will trust in your en - dur - ing grace. Sav - ior,
what be - tide me, you will hold me ev - er in your hand. Sav - ior,



lead me to the home I trea - sure, where at last I'll find e - ter - nal rest.
help me bear life's pain and sor - row till in glo - ry I be - hold your face.
with your pres - ence here to guide me, I will reach at last the prom - ised land.

The Prayer of the Day

Let us pray ... God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading: Exodus 19:2-8a

Semi-Continuous Old Testament Reading: Genesis 18:1-15[21:1-7]

Psalm: 100

¹Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands!

²**Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.**

³Know that the Lord is God, our maker to whom we belong; we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture

⁴**Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving and the courts with praise; give thanks and bless God's holy name.**

⁵Good indeed is the Lord, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-8

Gospel: Matthew 9:35–10:8 [9-23]

³⁵Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the dominion of heaven, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for the harvesting."

^{10:1}Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. ²These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The dominion of heaven has come near.' ⁸Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those with leprosy, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. [⁹Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, ¹⁰no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food.

¹¹Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. ¹²As you enter the house, greet it. ¹³If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

¹⁶“See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; ¹⁸and you will be dragged before governors and rulers because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; ²⁰for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. ²¹“Brother and sister will betray one another to death, and the parent the child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; ²²and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son-of-Man comes.”]

Reflection

Surely we as well as our neighbors are among the harassed and helpless that Jesus sees, those with “every disease and every sickness.” But, as the baptized, we are also those to whom Jesus has committed his mission, and we have often failed. Nonetheless, God says, “I have brought you to myself.” Because of Jesus Christ, forgiveness and love have been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Just as the Twelve stand for the Israelites, called to be a people of priests for all the world, we too are given the charge to pray for all and to bear witness to the healing love of God, all of us together Christ’s priestly people for the sake of the world.

Prayers of Intercession

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us join together to pray for the church, our nation, and for all who are in need.

O God, the Holy One of blessing, send your Spirit of tender might throughout your church and to all its leaders, especially Bishop Eaton. Strengthen the believers who cannot assemble for worship. Guide the church’s use of technology, and make yourself known to those who have no access to such materials. Your steadfast love is everlasting: **Graciously hear our prayer.**

O God, the Holy One of truth, we pray for your Spirit on teachers, preachers, and missionaries. Empower the church as it uses both historic and innovative words to proclaim your gospel across the street and around the globe. Your steadfast love is everlasting: **Graciously hear our prayer.**

O God, Holy One of creation, continue your care for the earth. Where there is fire or flooding, drought or storm, bring renewal of the land. Bless farmers and ranchers, and protect migrant farm workers as they toil in the sun to harvest our food. Your steadfast love is everlasting: **Graciously hear our prayer.**

O God, Holy One of unity, as we commemorate this week the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine, who in 2015 were killed while assembled in their Charleston church for Bible study, we pray: end the scourge of racism and white supremacy; protect protestors; halt those who intend violence; preserve our democracy. Raise up leaders who model repentance and reconciliation, and support legislators who seek justice in our land. Your steadfast love is everlasting: **Graciously hear our prayer.**

O God, Holy One of compassion, heal the sick, and embrace the fearful. Visit the millions who are suffering from the coronavirus. Protect us from another wave of disease. Uphold health care workers and medical researchers as they work on our behalf. Assist the unemployed in finding a job. Show us how to provide safe housing and daily food for the homeless in our nation and around the world. We pray also for those we name here:.....Your steadfast love is everlasting: **Graciously hear our prayer.**

O God, Holy One of hope, sustain those who cannot endure their suffering but are led only to despair. Pour your grace into their hearts. Your steadfast love is everlasting: **Graciously hear our prayer.**

O God, Holy One of mercy, we pray finally also for ourselves. Your steadfast love is everlasting: **Graciously hear our prayer.**

O God, Holy eternal One, we praise you for the lives of all the faithful departed, both the famous and the forgotten. At the end of all things, bring to yourself all your treasured people, to abide in your presence forever. Your steadfast love is everlasting: **Graciously hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those desires too deep for words, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who taught us to pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever. **Amen.**

Join us on Zoom for the Postlude & Closing Hymn, #536 God Be With You Till We Meet Again

ID: 596-621-1441

Password: 8675309

Closing Hymn,

God Be With You Till We Meet Again

ELW #536



- 1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; by good coun-sels guide, up - hold you,
- 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; ho - ly wings se - cure - ly hide you,
- 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils thick con - found you,



with a shep-herd's care en - fold you;
dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.
put un - fail - ing arms a - round you;

Refrain



Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Je - sus' feet;



till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Worship Schedule (Facebook)

Monday: Hymn Devotions at 9AM & 9PM

Tuesday—Friday: Morning Prayer at 9AM

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: Night Prayer at 9PM

Wednesday: Holden Evening Prayer at 7PM

Tuesday—Friday: Kids' Devotions, Midday

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday—Song Time with Otto, Midday (this week, W, F only)

Tuesday: Holden Evening Prayer at Camp Sequanota 8PM (Zoom)

Thursday: Song Time at Camp Sequanota 4PM (Facebook)

Committee Chairs: Remember to get meeting dates and times to Lori via email (stmatthewluth@aol.com) so they can be on the weekly schedule.

Weekly Bulletins and Messengers are available on the **NEW** website (stmatthewlc.com) for viewing or printing.

