



August 18, 2024 - Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

As We Gather

Joshua challenged the children of Israel to "choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve" (Joshua 24:15). Jesus asked His disciples to make the same kind of choice when He asked "You do not want to leave too, do you?" (John 6:67). The world around us and our sinful human nature present us with many options that compete for our attention and loyalty. Our lessons for today encourage us to follow the example of Joshua and Peter, who declared their choice to serve and follow the Lord.

Welcome

Hymn: LSB 904 "Blessed Jesus, at Your Word"

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Confession of Sins

Pastor: God has chosen us to be His own. He has made us His children, and asks us to choose life, to choose to serve Him alone. Yet we know that Satan and our sinful human nature lead us to make choices that dishonor God in our words, in our actions, in our thoughts. Let us confess our sins to God, both those of which we are aware and those which are known only to God.

(Silence for personal reflection and confession.)

All: Almighty God, we confess to You that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have made choices in our lives that do not honor You. We repent of our sins, and ask for the power of Your Holy Spirit to amend our sinful lives. Wash us clean of our sins, and give us the wisdom and grace to turn away from our sins and to daily make choices in our lives that honor You. Hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Pastor: God has heard our prayer, and has had mercy on us. Out of His great love for us, He chose to send His Son Jesus Christ to die for us. In His glorious resurrection, He has given us the gift of new life. At the command and promise of our Lord Jesus Christ, I as a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

All: Alleluia! Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Kyrie –Lord, Have Mercy *(Words and music in hymnal page 186)*

All: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis—Glory to God in the Highest *(Words and music in hymnal page 187)*

All: Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace good-will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You have revealed Your truth to all in the person of Your Son and have bound Yourself to what He accomplished upon the cross. Give to us faith to trust in Your mercy and confidence to walk in His way to eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

Old Testament Reading – Joshua 24:1-2, 14-18 (*Joshua challenges the people to forsake the false gods they once served and to serve the Lord alone.*)

Then Joshua assembled all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He summoned the elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. ² Joshua said to all the people, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your ancestors, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates River and worshiped other gods.

¹⁴ "Now fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. ¹⁵ But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." ¹⁶ Then the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the Lord to serve other gods! ¹⁷ It was the Lord our God himself who brought us and our parents up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled. ¹⁸ And the Lord drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the Lord, because he is our God."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Epistle Reading – Ephesians 5:6-21 (*Paul encourages us to live as children of light.*)

⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of such things God's wrath comes on those who are disobedient. ⁷ Therefore do not be partners with them. ⁸ For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰ and find out what pleases the Lord. ¹¹ Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹² It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³ But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. ¹⁴ This is why it is said: "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." ¹⁵ Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for

everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *John 6:68*

Pastor: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

People: **You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading – John 6:51-69 *(Even though not everyone wants to accept Jesus, He alone is the only source of eternal life.)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.” ⁵² Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³ Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. ⁵⁵ For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. ⁵⁶ Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.” ⁵⁹ He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum. ⁶⁰ On hearing it, many of his disciples said, “This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?” ⁶¹ Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, “Does this offend you? ⁶² Then what if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! ⁶³ The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit^[a] and life. ⁶⁴ Yet there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. ⁶⁵ He went on to say, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them.” ⁶⁶ From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. ⁶⁷ “You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve. ⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn: LSB 526 “You Are the Way; Through You Alone”

Sermon: Joshua 24:14-18 “Daily Choices”

Nicene Creed

All: **I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and

was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Offerings

Communion Confession

Pastor: The Lord's Supper is God's gift for Christians who are properly taught. In communion, we want people to receive Christ's body and blood for their good. This means that as you come to the Lord's Table you affirm with each communicant that Jesus is your Savior and Lord; and with Lutheran Christians you confess:

All: I recognize and confess that I am a sinner. I repent of my sins and ask God's forgiveness. I believe Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan, and death. I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament and, that under the form of bread and wine, I receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life. (*Augsburg Confession-Article X*)

Communion Liturgy

Pastor: The Lord be with you. [*2 Timothy 4:22*]

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. [*Colossians 3:1*]

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [*Psalm 136*]

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: You are holy and merciful, Lord God of our fathers, for You have manifested to us Your own Son to be our Savior and Redeemer, and He has accomplished our salvation by His suffering in the flesh and the blood He shed upon the cross. As He has fulfilled His promise and accomplished all things by His death and resurrection, so now keep us in Him until the day of His coming, when, with the angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, the whole host of heaven rejoices to stand before You and join their unending hymn of praise, singing:

Sanctus: Holy, Holy Holy (*Words and music in hymnal page 195*)

All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer

All: 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.

Words of Institution

The Greeting of Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

Agnus Dei: Lamb of God (Words and music in hymnal page 198)

All: O Christ Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.
Amen.

Communion Distribution

Distribution Hymns: LSB 617 "O Lord, We Praise Thee"
LSB 862 "Oh, Blest the House"

Nunc Dimittis: Song of Simeon (Words and music in hymnal on page 199)

All: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

People: **And His mercy endures forever.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Christ our King, we give You thanks for having fed us through this Sacrament. Strengthen us, we pray, that we may live in obedience to You and honor Your name in our daily choices, words, and actions; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace. *Numbers 6:24-26*

People: *(Sing)* Amen, Amen, Amen.

