

Worship Plan for Sunday, August 7, 2022

Lectionary 19 / 9th Sunday after Pentecost

ELW Holy Communion Setting Seven

United in Faith Lutheran Church

6525 W. Irving Park Rd., Chicago 60634

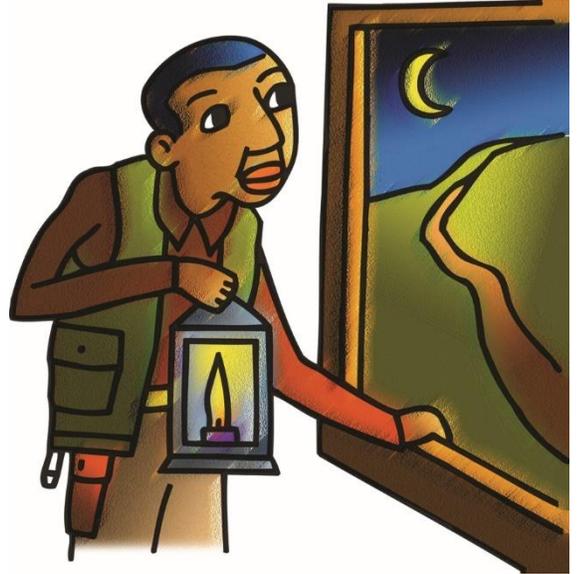
Rev. Carla Thompson Powell, pastor

Musician: Lois Cornils

Assisting Minister: George Schultz

Introduction to the day

Jesus says, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” It is God’s promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the “little flock” of which we are a part in today’s assembly. Faith, God’s baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.



PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, whose steadfast love endures forever. **C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Merciful God,

C: we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

P: Hear the good news! God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves. **C: Amen.**

GATHERING SONG *God Is Here!* (ELW 526)

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

KYRIE (ELW p. 175) & CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 176)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ²But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” ⁵He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. A: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 33:12-22

¹²Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! Happy the people chosen to be God’s heritage!
¹³**The LORD looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.**
¹⁴God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.
¹⁵**God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.**
¹⁶A king is not saved by the size of the army, nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.
¹⁷**The horse gives vain hope for victory; despite its great strength it cannot save.**
¹⁸Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD, upon those who wait for your steadfast love,
¹⁹**to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine.**
²⁰Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD, our helper and our shield.
²¹**Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.**
²²Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

¹Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ²Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the

seashore.”

¹³All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

A: Word of God, word of life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 179)

GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40

P: The holy gospel according to Luke. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Have No Fear, Little Flock* (ELW 764)

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

*Or, “he descended into hell,” another translation of this text in widespread use.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Trusting in God's extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer. Let your lovingkindness be upon your church. Fill all who proclaim the gospel with your Spirit. Equip your flock to speak your word of promise and hope in the midst of fear and uncertainty.

Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Let your lovingkindness be upon your creation. Dwell among us and sustain our earthly home. In places of famine, provide nourishment. In places of plenty, fashion us to be good stewards of your bounty. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Let your lovingkindness be upon your world. Be our helper and our shield in places torn by strife and violence. Raise up courageous leaders to govern with compassion and justice.

Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Let your lovingkindness be upon your children. Look upon all who wait for your steadfast love. Console those who grieve and embrace those who cry out to you. Help us to trust your promise and not be afraid. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: Let your lovingkindness be upon this community. Fashion our hearts to strive for the way of peace. Strengthen the outreach ministries of this congregation and all who care for those in need. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: With thanksgiving we remember all who have died in faith and now rest in you. As they placed their hope in you, so strengthen us to trust in your promise of new life. Merciful God, **C: receive our prayer.**

A: For whom else do we pray...

A: Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom. **C: Amen.**

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray. **C: God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

COMMUNION DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 181)

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise. When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life. Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever. **C: Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 163)

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C: 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

ALL ARE WELCOME AT GOD'S TABLE OF GRACE.

(Please discard your plastic communion cup into the basket or empty tray.)

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **C: Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace. **C: Amen.**

SENDING SONG *The Lord Now Sends Us Forth: Enviado soy de Dios* (ELW 538)

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Love your neighbor. **Thanks be to God.**

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

POSTLUDE