Study Schedule (Zoom)

Wednesday: Bible Study 10 AM

Thursday: Book Study “Awaken Your Senses” 3PM or 7PM

Readings for the Week:

Monday Psalm 105:1-11. **Tuesday** Thessalonians 2:13—3:5. **Wednesday** ([commemoration of the Emanuel Nine, martyrs, 2015](#)) Proverbs 4:10-27. **Thursday** Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18. **Friday** Jeremiah 18:18-23. **Saturday** Luke 11:53—12:3. **Second Sunday after Pentecost** (commemoration of Onesimos Nesib, translator, evangelist, died 1931; Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, died around 385; Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop of Constantinople, died around 389; Macrina, teacher, died around 379) Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39.

Reflection material: Gordon Lathrop. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw

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Prayers are needed for our homebound: Shirley Acker, Verna Blough, Fred Brandenburg, Jim Calvert, Clyde Claycomb, Betty Helsel, Doris Henderson, Gene Henry, Jere Hess, Gerald Hoover, John Klepser, Ginny Sell, Dan Sinal, Don Smith, Nancy Uber, Joy Williams.

Prayer Concerns: John Aljets, Pastor Denise Arpino, Randy Barrett, Elaine Buchart, Jim Calvert, Dwight Ciccotelli, Greg Comer, Brian Fleck, Sarah Frederick, Shari Gilbert, Dan Hershberger, Marilyn Horton, Amber Itle, Jillian, Connie Kensinger, Dan Kensinger, Janet Kreider, Darren Kreutzer, Bill Lively, Kristen Malloy, Matt McCready, Ryder McDermitt, Betty McDowell, Aunt Mica, Deb Peters, Alana Rhodes, John Russell, Paul Ruth, Dan Sinal, Barbara Smith, Luther Steele, Jim Stoudnour, Cindy Thomas, Carol Weyandt, Pete Williams, Robert Winston, Jody Zelanko, and for our **Missionaries: Rev. Lesley Hand, On Eagle’s Wings, Elizabeth Hendrickson.**

Those Serving Overseas: Kyle Guyer & Colin Guyer – Middle East

Allegheny Synod Stewardship Table

Each week for the next 5 weeks, the Allegheny Synod Stewardship Table members will be sharing a personal Stewardship story! Below is our first story from Pastor Vicki Beilfuss. The video and story can be found on the Allegheny Synod facebook page. Please join us in sharing these stories of stewardship with your congregation.

A link to the video of Pastor Vicki sharing her story can be found here

<https://www.facebook.com/AlleghenySynod8c/videos/261070594986052/>

Pastor Vicki's story:

Hi, I am Pastor Vicki Beilfuss of Holy Shepherd Parish in Lanse and Karthaus. This stewardship story actually belongs to my late husband, John.

One spring, he was asked by a member of his church to join their Habitat for Humanity retreat to WVa. It was not long after John and his first wife divorced and his self-esteem and self-worth had sunk. It would cost him between \$100-\$200 and a weekend of his time. So he thought, "Why not?"

Everyone was assigned a task toward the completion of this house for a family with two little girls. His job was pargeting (covering the outside of the foundation with a cement mixture). One daughter of the family decided she wanted to help John. I visualize him rolling his eyes, but he let her help stir the cement. As little girls will do, she peppered him with all kinds of questions and he patiently answered them—if you knew John you'd be laughing at that mental image.

The retreat ended with the crew and family taking time to worship. As they were getting ready to leave, John saw the little girl tug on her father's pant leg and overheard her say, "Look there's John—he built our house!" John's eyes would fill up every time he told this part of the story. What seemed like such a little thing to him, meant so much to this little girl.

This experience started John on his stewardship journey of discovery. It helped him to realize he had gifts to give and gave him the courage to say, "Yes, I will help." I keep a picture John took of this little girl and her sister to remind me of John's generous heart and how generosity can powerfully touch both receiver and giver.

God bless,

The Allegheny Synod Stewardship Table

“KELC Flood/Hunger Relief.”

These are difficult times for many people, and in the midst of Coronavirus and racial injustice and inequality, some of us feel helpless, not quite knowing what to do.

But there is a situation in which your help could mean saving hundreds of lives. In our companion synod (the Kenya Evangelical Lutheran Church), where they have also been facing many challenges due to Covid-19, unprecedented rainfall has caused two rivers to significantly flood, destroying communities. One of the pastors we have been in communication with has said:

“Community-wise, floods, earthslides, and economy is killing all here. The [two rivers] over-flowed, and carried away houses, foodstuffs, and lives of people. We are living in fear always. Life is miserable. There is no food. Our parish congregants ... all their crops have been swept away. Some parents are boiling stones to confuse children that food is being cooked to make them sleep. ... Even getting for one day a meal, people will appreciate. It’s really a delicate situation. We hear cries all over.”

We invite you to help us care for our neighbor by providing funds for food and basic life necessities. We are challenging the people of our synod to help us meet a goal of providing food for 1 month for the more than 300 people in the parishes affected by this flooding. Those who receive food supplies also will share with neighbors; which means that our gift could reach even more.

If each congregation in our Synod were to share \$100 (this would be \$20 from 5 members, or \$10 from 10 members), we could easily meet this goal. Will you be one of those people? For those who are able to provide more, I invite you to prayerfully do so. An anonymous donor has already pledged to match the first \$1,000 that comes in. Please send in your monetary gifts no later than **June 26th** to **the synod office** (701 Quail Ave., Altoona, PA 16602), and mark the memo line **“KELC Flood/Hunger Relief.”**