Hymn: LSB 712 "Seek Ye First"

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Church
News

ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of August 18, 2024

Grace Lutheran Church 1120 S. Park Ave. Aurora, MO

Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Ken Lampe Cell: 417-366-3597

pastor@gracelutheranaurora.com

Family for the Week: Trevor & Kim Juracek Family

Christ, Eldorado Springs - Rev. Johannes Brann

Prayers of Peace and Comfort:

The family of Tom Votra – (Son-in-law of Sue Doss – peace and comfort on his passing)

Prayers for Health and Healing:

Wendy Koenig – (Friend of Heidi Costello – health and healing)

Complete Prayer List:

Temporary

Diana Bauer – (daughter-in-law of Gladys Bauer - health & healing)
Jami Bauer – (relative of Gladys Bauer - peace and comfort)
Rick Bauer – (Gladys Bauer’s son – health and healing from surgery)
Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman’s friend – healing from a broken-hip)
Jan Fisher – (daughter of Bill & Joanne Michel - health and healing)
Ron Hicks – (friend of Glenda Enlow – health and healing)
Gary Lampe– (Pastor’s brother - health and healing)
Randy Owensby – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Tabatha Packwood - (health & healing)
Billy Parsons – (Joanne Michel’s brother – recovery from surgery)

Debbie Porter – (friend of Harold Lampe – recovery from frostbite)
Ernest Ramm – (Cheryl Lile’s uncle – health and healing from stroke)
Billy Schmells – (friend of Cheryl Lile – health and healing)
Diane Smith – (Health and healing from eye problems)
Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing)
Bill Thompson – (health and healing)
Jim Troyke – (health and healing from heart issues)
Randy Wallace – (brother-in-law of Micki Gettman – health & healing)
Thomas Williams – (Ruth Stoddard’s friend – health and healing)

Long Term

Jill Bode – (niece of Rachel Sanford – health and healing, cancer)
Marty Jones – (Bobby Jones’ mother - health and healing)
Dorothea Dennis – (health and healing & peace and comfort)
Pat Michel – (Bill Michel’s Sister-In-Law – health and healing)
Steve Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Larry Moennig – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing)
Gary Gardner – (health and healing)
Pastor Gary Griffin – (health and healing from cancer)
Jane Goodman – (Health and healing)
Ben Schumacher – (Peace and comfort from Parkinson’s disease)

Betty Gordon – (health and healing)
Margaret Seburn - (cousin of Joanne Michel - health and healing)
Vicki Heppard – (relative of Gladys Bauer – health & healing cancer)
Bob & Barbara Steinberg - (health and healing)
Bob Hess – (health and healing)
Ruth Stoddard – (health and healing)
Steve Hilton – (friend of Harold Lampe – health and healing, cancer)
Koopert Tutten – (Jeeper Meyer’s Great-grandson - health & healing)
Sheryl Holle – (Kathy Holle’s cousin – health and healing, cancer)
June Winger – (Sharon Barlow’s mother – health and healing)

THIS WEEK

Sunday	August 18th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am - Service with Communion
Monday	August 19th	NO Braille
Wednesday	August 21st	Pastor in Office
Thursday	August 22nd	Pastor in Office
Saturday	August 24th	LERT Training - 8:30am - 4:00pm at Grace Please go online before the meeting and register. Information on registration is below. **
Sunday	August 25th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am - Service

Birthdays: Glenda Enlow-Aug. 18; Brandon Black-Aug. 21

Anniversaries: Bob & Rachel Sanford-Aug. 18

****A new Basic LERT certification class is scheduled for Saturday, August 24, 2024.** It will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, Aurora, Mo. The time will be from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. LERT (Lutheran Early Response Team) Training Event is for new or renewing/reviewing volunteer certification. Enables volunteers to be received at disaster clean- on damage are in need of

assistance. And to be up sites. Prepares groups to be prepared to conduct Local Missions of Mercy in their community. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

A registration fee of \$35 per person will pay for lunch, training materials, certificate, LERT volunteer T-shirt. Your LERT Trainer will distribute all materials for the class.

Please send registration fees to "Grace Lutheran Church", 1120 S. Park Ave, Aurora, MO 65605.

Please note "LERT Training August 24, 2024" on your check. Questions? Please contact Kris Schuldt on pitchatent@centurytel.net.

To register for the class, create an account on the LCMS-LERT.org website by clicking on the green button in the upper right hand area of the home page that says "Sign Up" and then after you have created an account go back into the system, click on "Training & Deployments" and locate the class and register for the class and click on "Submit" at the bottom of the page.

August

GREETERS:

8/18: Bob & Rachel Sanford

8/25: Bill & Joanne Michel

USHERS:

8/18: Harold Lampe

8/25: Rob Springer

TODAY - August 18th: After services this Sunday we will do a quick video of the congregation wishing Trinity "Happy Anniversary for 150 years and another 150 years to come". It will not take long so please stay around after church to be in the video.



150 year anniversary of Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Freistatt, MO:

Please mark your calendars for the weekend of September 7 and 8, 2024. There is a dinner on Sunday the 8th. See the flyer on the bulletin board for how to sign up. RSVP no later than August 15, 2024.

Freewill Offering August 25th: We will take an offering for Tomorrow's Teachers & Preachers campaign on August 25th. This offering will go to men and women from Missouri in the form of scholarships through the District's educational endowment. Make you check to Grace Lutheran Church as we'll send one check from Grace to the District.

SPRINGFIELD LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL LAUNCH UPDATES

Invite everyone you know! Open to all who want to learn more about Springfield Lutheran High School!

Thursday, Sept 19 @ 6 PM

SLS Gym
2852 S Dayton Ave
Springfield

EVERYONE WELCOME!
Children of all ages From any school
Families of all faith backgrounds

Questions? info@springfieldlutheranhs.org