



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 2, 2020

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

Amen.

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God,

**we confess that we do not trust your abundance,
and we deny your presence in our lives.**

**We place our hope in ourselves
and rely on our own efforts.**

We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.

**We fear difference and do not welcome others
as you have welcomed us.**

We sin in thought, word, and deed.

By your grace, forgive us;

through your love, renew us;

and in your Spirit, lead us;

so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Beloved of God, ...through the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Come Thou Fount

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

GOSPEL

Matthew 14:13-21

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist], he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." ¹⁸And he said, "Bring them here to me." ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Jordan

HYMN OF THE DAY

Welcome to the Hungry Feast

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Use your Phone to give
Point your QR reader at this graphic to be
directed to Omella to make an online gift.
Or visit
omella.com/o/izfds



COMMUNION

Holy Communion will be brought to you. All who are baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion, regardless of your church affiliation. Receive our crucified and resurrected Lord in the bread of this meal. Gluten Free Bread is available from the server by request.

MEAL

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, ... be all honor and glory, now and forever.

Amen

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.**

COMMUNION

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in His grace.
Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of the welcome table,... through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

Neither death, nor life... bless you and keep you in eternal love.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

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In Our Prayers...

Special Prayers

Phil, Shirley, Danny, Rebecca, Brian, Corey, Paul, Joseph, Sandy, Harold, Miranda, Janet, Kathy, Chuck, Trish, Shane, Cheryl, Ashely, Ethan, Judy, David & Donna, Wayne, Mike, Jerry, Graziano, Racer, Pastor Lema, Kathy, Scott, Diane, Patrick, Don, Paul, Kaitlyn, Carolyn, Dan, , Gene, Lizanne, Jim, , Dave, Sherry, Nelly, Ana Maria, Rachel, Bob, Gregg, Karen, Tina, Dawne, Carole, Crystal, Bev, BJ, Betty, Kenzie, Mark, Marlene, Tom, Manny, Steve

General Prayers

For those with Covid and those recovering from it, For the children of Tanzania who have returned to school, may they be safe; For strengthening our partnership with the Maroni Parish, For those who live alone, For all with chronic illness, For those coping with mental illness or addictions, For caregivers and medical personnel, For those who grieve, For those who have been or are being abused, For victims of racism and hatred, For all who struggle financially, For all in need of restored relationships, For all who have strayed from faith, For the needs of our partner churches in Tanzania to be met, For all who go hungry, For those without adequate medical care, For all those who are impacted by violence. For unity and peace.

Current Prayers

For St. Luke's F.R.O.G.@Home Vacation Bible School, For school teachers, For those impacted by the earthquake in Mexico, For all the residents and staff of the Samson house, For all to be assured that God is present in our lives; For unity and compassion, especially during this pandemic: For Missionaries and missions abroad; For those all impacted by the tornadoes on Easter Sunday; For small business owners and the self-employed; For shut-ins and the elderly; For those all with compromised immune systems; For the children of Tanzania as they experience the effects of the pandemic, school being cancelled, where many get their only meal for the day; For those all who are ill; for those all living in fear; for those all who are being bullied, especially children; for our Care Team and Prayer Team; for the all who are homeless, hungry and forgotten.

Those in Military Service

Daniel Krueger, Gary Bjerke, Jim Kieso Jr., Benjamin DeYoung, S. Kate Zelinger.

F.R.O.G. @ Home (the 2020 VBS program) begins this week! The program will run from August 2 to August 30th, with a different theme each week. It is open to all ages. There is no registration or fees. The website is located at <https://sites.google.com/view/frogathome>. Information is also available on our website (stlukeslutheran.org) and on our Facebook page. Please contact Laurie Rohrwasser at lrohrwasser@stlukeslutheran.org with questions.

The Church Hasn't Closed

Our building is closed, but the church remains open. The church is simply deployed – sent into the world to do ministry in the name of Jesus, our Lord. The building may be closed for worship, but worship continues. Weekly, we are the church and no matter what comes our way, we continue to follow Jesus wherever we are. So, the church isn't closed, even though our building is.

We Are a Congregation of SOPHIA

St. Luke's is one of fifteen member congregations of SOPHIA. SOPHIA is a grassroots organization of people of faith united by a passion for justice, a commitment to community and a practice of hope. SOPHIA is dedicated to empowering people to work together on issues of justice, and to engaging individuals, agencies, and public officials in dialogue. We seek creative and effective efforts to improve our communities. SOPHIA Members include individuals, organizations, and, and diverse faith communities who united with a powerful voice to speak against injustices in our community. PJ is looking for people to walk with him in engaging in Sophia activities around housing, immigration, criminal justice reform, transportation, health care and racial equity. If you are interested in any of these activities, let PJ know. To learn more about Sophia, visit www.sophiawaukesha.org.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

August 2, 2020

Unreasonable Love

Imagine throwing an impromptu dinner party for thousands of people. Looking out at the huge crowd, would you think, “Yeah, we can do this. It’ll be fun!”? Or would you look in your fridge, cupboards, and freezer and become absolutely certain there was not enough to go around?

It is normal and human to look at the supplies available and make a judgment about whether or not something can be accomplished. It’s reasonable, even! But God’s kingdom is not reasonable. God’s kingdom defies all of our human expectations.

It is not reasonable that the last shall be first. It is not reasonable that God would pour forgiveness on us when we hardly know how to confess. It is not reasonable that the disciples could feed thousands of people with just a few loaves and fishes.

Thanks be to God for the unreasonable, unexpected grace we find in the kingdom! May we brim with gratitude that where we see limits, God knows what is possible. When we stare in shock at the Son of God nailed to the cross, we are sure it’s the end of the story, but God knows differently: love and life are unreasonably more abundant than hatred and death.

When we bring whatever “loaves and fishes” we have in our cupboards to God, God blesses them and makes of them enough. At the Lord’s table, we find the mystery of Christ’s abundant presence in the bread and the wine. At the font, we are joined to the immeasurable, eternal covenant of being God’s beloved through the profuse waters of baptism. It’s preposterous, really, how lavishly, how unreasonably God loves the world! Let us rejoice in God’s unreasonable love and mercy, and join the feast.

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